

File No.: 04-1000-20-2020-024

April 30, 2020

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: **Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")**

I am responding to your request of January 9, 2020 for:

The following records from April 1, 2018 to December 1, 2018 and from September 1, 2019 to November 1, 2019:

- 1. All email correspondence, reports or internal memos to and from City staff on allowing permanent residents to vote in municipal elections;**
- 2. All email correspondence between City Council members and members of the public, including any special interest groups, on allowing permanent residents to vote in municipal elections.**

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed, (blacked out), under s.13(1), s.15(1)(l), and s.22(1) of the Act. You can read or download this section here: http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, info@oipc.bc.ca or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2020-024); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

Cobi Falconer, FOI Case Manager, for

[Signature on file]

Barbara J. Van Fraassen, BA
Director, Access to Information & Privacy

Barbara.vanfraassen@vancouver.ca

453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

*If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Or you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604.871.6584.

Encl.

:kt

From: "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>
To: "Nelson, Jessica" <Jessica.Nelson@vancouver.ca>
Date: 9/20/2019 12:38:07 PM
Subject: FW: 2019 UBCM Convention Resolutions Package - with Staff Briefings
Attachments: CMO - IGR - UBCM - 2019 Resolutions With Staff Comments.pdf

Rosemary Hagiwara
Director of Business & Election Services | Deputy City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver
t: 604.873.7177
e: rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca

From: Leckovic, Katrina
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2019 5:27 PM
To: Hagiwara, Rosemary; Tuerlings, Leslie; Penney, Tina
Subject: FW: 2019 UBCM Convention Resolutions Package - with Staff Briefings

From: Johnston, Sadhu
Sent: Thursday, September 19, 2019 5:26:32 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL
Subject: 2019 UBCM Convention Resolutions Package - with Staff Briefings

Dear Mayor and Council,

Staff have reviewed the 2019 UBCM Convention Resolution Book and Program. Please see the attached document for a high level summary / backgrounder, as well as staff recommendations and comments on resolutions. Staff comments can be found in blue. If you have any questions, please contact the applicable staff liaison.

I would like to highlight the summary below (also found on page 2 of the attached document) regarding Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class. This is a current priority item for the City, and is also the topic of resolution: B78 Support for Small Business and Creation of Non Residential Sub Classes in Property Tax Assessments, submitted by Port Moody:

Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class – Briefing

Issue:

Independent small businesses as well as the art, culture and non-profit sectors in Metro Vancouver find it challenging to afford high rents and taxes and still remain viable in their neighbourhoods. This situation partly due to development potential being taxed and passed on to tenants through triple net leases.

Proposed Solution:

Enact Provincial legislation to enable "Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-class" in time for 2020.

How Proposed Solution Would Work:

- For eligible properties that are not at highest and best use, the development potential value would be split from the existing use value for taxation purpose
- A commercial sub class would be created to capture development potential
- Municipalities would define eligibility criteria and set lower tax rate for this commercial sub class



Strong Support from Metro Vancouver Municipalities & Stakeholders:

- Proposal put forward by Cities of Burnaby, Coquitlam, Richmond, Surrey and Vancouver and Districts of North Vancouver and West Vancouver, in collaboration with senior staff from BC Assessment and Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing and Ministry of Finance.
- Joint letter of support from the business community (Greater Vancouver Board of Trade, B.C. Chamber of Commerce, Canadian Federation of Independent Businesses, Vancouver Business Improvement Area Partnership, Urban Development Institute Pacific Region, National Association for Industrial and Office Parks Vancouver, Building Owners and Managers Association of British Columbia) to the Honorable John Horgan, Premier of BC.

A Flexible & Transparent Tool That Could Be Tailored to Meet Individual Municipality's Needs:

- A common platform that municipalities could adopt (or not) through by-laws
- Municipalities could customize eligibility requirements and term of tax relief to meet specific objectives
- No tax shift from commercial to residential - tax burden to be reallocated among commercial properties
- Permissive tax exemption cannot replicate the sub-class solution – not transparent, difficult to explain to taxpayers, and tax shift from commercial to residential.

Status Quo – Implications:

- Municipalities will continue to see small, independent businesses as well as arts, culture and non-profit organizations close down or move away from their current neighbourhood corridor location
- Neighbourhoods will see more empty store fronts as small businesses and arts, culture and non-profit organizations are forced to move or discontinue operations
- The economy will be impacted as small business is the backbone of growth of BC's economy.
- Loss of choice of goods and services for residents.

A summary of resolutions staff were able to comment and provide recommendations on can be found below for quick reference.

Resolution #	Resolution Name	Voting Recommendation
SR2	Modernizing Development Financing	s.13(1)
A2	Cannabis Revenue Sharing with Local Governments	
A4	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)	
B3	Local Government Autonomy	
B4	Proceeds of Crime	
B6	Victims Services Funding	
B7	Safer Slower Streets: 30 km/h Residential Street Pilot	
B8	Local Government Photo Radar Implementation	
B12	Funding For Climate Change Adaptation - Flood Protection	
B14	Online Voting	
B15	Funding for Design of Cycling Infrastructure (Bike Lanes) for Local Governments	
B16	Alternative Transportation Infrastructure	
B17	Shipment of Dangerous Goods by Rail	
B19	Extension of Vacancy Taxation Authority to Local Governments	
B20	PST Exemption for Fire Apparatus and Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment	
B21	Strong Fiscal Future	
B24	Provincial Download	
B25	Elected local Government Officials Participation in the Municipal pension Plan	
B29	Restoring Sustainable Provincial Library Funding Levels	
B30	Property Transfer Tax Redistribution for Affordable Housing	
B31	Share of Liquor Tax for Policing	
B32	Agricultural Support Services	
B33	BC Hydro – Streetlight Inefficiency	
B34	Short-term Rentals Assessment Classification	
B35	Varied Tax Rate or the Residential Class	
B41	Brownfield Remediation	
B42	Comprehensive Provincial Single-use Item Reduction Strategy	
B44	Tax Exemption for Electric Bicycles	
B52	Preservation of Archeological Artifacts	
B53	Development Permit Area Requirements	
B60	Addition of Drug and Alcohol Recovery Facilities and Beds	
B61	Additional Rehabilitation Detox Centers	
B65	Support for Municipal Inclusion in the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy	
B66	Food Security	

B67	Legal Aid Funding
B68	Full Social Support Services for Homeless Housing
B69	Income-Based Solutions to Household Food Insecurity
B70	Provincial Universal School Food Program
B74	Lobbyist Registry
B78	Support for Small Business and Creation of Non Residential Sub Classes in Property Tax Assessments
B79	Management of Provincially Regulated Utilities in Municipal Highways
B80	Declaration of employee Compensation as Part of annual Statement of Financial Information Reporting
B81	Amendment to SOFI Reporting Legislation
B82	Conflict of Interest Rules
B83	Conflict of Interest Complaint Mechanism
B85	Money Laundering Counter-Measures in Casinos
B86	Provincial Funding For Sexual Assault Clinics
B87	Cannabis Production Odour Prevention
B88	Clean-Up of Needles and Other Harm Reduction Paraphernalia
B90	Port Policing
B93	Community Resilience Investment Program – Fire Smart Community Funding
B94	Wildfire Smoke
B96	Emergency Program Act Amendment – Boating Restrictions During a Local State of Emergency – Flooding Events
B97	Disaster Relief and Recovery Funding
B98	Resourcing A Collaborative System of Data Sharing in BC
B99	Evacuation Re-Entry Authorization Process and Document
B100	Permitting Entry into an Evacuation Order Area
B102	Consistency In Access To Emergency Social Services Resources
B105	Roles and Responsibilities for Emergency and Disaster Mitigation in BC
B106	Disaster Response
B107	Clothing Donations Bins (Vancouver)
B108	Youth Voting in Local Government Elections
B109	Fresh Voices #LostVotes Campaign
B110	Voter Registration Waiting Period
B111	Removing Cap on Candidate Contribution to Their Own Campaign
B112	Statement of Disclosure Updates
B113	Amend the Fare Collection Regulation
B114	Increase Transportation Assistance for Low-Income Individuals

s.13(1)

B118	Support Transformational Improvements to Regional BC Transit
B120	BC Rail Properties
B122	Modernization of Utility Taxation
B123	Tax Credit for Local Government Election Candidate Campaign Contributions
B127	Collection of Unpaid Bylaw Fines
B131	Lottery Revenue Distribution
B132	Consent for Property Classification
B133	Broadband Infrastructure Taxation
B134	Tax Relief for British Columbia Legions
B135	Climate Change
B136	Recovering Municipal Costs Arising from Climate Change
B137	Climate Accountability
B138	Subsidies to Fossil Fuel Companies
B139	Call to Action On Global Climate Emergency
B140	Support for Property Assessed Clean Energy Legislation for BC
B141	Ramping Up BC Climate Action in Response to Climate Emergency
B142	Promoting and Enabling GHG Reductions
B143	Shifting Investment to Low-Emission Transportation
B144	Electric Vehicle Right-to-Charge Rules
B145	Beverage Container Recycling System
B146	Recycle BC – Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Printed Paper and Packing
B147	Single-Use Disposable Products
B148	Confirming Municipal Jurisdiction to Regulate Single-Use Items
B149	Compostable Single-Use Items
B150	Standards for Microplastic Filtration, Liquid Waste Management
B152	Greenhouse Gas Limits for New Buildings
B153	Water Sustainability Act Section 11 Change Approvals Review Time
B154	Groundwater Extraction
B155	Key Marine Cumulative Effects Values
B158	Tier 1 Non-Road Diesel Engine Ban
B161	Drone Usage
B171	Safer Drug Supply to Save Lives
B172	Observed Inhalation Sites for Overdose Prevention
B173	Limiting the Access and Appeal of Vape Products to Youth
B174	Investments in Local Government and Not-for-Profit Seniors' Services and Support
B175	Voting Rights for Alternate Electoral Area Directors at UBCM
B177	FCM Travel Fund

s.13(1)

B178	Travel Cost Equalization for UBCM Conventions	s.13(1)
B179	Community Childcare	
B180	Modernizing Property Tax Homeowner Grant Exemption Levels	
B182	Expanded Authority to Notify Renters Impacted by Renovations	
B184	Creation of Office of the Renters Advocate	
B185	BC Housing Accountability	
B186	<i>Building Act</i> – Innovation Commitment	
B187	Proactive Development Of Building Officials	
B188	BC Building Code Alignment with National Building Code of Canada – Secondary Suites	
B189	Inspection Of Rooming Houses By Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction	
B190	Increase the Maximum Size of Secondary Suites by Removing the Fixed Maximum Floor Area limit	
B193	Province of British Columbia/UBCM Memorandum of Understanding	
B196	ICBC Rates	
B197	ICBC Regional Premiums and Settlements	
B201	Health Authority Assessment Management	
B204	Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health and Addictions	
B205	Gas Prices	
B207	Support of Indigenous Court System	

Best,
Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
Office of the City Manager | City of Vancouver
604.873.7627 | sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca

Pronouns: he, him, his



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

**2019 UBCM Convention
September 23 – 27, Vancouver, BC**

**Clinics, Provincial Policy Sessions and Events CoV Delegates May be
Interested in Attending**

Monday, September 23rd

- Financing Reconciliation: Supporting Inclusive Governance in BC – “That We May Be Good People Together”

Tuesday, September 24th

- Provincial Policy Session: Ride-Hailing: What can Local Governments Expect
- Provincial Policy Session: CleanBC & Provincial Adaptation Strategy
- Welcome Reception

Wednesday, September 25th

- Address by the Leader of the Green Party: Dr. Andrew Weaver
- Address by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing: Honourable Selina Robinson
- BC Government Reception

Thursday, September 26th

- Tackling the Housing Crisis through Leadership & Co-Creation
- CityStudio Vancouver: A Model for Civic Innovation and Experimentation (*Note: Brad Badelt, Assistant Director, Sustainability Group, City of Vancouver is a panel member*)
- Libraries Support Resilient Communities (*Note: Christina de Castell, Chief Librarian, Vancouver Public Library is a panel member*)

City of Vancouver – Current Priority

Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class – Briefing

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Resolution Process

The resolution sessions are presently scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 25

10:40 am

Principal Policy Session

Section SR resolutions

Section A resolutions

Section B resolutions as time allows

Thursday, September 26

8:55 am

Policy Session continues

Section B resolutions as time allows

Friday, September 27

8:00 am

Policy Session continues

Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline

Section B resolutions as time allows

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

Organization of Resolutions:

Resolutions are organized in three sections:

Section A - resolutions address priority issues relevant to all local governments.

Section B - divided into three parts:

Part 1: Resolutions that support established UBCM policy

Part 2: Resolutions on new issues or issues considered previously but not endorsed, within the jurisdiction of local government

Part 3: Resolutions on new issues or issues considered previously but not endorsed, outside the jurisdiction of local government

Section C - contains resolutions that are referred to similar resolutions in the Resolutions Book; to policy papers, reports, or special sessions at Convention; or to Area Associations.

Order of Consideration:

Section A and B resolutions are introduced for debate in the order in which they appear in the Resolutions Book.

Selected Section B resolutions are considered as a block. Any voting delegate may withdraw a resolution from a block to speak in opposition or propose an amendment.

Section C resolutions are not admitted for debate.

Analysis of late resolutions—those received after June 30—is undertaken in the Resolutions Committee's "Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline." This report may be considered after Section A has been debated, but not before the time printed in the Convention program. Historically, this report has been presented to the membership on the last day of Convention, at the beginning of the final policy session.

For detailed information on the consideration of resolutions, see [Handling of Resolutions at Convention](#).

Resolutions Submitted by the City of Vancouver:

B7: Safer Slower Streets: 30 km/h Residential Street Pilot (p.

B82: Conflict of Interest Rules

B107: Clothing Donation Bins

B144: Electric Vehicle Right to Charge Rules

B182: Expanded Authority to Notify Renters Impacted by Renovations

C15: #AllOnBoard Campaign

C31: Restoring Provincial Library Funding

C37: Comprehensive Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy

C38: Compostable Single-Use Items

C53: National Healthy School Meal Program

(Late Resolution) Implementation of Recommendations from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

City of Vancouver Staff Briefings (Select Resolutions)

Section SR

Finance

SR2 Modernizing Development Financing

UBCM Executive

Whereas Development Cost Charges, designed to help pay for the cost of off-site infrastructure required to deliver community services that are needed to accommodate growth, are currently restricted by the Local Government Act to areas of sewage, water, drainage, roads and parks,

And whereas the current Development Cost Charge structure does not support the flexibility local governments require to make effective off-site infrastructure investments to deliver community services needed to accommodate growth, or reflect other important infrastructure services delivered by local governments impacted by growth,

Therefore be it resolved that the Province conduct a comprehensive review of existing funding mechanisms for financing growth-related infrastructure services, including Development Cost Charges and Amenity Agreements, 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.

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions that call for the expanded application of Development Cost Charges (DCC) beyond their current allowable usages (2016-SR1, 2015-B21, 2012-B9, 2012-B54, 2011-B35, 2007-B37, 2005-B95).

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the provincial response for resolution 2007-B37 and other similar resolutions have included the statement: "DCC's are based on the principle of 'user pay' - that infrastructure should be paid by those who use and benefit from it. In contrast, protective services are more appropriately paid for by the greater community, since the benefits of the services are shared by all property owners."

The Province, in their recently announced Active Transportation Strategy, also noted Development Cost Charges as a possible mechanism for future consideration for local government funding for active transportation.

In the 2018 UBCM's Housing report "A Home for Everyone" recommended that the Province consider examining Local Government Act changes to allow Development Cost Charges for additional growth-related costs associated with higher density zoning to replace the uncertainty associated with re-zoning and a range of negotiated agreements with a clear, certain process that is regulated by the Province while also providing local governments a legislated way to pay for the cost of growth.

See also resolutions C17, C19, C20, C21, C22, C23.

CoV Staff Liaison: Chris Robertson, Assistant Director, City-Wide & Regional Planning, 604-873-7684

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Comments:

s.13(1)

Background:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Section A

Community Safety

A2 Cannabis Revenue Sharing With Local Governments

Cariboo RD

Whereas only the federal and provincial governments are receiving tax revenue from the recently legalized sale of recreational cannabis, despite local governments encountering increased costs of the associated implementation;

And whereas UBCM endorsed a resolution (2018-SR1) calling for a principled approach to guide the negotiation of a cannabis excise tax revenue sharing agreement with the Government of British Columbia, and recommending that BC local governments receive 40 per cent of the projected excise tax revenue in the short-term, which has not received any response from the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to expedite a fair provincial-local government excise tax revenue sharing agreement regarding the sale of recreational cannabis.

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 an equitable share of cannabis taxation revenue to address costs and responsibilities resulting from the legalization of non-medical cannabis (2018-SR1, 2017-SR1, 2016-A3).

In response to 2018-SR1, the Ministry of Finance indicated that "cannabis taxation is not expected to generate significant provincial revenues," and that discussions would commence once all orders of government were able to quantify their costs during the post-legalization period.

UBCM's short-term strategy calls on the Province to provide 40 per cent of its projected excise tax revenue to BC local governments for 2-years, with money distributed on a per capita basis. The long-term strategy seeks an agreement beyond year 2 that either continues with the same excise tax distribution framework or explores a new agreement to increase the provincial sales tax from 7 per cent to not more than 10 per cent, with a commitment of this portion to local governments (in place of excise tax revenue sharing). UBCM also commits to the development of a reporting template for cannabis related incremental costs, as part of the Local Government Division's annual financial reporting process.

UBCM continues to place a high priority on cannabis excise tax revenue sharing with local governments. Advancing UBCM's short- and long-term strategies was a top priority during UBCM's annual advocacy meetings with provincial MLAs in February 2019.

See also resolution C24.

CoV Staff Liaisons:

Kathryn Holm, Chief Licence Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545
Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Selected Issues

A4	United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)	Logan Lake
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Whereas the Province of British Columbia has announced introduction of legislation to implement United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (UNDRIP);

And whereas the announcement did not specify details in relation to framework and process implementation;

And whereas local governments require a clear delineation of their responsibilities where the implementation of Provincial legislation is concerned:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide clarity to local governments regarding implementation of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) processes and framework;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia provide a clear delineation of the responsibilities of local governments in relation to the implementation of these processes.

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 clarity to local governments regarding the implementation of UNDRIP processes and framework, nor the delineation of responsibility of local governments in relation to implementation of UNDRIP processes.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2018-B150 which calls on the provincial and federal governments to provide revenue solutions for local governments to support implementing commitments called for in UNDRIP.

In addition, UBCM in 2018 re-signed an MOU with the Province that includes a clause that "Provincial Officials will consult and exchange information in a timely manner with UBCM on issues that have the potential to broadly affect local governments, including, but not limited to:

...the adoption and implementation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples"

Members have also endorsed policy to help define the Province's response to UNDRIP: resolution 2018-B149 calls for the equitable treatment of Indigenous peoples in urban areas through policies, programs and funding.

Finally, membership has endorsed resolution 2015-B106 that calls on the Province and federal government to respond to the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) recommendations. This is notable in the present context because

TRC call to action #43 calls upon all orders of government to fully adopt and implement UNDRIP as the framework for reconciliation.

CoV Staff Liaison: Katelyn Crabtree, Manager, Indigenous Relations - 604-873-7209

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Section B1

Community Safety

B3 Local Government Autonomy

Maple Ridge

Whereas Section 1 of the Community Charter confirms that municipalities and their Councils are "democratically elected, autonomous, responsible and accountable" and must operate under strict statutory conditions associated with public consultation and public interest; and that Section 1 of the Local Government Act grants local governments the powers and flexibility required to fulfill their purpose and respond to the needs of their communities within that mandate;

And whereas the Government of BC has shown a willingness to overrule municipal land use regulations, dispense with public consultation functions mandated by the Local Government Act, and forego collaboration with local government, actions that can set a precedent in undermining the jurisdiction of municipal Councils to determine and represent the interests of their communities through a fair and accountable public process:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to commit to working in collaboration with local governments within boundaries of their respective jurisdictions on all current and future projects of mutual concern.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141, 2002-SR1, 2001-A9, 1995-B91, 1994-A2, 1990-B59).

In response to resolution 2009-B54 the provincial government confirmed the importance of consultation with local governments as “a key principle of local-provincial relations” and cited the statutory requirements for consultation that it uses to guide its actions:

- *section 2 of the Community Charter, regarding consultation between the Province and municipalities on any matters of mutual interest;*
- *section 3 of the Local Government Act, regarding consultation when provincial interests directly affect regional district interests; and*
- *section 276 of the Community Charter, which identifies areas of provincial legislation and policy for which the ministers responsible must consult with local governments through UBCM.*

In response to the actions taken in Maple Ridge noted in this resolution, UBCM raised concerns with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding the broader implications of the Province’s actions for local government autonomy. Minister Robinson subsequently provided assurance that the use of paramountcy (typically referred to as Statutory Immunity in the case of Provincial government) in Maple Ridge was a special case, designed to provide a temporary solution to the urgent situation created by the City’s evacuation of the tent city, while discussions about a longer-term solution continued with the local government. She has affirmed that the Province takes local government autonomy seriously. In this context, Statutory Immunity refers to Section 14 of the Interpretation Act, which provides that the Province is not subject to an enactment that would bind it in the use or development of land.

See also resolutions SR1, C4.

CoV Staff Liaison: Heidi Granger, Assistant Director - Development/Real Estate, 604-829-2001

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B4 Proceeds of Crime

Prince George

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 funds community crime reduction and crime prevention activities, but does not address local government policing costs, including expenditures related to investigations and police work that result in seizures of proceeds of crime:

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

Not presented to 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 proceeds from the disposition of forfeited property to be transferred to local governments (2014-B16, 2011-B15, 2009-B4, 2004-A1, 2004-B3, 2004-B7, 2003-B3, 1998-B2, 1992-B58).

Currently, local governments, First Nations, police agencies and community groups may apply for a portion of these funds through a provincial grant program.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B6 Victims Services Funding

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the costs to local governments for providing police-based victim services continues to escalate due to increased demand and annual inflation;

And whereas the authority for providing victim services for: victims' issues; development of legislation, policies and programs; training; and delivering and funding programs that support victims and their families is the responsibility of the Community Safety and Crime Prevention Branch of the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM urge the Province of BC, through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General to increase the Ministry's funding contribution for the provision of police-based victim services within the Province of British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that provincial government funding for victim services programs is a long-standing issue. Members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to increase funding for victim services programs, including 2017-B5, 2017-B56, 2016-B83, 2015-B4, 2014-B4, 2011-B14, 2010-B12, 2008-B4, 2006-B9, 2003-OF1, 2001-B12, 1998-A11, 1994-B35.

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B7 Safer Slower Streets: 30 km/h Residential Street Pilot

Vancouver

Whereas currently, the Motor Vehicle Act (MVA) stipulates a speed limit of 50 kilometers per hour (km/h) within city limits;

And whereas the probability of pedestrian survival is about 90 per cent if struck by a motor vehicle travelling at 30 km/h, while survival is reduced to 20 per cent if struck by a motor vehicle travelling at 50 km/h;

And whereas lower speed limits are more compatible with active transportation, and create safer, better engaged, healthier and more inclusive communities;

And whereas in 2015, the BC Road Safety Strategy set out the goal of zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries and discussed safe speeds. In 2016, the Provincial Health Officer's Annual Report also recommended a 30 km/h speed limit in urban areas;

And whereas in June 2016, as part of its position paper, Modernizing the BC Motor Vehicle Act, the British Columbia-based Road Safety Law Reform Group recommended: "A default provincial speed limit of 30 km/h for local (no centre line) streets should be included in the Motor Vehicle Act, with municipalities enabled to increase speed limits on local streets in a case by-case basis by by-law and posted signage.";

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure be asked to consider an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act that would allow incorporated municipalities to institute blanket speed zones in residential areas.

And be it further resolved this resolution be presented at the UBCM.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse with Proposed Amendment

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure be asked to consider an amendment to the Motor Vehicle Act that would allow incorporated municipalities to institute blanket speed zones in residential areas.

And be it further resolved this resolution be presented at the UBCM.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act to enable municipalities to implement blanket speed limits (2009-B19, 2006-B14, 2003-LR9, 1999-B44) within their municipal boundaries. In response to 2009-B19, the Province cited concerns with the potential development of a patchwork of speed limits, and motorists challenging speeding tickets on the basis that they could not reasonably know the applicable speed limit in a particular jurisdiction

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2015-B12 which called for rural communities to be able to lower the speed limit on certain highways that pass through their communities; and, 2011-B18 which called for communities to be able to, in part, regulate speed on arterial highways within municipal boundaries.

The Committee would propose that the second enactment clause be removed as the membership will consider the resolution at Convention.

See also resolutions C8, C9.

CoV Staff Liaison: Lacey Hirtle, Senior Traffic Safety Engineer - 604-326-4655

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B8 Local Government Photo Radar Implementation

West Kelowna

Whereas local governments, with limited and competing resources, must address traffic safety challenges to ensure the well-being of our residents;

And whereas traffic speed enforcement in residential areas, playgrounds, and school zones is labour intensive and the ability to use photo radar as a deterrent has proven to be effective and efficient in the management of speed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to permit local governments to independently implement photo radar, with the focus on changing driver behaviour, on local roads at the local government's request and expense.

Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution, 2017-B90, which was also submitted by West Kelowna, calling on the Province to allow local governments to implement photo radar in their own communities and at their own expense. In response, the Province specifically stated that it "is not considering bringing back photo radar."

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2013-B91, which asked the Province to amend legislation to permit the use of speed cameras in school and playground traffic zones, with fine revenue to be shared on a negotiated basis between local governments.

Beginning in summer 2019, the Province will be upgrading 35 of its 140 red light intersection safety cameras to provide for automated speed enforcement. These sites are locations where speeding and crashes are over-represented (according to a provincial analysis of speed and crash data).

CoV Staff Liaisons:

Winston Chou, Manager, Traffic and Data Management, 604-873-7913

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B12 Funding for Climate Change Adaptation – Flood Protection

Delta

Whereas flood protection works are deficient in many areas throughout the Province of British Columbia and, in many areas, are adjacent to Wildlife Management Areas or environmentally protected areas;

And whereas climate change is increasing the risk of flooding in many coastal communities due to long term sea level rise;

And whereas there are limited funds to address long term dike improvement works:

Therefore be it resolved that senior levels of government work with local governments to fund and assist in implementing a streamlined approvals process for long term flood protection adaptation programs.

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 requesting funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2018-B94, 2016-B56, 2015-B6, 2015-B7, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2012-B4, 2011-B11, 2011-B12, 2011-B79, 2010-B8, 2009-B3, 2008-B69, 2007-A1).

UBCM has a long standing policy position that the provincial government should provide local governments with financial assistance to manage disasters and to undertake the studies needed to improve the system.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability - 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Elections

B14 Online Voting

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas resolutions supporting legislative changes to allow for online voting in local government elections were endorsed at the 2011 and 2015 UBCM Conventions;

And whereas the Province's response in 2015 indicated that it is open to exploring the topic further with UBCM and specific local governments who are interested in implementing internet voting:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be lobbied to initiate legislative changes that would allow local governments to implement online voting for upcoming elections and assent voting opportunities.

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 similar resolutions (2015-B8, 2011-A2, 2000-B13) which asked the Province to allow local governments to use/implement online voting for upcoming local government elections.

The Committee understands that as part of its Recommendations Report to the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia released in February 2014, the Independent Panel on Internet Voting made four recommendations:

- ~~1. Do not implement universal Internet voting for either local government or provincial government elections at this time. However if Internet voting is implemented, it should be limited to those voters with specific accessibility challenges. If Internet voting is implemented on a limited basis, jurisdictions need to recognize that the risks to the accuracy of the voting results remain substantial.~~
- ~~2. Take a province wide coordinated approach to Internet voting.~~
- ~~3. Establish an independent technical committee to evaluate Internet voting systems and support jurisdictions that wish to implement approved systems.~~
- ~~4. Evaluate any Internet voting system against the principles established by the panel.~~

In response to the 2015 resolution, the Province stated:

"While the Province recognizes the potential benefits of internet voting, those benefits must be balanced with the security of the electoral process.

The Province may look into a province-wide coordinated approach to internet voting once the concerns regarding security, privacy and anonymity, raised by the Independent Panel on Internet Voting's final report, have been alleviated.

To address these concerns, the Province acknowledges that more work is needed before internet voting can be implemented safely in a way that provides appropriate safeguards to allow voter confidence.

The Province is open to exploring the topic further with UBCM and specific local governments who are interested in implementing internet voting.”

CoV Staff Liaison: Rosemary Hagiwara, Chief Election Officer Director of Business & Election Services / Deputy City Clerk - 604-873-7177

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Transportation

B15 Funding for Design of Cycling Infrastructure (Bike Lanes) for Local Governments

Penticton

Whereas the Province of BC is cost-sharing cycling infrastructure projects with local government through our BikeBC program to encourage healthy living and to help address climate change;

And whereas prior to building cycling infrastructure, such as bike lanes, it is necessary to conduct a design stage that can be a very expensive endeavor:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province cost share not only cycling infrastructure but also the design of the infrastructure, especially as it relates to bike lanes.

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 that seek funding for bike lanes, construction of new bike lanes and investment in cycling infrastructure (2018-B15, 2016-B9, 2013-B99, 2012-B63, 2010-B16, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B140).

The Committee notes that the membership also endorsed resolution 2010-B17. It asked the Province to undertake a BC Cycling Development Program, with a focus, in part, on best practices for infrastructure design and requested funding from the Ministry of Transportation.

CoV Staff Liaison: Carol Kong, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer, 604-871-6683

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B16 Alternative Transportation Infrastructure

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the federal government has committed itself to the Paris Accord to limit climate warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and the provincial government has committed itself to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80 per cent below 2007 levels by 2050 and has committed to an active transportation strategy which outlines a path to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure are the responsible authority to ensure safe and reliable road infrastructure throughout rural and unincorporated areas in BC:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be urged to fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to support an increased investment in infrastructure improvements and ongoing maintenance necessary for the safe integration of low carbon alternative modes of transportation on rural roads which connect communities throughout BC.

Not presented to 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 considered and endorsed resolution 2012-B63 which specifically asked the Province to invest in cycling infrastructure in order to accelerate the availability and broaden the range of cycling opportunities for commuter, recreational, and competitive cyclists living in and visiting rural and urban areas. As well, in 2018 members endorsed B15, which asked that the Province establish a provincial active transportation strategy with dedicated staff and increased investments in local active transportation.

As well members have endorsed resolutions that have sought specific requests to support cycling infrastructure improvements such as:

- *prioritize construction of new bike lanes within regional districts (2016-B9, 2016-B57);*
- *establish of highway shoulders when highway upgrading projects are undertaken near communities to promote walking and cycling (2006-B140, 2007-B14, 2007-B99);*
- *fund commuter highways for non-greenhouse gas emitting transportation (2006-B110);*
- *fund sweeping of road shoulders and cycle lanes in order to remove gravel and debris and thus create safer cycling (2008-B108);*
- *fund improvements to major roads that intersect the provincial highway system, including improvements related to capacity increases as well as pedestrian and cycling facilities associated with those roadways (2009-B83); and*
- *undertake a BC Cycling Development Program (2010-B17).*

The Committee would note that the Province has released its active transportation plan “Move, Commute, Connect” that addresses many of the “asks” within the sponsors enactment clause.

CoV Staff Liaison: Carol Kong, Senior Transportation Planning Engineer, 604-871-6683

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B17 Shipment of Dangerous Goods by Rail

Kitimat-Stikine RD

Whereas the increase in rail shipment of petroleum products and other dangerous goods pose an increased chance for spills and greater environmental risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial and federal governments to improve Environmental Emergency Program regulations around rail transport of petroleum products and dangerous goods to strengthen and include improvements to spill preparedness, response and recovery.

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

The Committee also notes that membership has endorsed a resolution calling for local governments to have a manifest of the dangerous contents of trains passing through their boundaries (2017-B7). The membership has also endorsed a resolution asking the federal government to phase out the use of sub-standard liquid commodity rail cars and until they are entirely phased out, restrict these sub-standard cars from carrying dangerous goods (2014-B126).

CoV Staff Liaison: Neal Peacocke, Senior Transportation Engineer, 604-871-6472

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Taxation

B19 Extension of Vacancy Taxation Authority to Local Governments

Victoria

Whereas the Province of British Columbia responded to a housing affordability crisis in 2016 with legislation empowering the City of Vancouver to introduce a surtax on vacant residential properties, resulting in \$38-million in revenues for that community in 2018 and creating a strong disincentive to leaving properties vacant;

And whereas communities across British Columbia face housing affordability pressures, while a portion of the housing supply in all communities remains vacant, including properties that have remained derelict for years or decades, and vacant and derelict buildings pose substantial risks in terms of public safety in communities, as well as liveability and desirability for nearby and adjoining neighbourhoods and properties:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia extend the authority to introduce a surtax on vacant residential properties to local governments across British Columbia, providing communities with the discretion to decide whether to introduce an additional tax to discourage vacant and derelict buildings, and encourage the occupancy, maintenance, and improvement of buildings to address housing affordability and public safety.

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 (2017-B91) asking the Province to extend authority to other local governments to introduce a surtax on vacant properties to encourage occupancy, maintenance, affordability and public safety. In addition, in 2018, membership endorsed resolution 2018-A3, which requested local government authority to collect a levy on vacant residential properties, with the requirement that local governments imposing such a levy invest the revenues in non-market housing.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that membership has passed other resolutions requesting alternate mechanisms to support additional taxation of vacant properties (2016-B13) requesting new prescribed classes; and (2017-B14) requesting the authority for Land Value Taxation.

See also resolution C18.

CoV Staff Liaisons: Heidi Granger, Assistant Director - Development/Real Estate, 604-829-2001

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B20 PST Exemption for Fire Apparatus and Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas the municipalities and regional districts that provide firefighting services must provide certified Fire Apparatus and regulatory compliant Firefighter Personal Protective Equipment to meet insurance standards and WorkSafe BC regulations;

And whereas the cost of providing the specialty apparatus and equipment has become an onerous challenge for large and small fire departments alike:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to provide an exemption from provincial sales tax for fire protection equipment and supplies for Fire Departments within the province.

Not presented to 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 related resolutions seeking a PST exemption for the purchase of fire trucks and other life-saving equipment (2005-B14, 2003-B14) and for the purchase of fire protection equipment and supplies for fire departments (2007-B22, 2001-B23).

In response to endorsed resolution 2007-B22, the Province indicated that it prefers not to provide tax exemptions "because exemptions make the tax system more complicated for business and could ultimately reduce the effectiveness of the tax as

an important provincial revenue source." It also indicated that a number of grants (e.g. Traffic Fine Revenue Sharing Agreement) were available to assist local governments meet needs.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

Finance

B21 Strong Fiscal Futures

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the Province's response to the 2014 UBCM Strong Fiscal Futures resolution was limited to recognition of the need for more regular, structured dialogue between the Province and UBCM to better address shared duties to ensure the delivery of effective, responsive services to citizens;

And whereas local governments continue to face significant challenges in providing effective, sustainable services and infrastructure management under an outdated local government financial system and archaic revenue sources:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province commit to pursuing the Strong Fiscal Futures report as a flexible blueprint for a diversified local government finance system that is both fairer and more sustainable.

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 2014-SR1 which called upon the Province to commit to meaningful engagement with local governments under the Strong Fiscal Futures framework.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B24 Provincial Download**Bulkley-Nechako RD**

Whereas Section 2 of the Community Charter states that the Provincial government must not assign responsibilities to municipalities unless there is provision for resources required to fulfill the responsibilities;

And whereas legislated changes have shifted responsibility for managing a wide range of complex issues, including but not limited to the significant impact of emergency response services onto local governments placing notable strain on local government resources:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure that adequate resources and funding are provided to local governments to fulfill the responsibilities that have been assigned to local governments.

Endorsed by the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to cease downloading or offloading of services to local government (2009-B26, 2006-B80, 2004-B75, 2003-B9, 2002-SR1, 2002-B62, 2000-B19), and requesting that any downloaded services be accompanied by sufficient, sustainable revenues to be controlled by local governments (2006-B21, 2006-B98, 2004-B5, 2004-B133, 2003-A4, 2003-B82, 2001-B4, 2001-B25, 2001-B82).

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B25 Elected Local Government Officials Participation in the Municipal Pension Plan**Burnaby**

Whereas elected local government officials contribute a significant service to the communities they represent through the time and effort invested during their tenure of office;

And whereas elected local government officials in other Canadian jurisdictions, including Quebec and Ontario, are considered eligible to participate in the municipal pension plans in place in these locations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Finance, and any other applicable bodies, to amend the Public Sector Pension Plans Act to permit the eligibility of Elected Local Government Officials to participate in the Municipal Pension Plan.

Not presented to 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 similar resolution, 2001-B53, requesting UBCM seek the approval of the Municipal Pension Board and relative legislation to permit elected local government officials to contribute to the Municipal Superannuation Fund based upon the taxable remuneration received from their elected position.

Currently local government elected officials in BC are not permitted to enrol in the Municipal Pension Plan. The one exception is Vancouver City Council whose enrollment is permitted through a provision in the Vancouver Charter.

The Committee would also note that the part-time nature of the majority of local government elected officials, their low pensionable earnings and the years of service will ultimately impact the amount of actual pensions earned.

CoV Staff Liaison: Andrew Naklicki, Chief Human Resources Officer, 604-873-7660

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B29 Restoring Sustainable Provincial Library Funding Levels

Sidney

Whereas libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by levies paid by local governments, and where Provincial library funding has remained virtually stagnant for the past 30 years:

And whereas libraries in British Columbia provide open and equal public access to vital resources, including the internet, public computers, digital library tools and in-person service from expert staff to provide opportunities for all British Columbians to access knowledge and information and increase literacy in our communities and present informative programmes: including First Nations programmes and material which advance public understanding and reconciliation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM strongly encourage the Government of British Columbia to give urgent attention to funding for BC public libraries by adding \$20 million to the BC Provincial Budget for 2020 for allocation to public libraries throughout BC;

And be it further resolved that the Province be requested to ensure that BC Libraries will henceforth receive Provincial Government financial support at a sustainable level in subsequent years following the 2020 Budget.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to maintain and increase its funding for public libraries (2018-B24, 2017-B60, 2016-B95, 2014-B17, 2012-B71, 2011-B27, 2010-B46, 2008-B57, 2007-B56, 2006-B55, 2006-B56, 2002-B13, 2000-B28, 1999-B13, 1996-B82).

The Committee also notes that UBCM has received letters of support for this resolution from Coldstream, Midway, Montrose, Northern Rockies RM, Parksville, Richmond, Stewart, Tofino and Victoria.

See also resolutions C27, C28, C29, C30, C31, C32, C33, C34.

See also B28 - specific to rural library funding.

CoV Staff Liaison: Christina de Castell, Chief Librarian, 604-331-4007

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B30 Property Transfer Tax Redistribution for Affordable Housing Comox Valley RD

Whereas affordable housing for low-income citizens is in critical need and is currently severely challenged by current supply conditions and lack of adequate funding;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia collects approximately \$2 billion annually through the Property Transfer Tax:

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to provide an annual redistribution of 1 per cent of the Property Transfer Tax to local governments across the Province for the specific purpose of addressing affordable housing.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

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

Therefore be it resolved the UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to provide an annual redistribution of ~~1 per cent~~ of the Property Transfer Tax to local governments across the Province for the specific purpose of addressing affordable housing.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed similar 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 (2017-B17, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23, 2004-A8).

The Committee also notes that within UBCM's 2018 housing paper A Home for Everyone, there is a recommendation asking the Province to review the existing property transfer tax and to dedicate revenues from this tax towards affordable housing.

The Committee would propose that the enactment clause be amended to remove the specified 1 per cent to be more generic in the request as members have not previously asked for a specific per cent share.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B31 Share of Liquor Tax for Policing Courtenay

Whereas the policing cost for the City of Courtenay is one of the most significant expenditures in the City's financial plan;

And whereas the availability of alcohol under the jurisdiction of the BC Liquor & Cannabis Regulation Branch can have significant implications on local policing costs:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government be requested to provide a portion of the British Columbia Liquor Tax to communities to be used towards policing costs.

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 in 2004-B49 which asked the Province to provide a portion of the liquor tax to local governments to defray the cost of policing.

Members have also endorsed related resolutions that call for the Province to share liquor tax revenue with local governments for:

- *resourcing liquor license inspectors, alcohol addiction treatment services, policing of liquor licensed establishments and of liquor related offences and late night transit to reduce drinking and driving (2014-B60);*
- *drug and alcohol awareness and prevention programs (2011-B26); and*
- *detox facilities and fund homeless and homeless-at-risk shelters (2004-B111).*

See also resolution C25.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B32 Agricultural Support Services

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas agricultural extension services support government and community priorities around food security, economic development, climate change adaptation and water management;

And whereas agricultural producers and stakeholders in each Regional District are subject to unique challenges and opportunities that are difficult to address in the long-term or in a consistent manner without predictable, non-project-based funding:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Agriculture provide funding to Regional Districts through a stable, annual and accountable framework to establish strategic and long-term regional agricultural extension supports.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

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

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Agriculture provide funding to ~~Regional Districts~~ local governments through a stable, annual and accountable framework to establish strategic and long-term regional agricultural extension supports.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed other resolutions that call on the Province to support agricultural extension services such as public awareness and marketing programs, mentorship programs and to support knowledge enhancement for new, prospective and existing farmers (2016-B40, 2012-B34, 2011-B56).

The Committee would propose that the enactment clause be amended to refer to "local governments" not just "regional districts" to be inclusive of the broader UBCM membership.

CoV Staff Liaison: Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects Division, 604-871-6643

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B33 BC Hydro – Streetlight Inefficiency

Smithers

Whereas BC Hydro owns a significant percentage of streetlights in BC municipalities, especially in smaller communities, and many of these streetlights still use inefficient incandescent technology despite demonstrated energy and cost savings of 50-70 per cent with conversion to LED technology;

And whereas local governments are responsible for paying for the ongoing operating cost of BC Hydro-owned street lighting using property tax revenue:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to require BC Hydro to expeditiously replace all streetlights within BC municipalities with LED technology, or provide municipalities with the financial resources necessary to continue paying for the operation of its inefficient streetlights.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed two resolutions addressing street lighting conversion to LED bulbs (2018-B30, 2014-B96). Both focused on the environmental benefits of a reduced carbon footprint with a conversion; whereas, this resolution focuses on the economic savings to the local government.

CoV Staff Liaison:

Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610
Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Assessment

B34 Short-term Rentals Assessment Classification

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas a dwelling unit that is used as a commercial enterprise for short-term rentals and does not serve as the primary residence for the owner, a manager or other person;

And whereas tourist overnight accommodation uses such as motels, hotels, and resorts are classed and taxed as businesses:

Therefore be it resolved that a dwelling unit, typically a detached dwelling, offered and used as a whole for short-term rentals be assigned the appropriate tax class and be redefined as “Class 6: Business and Other”;

And be it further resolved that where the property is offered, be it only seasonally, as a whole (rather than as a Bed & Breakfast with a permanent resident) this be in respect of the property as a whole rather than be limited to a portion or a split assessment between Class 1 and 6.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution 2017-B20 requesting that properties used for short-term rentals be eligible to be split-classified between Class 1 and Class 6.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2016-A4, which called on the Province to work with UBCM to regulate short-term accommodation in a manner that would address compliance, and taxation fairness between providers of short-term accommodation.

CoV Staff Liaison: Kathryn Holm, Chief License Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B35 Varied Tax Rate for the Residential Class

Langley City

Whereas the Province of British Columbia through the BC Assessment Act – Prescribed Classes of Property Regulation B.C. 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 for each property class;

And whereas the assessed value of multi-family housing and single family housing appreciates at vastly different rates, leading to large fluctuations and tax rates swings year-to-year between these housing types:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia amend the BC Assessment Act and the Community Charter to allow the residential class to be split into two distinct residential classes so that a different rate may be applied to each type of residential property to allow for better tax planning, and a more consistent application of property tax changes, for all residents no matter their housing type.

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 resolution 2018-B118 from the District of West Vancouver at last year's Convention, where it was referred to the UBCM Executive. At the February 22, 2019 UBCM Executive meeting the resolutions was considered and endorsed as amended:

"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."

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Environment

B41 Brownfield Remediation

Lumby

Whereas the cost to remediate brownfields is quite onerous often costing more than the value of the property resulting in private property owners choosing to leave brownfields vacant/dormant to avoid these costs, leaving brownfields and contaminated sites a detriment to development and aesthetics in many communities;

And whereas the Provincial and Federal Governments have not provided the funds or the means to local governments to remediate brownfields:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the province to allow local governments to create a municipal taxation structure for brownfields that would allow local governments to increase taxation value on brownfields over time up to the equivalent value of the property in a remediated state to encourage property owners to make efforts to remediate;

And be it further resolved that the local governments be required to create a remediation reserve fund from the additional taxes collected for the purposes of remediation of brownfields whether publicly or privately owned.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions 2018-B25, 2017-B21 and 2016-B104 which called upon the provincial government to create a new, separate tax class for brownfield sites so that local governments can tax these sites accordingly.

The Committee would observe that prior to 2016 other resolutions related to brownfield sites have previously focused on either expediting the remediation of contaminated properties (2013-B33, 2012-B26, 2011-B99, 2008-B33, 2007-B29, 2007-B70, 2001-B76); or fine-tuning the criteria applied by BC Assessment when assessing contaminated properties (2013-B26, 2011-B37, 2005-B21, 1996-ER5).

CoV Staff Liaisons:

Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610
Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B42 Comprehensive Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy**Richmond**

Whereas the British Columbia extended producer responsibility program for packaging and printed paper currently provides recycling collection for single-use items generated by the residential sector, but does not yet focus on reduction or reuse, or cover single-use items that are compostable or disposed of at businesses or in the public realm;

And whereas inter-municipal differences in policy for reduction of single-use items make it challenging for businesses to comply with multiple regulations, and the business community has expressed a strong desire for harmonization and consistent regulation for single-use items on the broadest possible scale:

Therefore be it resolved that the Provincial Government adopt a provincial single-use item reduction strategy for single-use items that emphasizes reduction and reuse, covers single-use items generated by all sectors and made of all material types, and would include but not necessarily be limited to plastic and paper shopping bags, disposable drink cups, take-out containers, straws and utensils, but would exclude all single-use items needed for medical use or accessibility needs.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution calling for a Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a Provincial Zero Waste Strategy. Specifically, resolution 2018-B126 called on the Province of British Columbia to engage the packaging industry to develop a provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a provincial Zero Waste Strategy, which would include, but not necessarily be limited to, plastic and paper shopping bags, polystyrene foam cups and polystyrene foam containers, other hot and cold drink cups and take-out containers, straws and utensils, but would exclude all single use items needed for medical use or for people with disabilities.

The Resolutions Committee notes that resolution B148 calls for local governments to regulate or restrict single-use items, which appears contrary to B42 that asks the Province to develop a province-wide single-use item reduction strategy.

See also resolutions B147, B148, C37.

CoV Staff Liaison: Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B44 Tax Exemption for Electric Bicycles

Squamish

Whereas the sale of bicycles and tricycles, parts for bicycles and tricycles, bicycle and tricycle attachments and bicycle and tricycle accessories are Provincial Sales Tax exempt due to the health and environmental benefits provided by the use of bicycles and tricycles;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia through its recent Clean BC plan and 2019 budget has incentivized the transition to electric vehicles through financial incentives:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urged to exempt electric bicycles (pedal assist) from Provincial Sales Tax charges.

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 referred a similar resolution, 2016-B130, to the UBCM Executive, and the Executive recommended it be endorsed. Resolution 2016-B130 called on the Province to reinstate the PST exemption for electric bicycles, an exemption which had been in place temporarily from February 2008 to July 2010.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Land Use

B52 Preservation of Archaeological Artifacts

Delta

Whereas local governments routinely undertake excavation works for road, sewer and water services for their communities;

And whereas excavations, particularly in coastal areas, may uncover archaeological sites which are protected under the provincial Heritage Conservation Act;

And whereas the costs incurred by local government are often impossible to predict and may significantly impact the final costs of the project:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Government be requested to fund additional expenditures borne by local governments to record and document archaeological findings in accordance with the provincial Heritage Conservation Act.

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 similar resolution, 2007-B139, requesting the Province to consider providing funding equal to 100 per cent of the total expenditures borne by local governments to record and document archaeological findings in accordance with the provincial Heritage Conservation Act.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2013-LR1 that sought funding from the Province for individual property owners are impacted by unregistered and undiscovered archaeological sites on their property.

CoV Staff Liaison: Shauna Huculak, Archaeologist, 604-673-8259

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B53 Development Permit Area Requirements

Islands Trust

Whereas in 2003 and 2011 UBCM endorsed resolutions calling for legislative changes so local governments can issue municipal ticket information or bylaw violation notices for contraventions of the prohibition on altering land in designated development permit areas, or contrary to issued development permits, but these changes have not yet occurred;

And whereas in British Columbia, designation of development permit areas is the main legislative mechanism for addressing protection of riparian and environmentally sensitive area and for protecting development from hazardous conditions such as erosion:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to improve the enforceability of development permit area requirements by enabling local governments to enforce violations by way of prosecution, ticket or bylaw notices.

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 which call on the Province to improve enforceability of development permit requirements by enabling local governments to issue tickets, levy fines and/or initiate prosecution when violations occur (2013-B113, 2011-B45, 2003-B89).

CoV Staff Liaison: Kathryn Holm, Chief License Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Health

B60 Addition of Drug and Alcohol Recovery Facilities and Beds

Penticton

Whereas an opioid crisis has been identified in British Columbia, and addictions can also take many other forms such as alcohol and other drugs, with addictions being so detrimental to an individual's health and well-being;

And whereas there are not enough Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation/Recovery Facilities and space available for those who are seeking help to combat addictions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province fund significantly more licensed rehabilitation facilities and beds in every local government to enable all those who seek assistance in recovering from addictions an opportunity to beat addictions.

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 provincial funding for mental health and addiction services; expansion of existing facilities and establishment of new facilities; and funding for related social service and housing programs (2017-B44, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2014-B60, 2013-B36, 2013-B52, 2010-B44, 2010-B143, 2010-B145, 2008-A1, 2007-B51, 2007-B153, 2006-B8, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-A1, 2005-B43, 2000-B61).

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B61 Additional Rehabilitation Detox Centres

Grand Forks

Whereas substance use, particularly drug addiction, is considered a mental health issue;

And whereas smaller communities do not have many of the supports required to assist those wanting to recover from addiction and detox followed by immediate rehabilitation is necessary in order to recover and the wait time between the two can be up to three months:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health be encouraged to fund detox and rehabilitation centres throughout the Province, particularly in rural and remote communities.

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 a similar resolution, 2007-B51, which asked the Province to provide more funding for detox centres in more areas of the province.

The Committee notes that resolution 2006-B8 was also endorsed by the membership and it asked for more regional detox facilities.

The Committee also notes that membership has endorsed related resolutions requesting federal and provincial funding for the development of a continuum of drug detox and rehabilitation programs throughout the province (2000-B61) and the enactment of a full provincial drug strategy and increased funding (2014-B34, 2007-B2, 2006-B1, 2006-B50, 2005-B43, 2002-B74) to address the many problems associated with addiction.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B65 Support for Municipal Inclusion in the BC Poverty Reduction Strategy

Port Moody

Whereas BC's First Poverty Reduction Strategy is a great step in the right direction toward decreasing the escalating rates of poverty and inequity in BC;

And whereas poverty has different appearances and challenges in every community, and community staff, officials, and organizations have invaluable insights and solutions to contribute:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia include grants for municipalities and community non-governmental agencies in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, in order for communities to work with the Province to build vibrant communities by investing in community expertise, to prevent poverty by breaking the cycle, to alleviate the hardship of poverty through improved services, and to enable British Columbians to exit poverty by building capacity;

And be it further resolved that the above resolution be forwarded to all other BC municipalities for support.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse with Proposed Amendment

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia include grants for municipalities and community non-governmental agencies in the Poverty Reduction Strategy, in order for communities to work with the Province to build vibrant communities by investing in community expertise, to prevent poverty by breaking the cycle, to alleviate the hardship of poverty through improved services, and to enable British Columbians to exit poverty by building capacity.;

And be it further resolved that the above resolution be forwarded to all other BC municipalities for support.

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2015-B72, which calls on the Province to initiate a grant program to fund local poverty reduction initiatives.

The Committee would propose that the second enactment clause be removed as the membership will debate the resolution at Convention.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B66 Food Security

Port Coquitlam

Whereas it is important that BC Communities have a local food system to enable access to affordable and healthy food options and improve community sustainability and BC Communities should encourage awareness about and the expansion of a regional food system;

And whereas the provincial government is committed to promoting healthful living and making BC a healthy place to be:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Ministry of Health be requested to initiate programs and partnerships to increase community awareness of the benefits of nutritious and affordable food and support regional initiatives to enhance community food security.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

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

- *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).

CoV Staff Liaison: Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects Division - 604-871-6643

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Selected Issues

B67 Legal Aid Funding

North Vancouver District

Whereas legal aid is an essential service which provides the marginalized, vulnerable and poor with access to justice;

And whereas legal aid has been chronically underfunded for over 25 years making it very difficult for the marginalized, vulnerable and poor to get legal assistance from a lawyer;

And whereas many studies and reports, including those commissioned by Government, have noted the serious consequences for society by the continued chronic underfunding of legal aid;

And whereas the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers have been attempting to negotiate appropriate levels of funding for legal aid;

And whereas over 575 members of the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers voted overwhelmingly to withdraw services on April 1, 2019, to protest the intolerable levels of funding;

And whereas the government and the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers have negotiated a interim funding plan to avert the withdrawal of services and allow time to continue to negotiate a permanent funding model:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM recognizes that legal aid is an essential public service that provides legal representation to the most vulnerable, marginalized and impoverished members of our city and that the chronic underfunding of legal aid has led to a serious inequality in the delivery of legal services in our communities;

And be it further resolved that UBCM encourages the Province of British Columbia to resolve this matter with the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers and restore funding to Legal Aid.

Not presented to 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 UBCM to recognize the importance of legal aid and that chronic underfunding has lead to inequities. Nor has the membership considered a resolution that calls on the Province to resolve its negotiations with the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to restore and increase funding for legal aid services in BC (2013-B60, 2010-B57, 2002-B73, 1988-B48).

CoV Staff Liaison: Heidi Granger, Assistant Director - Development/Real Estate, 604-829-2001

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B68 Full Social Support Services For Homeless Housing

Penticton

Whereas the Province through BC Housing has invested in creating housing for those individuals struggling with homelessness;

And whereas individuals experiencing homelessness are often in need of social services:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province 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.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2007-B153, calling for increased funding for supportive housing.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to develop housing strategies and dedicate more funding towards housing, in part to address homelessness (2016-B45, 2015-B14, 2015-B46). In addition, membership has consistently called for services to address addiction, mental illness, and other supports for vulnerable populations including the homeless (2017-B52, 2015-A2, 2013-B52).

CoV Staff Liaison: Abi Bond, Managing Director of Homelessness Services & Affordable Housing Programs, 604-873-7670

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B69 Income-Based Solutions to Household Food Insecurity

Revelstoke

Whereas more than one in ten households in BC, [1 in 7 households in the Interior Health region], experience household food insecurity and are more vulnerable to chronic conditions leading to health care costs that are two times higher than food secure households;

And whereas rates of household food insecurity are not reduced by food programs because they cannot address the root cause of household food insecurity, being lack of income and extreme material deprivation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM frame household food insecurity as an income-based problem and advocate to provincial and federal governments for evidence-based income policy solutions to food insecurity.

Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has endorsed related resolutions (2013-B55, 2013-B56) which have called for income supports to ensure food security.

As well, the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling on the Province to create a poverty reduction plan, in part to address the issue of food insecurity (2016-B47, 2015-B44).

CoV Staff Liaison: Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects Division, 604-871-6643

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B70 Provincial Universal School Food Program

Victoria

Whereas almost 500,000 individuals in BC experience food insecurity, and Canada remains one of the only Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations without a national school food program and Canada's current patchwork of school food programming reaches only a small percentage of students;

And whereas school food programs have been shown to increase children's consumption of vegetables, fruits and other healthy foods and decrease the consumption of unhealthy ones; improve students' mental health, including reductions in behavioural and emotional problems; improve cognitive skills and increase scholastic success:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate to the provincial government for a Universal Healthy School Food Program that will enable all students in BC to have access to healthy meals at school, building on existing programs and including food education to serve culturally appropriate, local, sustainable food to the fullest extent possible.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

Endorse

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported a similar resolution (2017-B127) that called upon the provincial and federal governments to develop a Universal Healthy School Food Program.

See also resolution C53.

CoV Staff Liaison: Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects Division, 604-871-6643

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B74 Lobbyist Registration**Richmond**

Whereas the BC Lobbyists Registration Act (LRA) requires individuals and organizations who lobby public office holders and meet specific criteria to register their lobbying activities in an online public registry;

And whereas the goal of the BC Lobbyists Registration Act is to promote transparency in lobbying and government decision-making:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that a lobbying regulation system for municipal government, similar to the provincial mechanism under the BC Lobbyists Registration Act, be established.

Not presented to 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 resolution 2017-B99, which asked the Province to provide municipalities with the ability to register lobbyists, create rules for lobbyists' conduct in their interactions with elected officials and public servants, and the ability to enforce those rules.

In its response to 2017-B99 the Province responded as follows:

"The Government of BC believes in openness and transparency. This is why a provincial lobbyist registry was created in 1996. Currently, local governments can take voluntary approaches to establishing a municipal lobbyist registry. For example, they can establish a voluntary lobbyist registry in their community, as has been done in the City of Surrey. Self-declared lobbyists voluntarily file a form with the City of Surrey to provide the citizens of the City with access to information about persons who attempt to influence decision-making.

However, as noted in the resolution, current authorities do not allow local governments with a registry the ability to enforce compliance. If local governments, through UBCM, express interest in establishing mandatory lobbyist registries, the Province is willing to discuss the matter further."

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Nikolic, Manager, Intergovernmental Relations, 604-871-6736

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Section B2-a

Assessment

B78 Support for Small Business and Creation of Non Residential Sub Classes in Property Tax Assessment

Port Moody

Whereas the price of land in our region has caused dislocations and hardships for small businesses in our communities, resulting in negative effects on rental options for homes and some businesses, with such dislocations creating many damages and posing a risk to general economic development;

And whereas our municipalities have an obligation to find ways and advocate for the means to reduce the harms affecting to our communities:

Therefore be it resolved the Province of British Columbia work with municipalities to explore opportunities to support small business, non-profits, and arts-related businesses, including making the necessary changes to property tax classes to create a small business related sub-class to allow municipalities to apply differentiated non-residential property tax rates to smaller businesses and cultural hubs.

Not presented to 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 create new assessment sub-classes for small businesses to allow local governments to apply differentiated non-residential property tax rates to smaller businesses and cultural hubs.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2018-B115 that sought relief for small businesses through Provincial assessment reform.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2018-B114, which sought new assessment sub-classes in order to address housing affordability.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO - 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

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Legislative

B79 Management of Provincially Regulated Utilities in Municipal Highways

Coquitlam

Whereas, under the Community Charter, the soil and freehold of every highway is vested in the municipality and a municipal Council may regulate and prohibit in relation to all uses of or involving a highway but subject to the Utilities Commission Act and to all orders given under that Act;

And whereas, the British Columbia Utilities Commission has full and exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any matter within its authority under the Utilities Commission Act and permits provincially regulated pipelines to be located within municipal highways despite objections from municipalities that the pipelines can hinder the ability of municipalities to manage highways and other utilities that use highway corridors;

And whereas, the urban landscape in the Lower Mainland has changed significantly since the development of the provincial utility regulators, absent of modernization which enables local governments to oversee the orderly use of municipal roads, resulting in unforeseen jurisdictional disagreements and a lack of clarity over regulatory functions:

Therefore be it resolved, that the Province, with the assistance of UBCM, undertake a holistic review of the regulatory framework surrounding provincial utility undertakings and update legislation accordingly to enable a collaborative approach to planning and managing civic infrastructure corridors.

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, with the assistance of UBCM, to undertake a holistic review of the regulatory framework surrounding provincial utility undertakings and update legislation accordingly to enable a collaborative approach to planning and managing civic infrastructure corridors.

However members have addressed specific utility issues in the context of potential conflicts within infrastructure corridors such as independent power projects (2003-B96); noxious weed control (1994-B69); and priority to rights of way for public works (1992-B9).

CoV Staff Liaison: Karim Hirji, Utilities Branch Manager, 604-873-7288

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B80 Declaration of Employee Compensation as Part of Annual Statement of Financial Information Reporting New Westminster

Whereas the Financial Information Act requires that local governments submit an annual Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) Report to the provincial government after the end of each fiscal year;

And whereas the Act requires the SOFI Report to include a schedule noting each employee earning more than a prescribed amount, the total remuneration paid to the employee and the total amount paid for the employee's expenses;

And whereas local governments, like many employers, are seeking to create safe and harassment-free spaces for their employees;

And whereas criticism of public employees has become more aggressive and personal in the social media age, as have expectations of privacy and ability to control personal data;

And whereas the public interest in knowing how local governments spend public money as compensation to employees would be duly served by publishing salaries linked to job position titles as opposed to personal names:

Therefore be it resolved that the Financial Information Act be amended to permit local governments to report salaries and expenses in their annual SOFI report by job title as opposed to employee name.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the Financial Information Act to permit local governments to report salaries and expenses in their annual SOFI report by job title as opposed to employee name.

The Committee notes that the Financial Information Regulation does specifically state that a 'name' is required as part of the reporting requirements:

s. 6 (3) The schedule of remuneration and expenses must not include personal information other than information regarding the name, position, function or remuneration and expenses of the employees.

See also resolution B81.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B81 Amendment to SOFI Reporting Legislation**Coquitlam**

Whereas the Financial Information Act requires the reporting of information including schedules of remuneration paid to employees in excess of a threshold of \$75,000 through a report entitled Statement of Financial Information;

And whereas it is agreed that the intent of the Statement of Financial Information to provide transparency and public accountability for spending is achieved through this legislation;

And whereas the threshold was set in 2002 and has not been revisited despite increases in average weekly salaries in BC of 57 per cent, CPI increases totalling 29 per cent and local government's contractual obligations under labour agreements that increase salary and remuneration;

And whereas the lack of consistent review of the threshold results in the ever increasing reporting requirements of staff:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Provincial government to amend threshold consistent with the CPI since 2002;

And be it further resolved that the threshold is reviewed and adjusted every 5 years to reflect changes in CPI.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the threshold consistent with CPI increases since 2012 under the Statement of Financial Information (SOFI) and to review and adjust the threshold to reflect changes in CPI every five years.

See also resolution B80.

CoV Staff Liaison: Rosemary Hagiwara, Chief Election Officer Director of Business & Election Services / Deputy City Clerk, 604-873-7177

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

B82 Conflict of Interest Rules**Vancouver**

Whereas when an elected official or senior staff leaves their municipal role and takes a new role with a private firm that does business with the municipality it undermines the public's trust in the elected official or senior staff member. Elected officials and senior civil servants have valuable knowledge and relationships that can potentially create unfair and profitable advantage for new employers simply because of the position they currently occupy with the City;

And whereas conflict of interest rules improve public confidence in municipal governance. Many municipal codes of conduct prohibit individuals from relaying confidential information for the purpose of securing a private benefit for themselves or for any other person, and requires avoidance of voting on issues when they personally think they are in conflict, but does not address conflict of interest post-employment or for family members. On December 12, 2018 Vancouver City Council resolved to ask its staff to report back on how Vancouver can improve its current Conflict of Interest Policy concerning elected officials and senior staff, and resolved to bring this issue to UBCM:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage other municipalities to consider adopting Conflict of Interest rules.

Not presented to 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 UBCM to encourage municipalities to consider adopting conflict of interest rules.

The Committee notes that conflict of interest provisions in the Community Charter and the Vancouver Charter deal with some aspects identified in the resolution, including prohibiting the use by a council/board member or former member of confidential information obtained in the performance of their duties for the purpose of gaining or furthering a direct or indirect pecuniary interest of the member or former member.

The Committee also notes that the only action requested within the enactment is directed specifically at UBCM, asking the organization to encourage municipalities to adopt conflict of interest rules.

CoV Staff Liaison: Grant Murray, Solicitor, 604-873-7119

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B83 Conflict of Interest Complaint Mechanism

Richmond

Whereas professional regulatory bodies, such as CPABC, BC Law Society, APEGBC, and others, have conflict of interest and ethics rules for their members and enforce them through a complaints process;

And whereas the public expects elected representatives to be held to a professional standard of conduct;

And whereas the only remedy for a citizen complaint of a municipal elected person's conflict of interest is through a judgement of the Supreme Court of British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia consider a mechanism including to resolve and remedy conflict of interest complaints through a non-partisan Municipal Conflict of Interest Commissioner or expansion of the scope of powers of the BC Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

Not presented to 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 resolutions calling on the Province to expand the role of the BC Conflict of Interest Commissioner to include matters arising at the local government level (2010-B1, 2007-B66). In both instances, the Provincial response to the resolution indicated that 'There are no plans to increase the jurisdiction of the provincial Conflict of Interest Commissioner (Commissioner) to include local governments'. However, neither endorsed resolution called for the creation of a non-partisan Municipal Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

The Committee also notes that in some provinces, local governments must appoint an Integrity Commissioner to investigate alleged breaches of a code of conduct or alleged contraventions of conflict of interest rules, after which the Integrity Commissioner may apply to Court for a decision on the alleged conflict of interest contravention.

CoV Staff Liaison: Grant Murray, Solicitor, 604-873-7119

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Community Safety

B85 Money Laundering Counter-Measures in Casinos

Delta

Whereas there is credible evidence that links casinos in British Columbia to organized crime and money-laundering on a very large scale;

And whereas the current regulatory and monitoring system has failed to stop money fraud in BC casinos:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Government be requested to take immediate steps to address money laundering in casinos, and to undertake an evaluation of cashless gaming systems, whereby account-based card technologies are used to verify player identity and track gambling transactions on all gaming devices.

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 address money laundering in casinos and to evaluate the use of cashless gaming systems that allow for verification of player identity and tracking of gambling transactions.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2011-B156 that called for a number of changes to the governance model for gaming in British Columbia and associated policies, in part to address concerns that casinos were being used by criminals to launder money.

In May 2019, the provincial government announced that it will hold a public inquiry into money laundering. The inquiry is expected to examine areas such as real estate, gaming, financial institutions and corporate and professional sectors. It is unclear if the use of cashless gaming systems will be included in the inquiry. A final report is expected by May 2021.

CoV Staff Liaison: Robert Bartlett, Chief Risk Officer, 604-873-7700

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B86 Provincial Funding For Sexual Assault Clinics

Saanich

Whereas crime rates have dropped in the Province in recent years while rates of sexual assault have continued to rise;

And whereas statistics show that Indigenous women and girls are between 12 and 16 times more likely to experience violence than non-Indigenous women and the Province is committed to implement United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and has an obligation to respond to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Inquiry:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia take action to provide dedicated, predictable and secure funds for emergency sexual assault response through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, and with the support of the Ministry of Health.

Not presented to 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 provide dedicated, predictable funding for emergency sexual assault response.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B117, which called for funding and 24/7 access to services and staffing needs (e.g. sexual assault nurse examiners), and to provide Sexual Assault Evidence Collection (SAEC) kits in communities lacking forensic services. In response, the Province indicated that all patients in need have access to Sexual Assault Forensic Evaluation (SAFE) services; however, because SAFE should only be performed by "specially trained medical professionals," it is not available at every hospital in BC.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2015-B80, which called for a national intergovernmental task force to determine the steps needed to "erase the "rape culture" that is pervasive in schools, universities, workplaces and elsewhere across Canada;" as well as "improve the reporting, arrest and conviction rates across Canada."

CoV Staff Liaison: Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects Division, 604-871-6643

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B87 Cannabis Production Odour Prevention

Lake Country

Whereas new federal legislation has legalized cannabis production and retail as of October 17, 2018 and that such legislation has left provincial and local governments with regulation gaps to fill;

And whereas cannabis production operations cause disturbing odours that can create issues and breathing problems to those with respiratory vulnerability:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that provincial legislation be created to enforce the federal regulation that cannabis operations install filtration systems to prevent pervasive odours from these operations to disperse into surrounding 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 not previously considered a resolution requesting that new provincial legislation be tabled to help enforce federal legislation, which requires cannabis producers install filtration systems to prevent odours from dispersing into nearby communities.

Federal cannabis regulations dictate that the building where cannabis is produced, packaged, labeled and stored must be equipped with a filtration system to prevent the escape of odours.

The UBCM membership previously endorsed resolution 2018-B93 that called upon the federal government and Health Canada to address odour resulting from medical cannabis production (personal and industrial). This resolution requested improved ventilation requirements and to allow for inspections to ensure compliance with cannabis odour regulations.

CoV Staff Liaison: Kathryn Holm, Chief License Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B88 Clean-Up of Needles and Other Harm Reduction Paraphernalia

Prince George

Whereas the low barrier distribution of harm reduction supplies, including syringes and other safe injection supplies, in communities across BC poses a significant safety and cleanliness concern;

And whereas local governments, businesses and residents are bearing the escalating cost of cleaning up needles and drug paraphernalia in public spaces:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request ongoing provincial funding to local governments to cover the cost of cleaning up needles and drug paraphernalia in their communities.

Not presented to the North Central Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide funding to local governments to cover the cost of cleaning up needles and drug paraphernalia in their communities.

However, the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting access to medicines for harm reduction (2018-B169, 2010-B145). Resolution 2010-B145 specifically asks for the provincial government to make needle exchanges available in every local government in BC.

This proposed resolution seeks to address the clean-up associated with harm reduction strategies previously endorsed by UBCM.

CoV Staff Liaison: Tobin Postma, Director, Intergovernmental Relations, 604-871-6914

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

B89 Crime Statistics**Williams Lake**

Whereas the collection of crime statistics for many municipalities does not take into consideration the population it services outside its boundaries, resulting in artificially inflated crime statistics;

And whereas by more accurately applying crime statistics to the population across a regional boundary, many municipalities' crime ranking would be significantly lower and more accurate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to direct the RCMP to amend its reporting statistics to accurately reflect crime statistics based on the regional service area the RCMP responds to, and that the recommendation be sent to Statistics Canada.

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 direct the RCMP to amend its reporting of crime statistics, to consider the entire regional service area under RCMP jurisdiction.

CoV Staff Liaison: Ryan Kenny, Sergeant, 604-717-3235

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B90 Port Policing**Delta**

Whereas the Ports Canada Police was disbanded in 1997 and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority discontinued its financial contribution to the RCMP-led Waterfront Joint Forces Operation in 2015;

And whereas this loss of police resources has weakened the security of Canada's ports and allowed organized crime elements to proliferate, as evidenced by the 2019 Peter German report "Dirty Money";

And whereas both the federal and provincial governments have committed funding and resources to enhance law enforcement at Canada's borders, and improve policing capacity to fight money laundering;

Therefore be it resolved that the BC government be requested to work with the Canadian government and port municipalities to develop a strategic plan to re-establish dedicated resources to police ports and waterfronts, including the Port of Vancouver, in order to address the issue of organized crime operating through Canada's ports.

Not presented to 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 BC government to work with the federal government and "port municipalities" to re-establish dedicated resources to police ports and waterfronts, in order to address the issue of organized crime operating through Canada's ports.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 1996-A10 that urged the federal government to recognize the downloading of police responsibilities and to increase compensation to local governments for taking on policing of ports, in the face of the Ports Canada Police being disbanded.

The responsibility for policing ports currently rests with the RCMP, independent police agencies and the Canada Border Services Agency.

CoV Staff Liaison: Ryan Kenny, Sergeant, 604-717-3235

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B93 Community Resilience Investment Program – FireSmart Community Funding

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas the Community Resilience Investment Program's funding model for FireSmart related activities on private property is capped at \$100,000 per local government regardless of population or geographic area;

And whereas the funding model and funding eligibility requirements put geographically large regional districts at a notable disadvantage compared to local governments with significantly less wildfire interface areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province develop eligibility requirements for Community Resilience Investment Program funding, and a funding model, that are equitable and based on local government need.

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 request for the Province to develop eligibility requirements for the Community Resilience Investment Program funding based on local government need.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provincial support and funding for carrying out wildfire mitigation activities (2018-B22, 2018-B97, 2018-B100, 2015-B5, 2012-B114, 2008-B59, 2007-B75).

Funding under the Community Resiliency Investment program, totalling \$60 million, was announced in September 2018 and allows local governments and First Nations to apply for grants to undertake FireSmart activities and fuel treatments, primarily within the applicant's administrative boundary. The 2020 FireSmart Community Funding & Supports program is open to applications and has increased the funding available to eligible applicants with a demonstrated higher risk of wildfire.

Funding is scaled to allow eligible applicants with lower risk of wildfire to apply for up to \$25,000 and applicants with a demonstrated higher risk of wildfire to apply for up to \$150,000 per year. In addition, applications that include fuel management on Provincial Crown land, primarily within administrative boundaries and including contiguous, logical treatment units that extend onto the Crown land base, may exceed the funding maximum for fuel management activities only. There is no funding cap on eligible applications that meet these criteria.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B94 Wildfire Smoke

Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas wildfire smoke is increasingly present in and around the Province of BC during the summer months;

And whereas wildfire smoke negatively impacts human health and the public's comfort and ability to enjoy the natural beauty of the Province of BC's parks and beaches, which has a negative impact to the economy of our Province:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province take a more proactive role in assessing risks associated with exposure to wildfire smoke and create decision making tools to assist communities in determining what measures should be taken to mitigate those risks.

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 be more proactive in assessing the risk of wildfire smoke and to help communities determine how best to mitigate those risks.

However, UBCM's members did endorse resolution 2018-B70, which asks the Province to develop more venting indexes, to help ensure the health of residents is not compromised by prescribed burns.

The membership has also endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to establish standards for regulating wood burning appliances and outdoor boilers, in order to reduce emissions (2008-B72, 2007-B35, 2006-B109, 2005-B114).

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B96 Emergency Program Act Amendment – Boating Restrictions During a Local State of Emergency – Flooding Events

Thompson-Nicola RD

Whereas use of motorized watercraft during a flooding event can accelerate shoreline erosion and impact flood damage mitigation efforts;

And whereas local governments have no authority to impose temporary boating restrictions on waterways to reduce the flood damage risk to properties and critical infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that in order to support emergency response and damage mitigation efforts during freshet and other flood events, the Province be lobbied to amend the Emergency Program Act by including the authority

for local governments to restrict and prohibit the use and/or speed of motorized watercraft when a state of local emergency has been declared.

Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Emergency Program Act to grant authority to local governments to restrict and prohibit use and/or speed of motorized watercraft when a local state of emergency has been declared.

In 2016, as part of a provincial review of the Emergency Program Act, UBCM made a submission to Emergency Management BC (EMBC). UBCM's submission outlined feedback provided by BC local governments, while also providing recommendations for consideration. Broad themes from the review included the need for further local government consultation; caution against the transfer of additional responsibilities to local governments; and, a desire to maintain the current level of local government authority.

Recently, EMBC has re-started its review of the Emergency Program Act. EMBC intends to develop a discussion paper for local governments to provide feedback. UBCM's Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee will be providing input into the development of this discussion paper.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B97 Disaster Relief and Recovery Funding

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas the Province has delegated responsibility for emergency and disaster recovery to local governments under Section 6 of the Emergency Program Act;

And whereas the Province's current policy of providing funding for disaster relief and recovery to organizations other than local governments is proving ineffective in meeting the needs of many British Columbians who require such assistance;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work collaboratively with local governments to establish policy and best practices relating to the provision of disaster recovery assistance, and thereafter make all funding for this purpose available directly to local governments in support of their legislated responsibilities under the Emergency Program Act.

Not presented to 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 work with local governments to establish policy and best practices for disaster recovery assistance and to direct all disaster recovery assistance funding to local governments, so they may fulfill their responsibilities under the Emergency Program Act.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently asked the Province for more funding and support in the face of a variety of disasters, including wildfire proofing and recovery (2018-B100, 2015-B5, 2012-B114, 2008-B59, 2007-B75); and a range of disasters, including pine beetle infestation; avian influenza; and collapse of selected fisheries (2005-A6, 2004-A13, 1999-ER).

In 2016, as part of a provincial review of the Emergency Program Act, UBCM made a submission to Emergency Management BC (EMBC). UBCM's submission outlined feedback provided by BC local governments, while also providing

recommendations for consideration. Broad themes from the review included the need for further local government consultation; caution against the transfer of additional responsibilities to local governments; and, a desire to maintain the current level of local government authority.

Recently, EMBC has re-started its review of the Emergency Program Act. It is unclear if Compensation and Disaster Financial Assistance Regulations will also be reviewed as part of this work.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B98 Resourcing A Collaborative System of Data Sharing in BC

Columbia Shuswap RD

Whereas natural disasters pose an increasing risk to the economic, social, and environmental well-being of British Columbians;

And whereas the provincial government is taking action to improve resilience by strengthening disaster preparedness and disaster risk governance in the context of climate change;

And whereas the sharing of integrated asset data, information, and knowledge across all sectors is key to improving emergency management and resiliency planning in BC;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urged to take a strong leadership role and provide long-term sufficient funding and resources to increase the coordination, assembly, and access of asset data, information, and knowledge across multiple levels and sectors of government and stakeholders (including First Nations, local governments, provincial and federal government agencies, qualified professionals, and industry sectors).

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously endorsed a resolution requesting the Province take a leadership role and provide long-term funding and resources for asset data sharing system for improving emergency management and resiliency planning in BC.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions requesting provincial assistance with the provision of emergency management and services (2018-B95, 2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B77, 2015-B78, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-B44).

See also resolution C7.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B99 Evacuation Re-Entry Authorization Process and Document

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the Government of British Columbia enacted the Emergency Program Management Regulation under the authority of the Emergency Program Act in 1996, including amendments up to BC Reg. 200/98;

And whereas there is no standardized process or document provided by the Provincial Emergency Program for planning and authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas during emergencies to facilitate coordination and cooperation between local authorities, the government, government ministries, government corporations and government agencies:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to develop a process and standardized document for all local authorities and response agencies to utilize for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas;

And be it further resolved that the Province be requested to incorporate the process and standardized document for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas, into future training and education materials supported by Emergency Management BC.

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 asked the Province to produce a standardized process and documentation for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas.

The Committee also advises that the membership has not previously endorsed a resolution requesting the Province develop a process and standardized document for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas during emergencies.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed 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, 2013-B44.

In 2016, as part of its work to amend the Emergency Program Act, the provincial government released "Prepared and Resilient: A Discussion Paper on the Legislative Framework for Emergency Management in British Columbia." The discussion paper contained a number of policy proposals, although none were related to the development of a process for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas during emergencies. Evacuation orders were addressed through a proposal that would provide police the authority to apprehend individuals who refused to comply with evacuation orders issued under a declared state of emergency.

The Province has recently re-started its review of the EPA, and is working with the EMBC-UBCM Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee on the development of a new discussion paper to be distributed to local governments in late 2019.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management - 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B100 Permitting Entry into an Evacuation Order Area

Bulkley-Nechako RD

Whereas wildfire events are increasing in frequency, intensity, and duration, and local governments and the BC Wildfire Service are required to implement an efficient, effective, and coordinated approach to address the demand for persons, equipment, and supplies requiring entry into an evacuation order area;

And whereas the BC Wildfire Service does not have a comprehensive permitting process to facilitate the entry of support personnel, equipment, and supplies into an evacuation order area, and the Emergency Program Act and British Columbia Emergency Management System do not address, recognize, or provide any direction regarding the permitting of residents, farmers, or persons working in coordination with the BC Wildfire Service to enter into an evacuation order area:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province work with local governments to develop a permitting system and associated policy, procedures, and best practices that facilitate the necessary entry of persons, equipment, and supplies into an evacuation order area;

And be it further resolved that the Province consider the need for legislation that addresses the risk management issues associated with allowing entry into an evacuation order area.

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 asked the Province to work with local governments to develop a permitting system to facilitate the necessary entry of persons, equipment and supplies into an evacuation order area.

However, the membership has consistently endorsed 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, 2013-B44.

In 2016, as part of its work to amend the Emergency Program Act, the provincial government released "Prepared and Resilient: A Discussion Paper on the Legislative Framework for Emergency Management in British Columbia." The discussion paper contained a number of policy proposals, although none were related to the development of a process for authorizing re-entry into evacuated areas during emergencies. Evacuation orders were addressed through a proposal that would provide police the authority to apprehend individuals who refused to comply with evacuation orders issued under a declared state of emergency.

The Province has recently re-started its review of the EPA, and is working with the EMBC-UBCM Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee on the development of a new discussion paper to be distributed to local governments in late 2019.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Whereas during the 2017 wildfires, evacuees ended up in several different locations;

And whereas evacuees unfairly received varying degrees of Emergency Social Services supports depending on the location/provider/day, which caused confusion, additional stress and resentment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to take over management of Emergency Social Services during all Level III Provincial State of Emergencies to ensure consistency in the allocation of resources to evacuees and modernization of the ESS registration process.

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 request for the Province to take over management of Emergency Social Services (ESS) during a Level III Provincial State of Emergency, in order to ensure consistency in allocation of resources to evacuees.

However, the Committee notes that the membership previously endorsed resolution 2013-B90, requesting that the provincial ESS and Disaster Financial Assistance programs be expanded to cover secondary home owners and temporary residents.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

**B105 Roles and Responsibilities for Emergency and
Disaster Mitigation in BC**

Okanagan-Similkameen RD

Whereas the Government of British Columbia passed the Emergency Program Act in 1996;

And whereas the Act requires local authorities, ministries, Crown corporations, and government agencies to develop plans and programs to prepare and respond to emergencies and disasters in the province;

And whereas there is no acknowledgment of who is responsible to develop a proactive program to mitigate emergencies and disasters in the province:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to add mitigation to its Emergency Management BC mandate.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously endorsed a resolution specifically requesting that the Province add "mitigation" to Emergency Management BC's mandate. However, the membership has endorsed 2013-A1, which requested that the Province "take immediate and direct responsibility for flood management."

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting provincial support and resources to address disaster mitigation/prevention, including resolution 2016-B56, which asks the provincial government to provide physical and human resources to support emergency response.

In 2016, as part of its work to amend the Emergency Program Act, the provincial government released "Prepared and Resilient: A Discussion Paper on the Legislative Framework for Emergency Management in British Columbia." UBCM subsequently released a summary of local government feedback, which contained, among other things, input reflecting the need to clarify roles and responsibilities and ensure local governments are not burdened by the cost and responsibilities associated with disaster mitigation. The Province has recently re-started its review of the EPA, and is working with the EMBC-UBCM Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee on the development of a new discussion paper to be distributed to local governments in late 2019.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B106 Disaster Response

Vernon

Whereas many areas across the Province have suffered through a range of natural disasters that require the resources and response from all levels of government;

And whereas some natural disasters, such as flooding, can be reasonably predicted in advance of the actual disaster, and municipalities require Provincial and Federal approvals to mitigate potential impact:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM approach the Province of BC to ensure sufficient Provincial staff are in place to administer necessary permitting processes, and to work with local jurisdictions such that imminent disasters are mitigated in advance of potential loss of life and serious destruction of private and public property.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously endorsed a resolution seeking "sufficient" provincial staff members to administer unspecified permitting processes related to disaster mitigation.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting provincial support and resources to address disaster mitigation/prevention, including numerous resolutions related to wildfire and flood mitigation and prevention activities. More generally, UBCM's membership recently endorsed resolution 2016-B56, which asks the provincial government to provide physical and human resources to support emergency response.

UBCM recently appointed a Flood and Wildfire Advisory Committee to provide input into the provincial process to implement recommendations from the independent review of the 2017 flood and wildfire seasons (Addressing the New Normal: 21st Century Disaster Management in British Columbia). One of the general themes of the report is a greater focus on disaster mitigation/prevention.

CoV Staff Liaison: Daniel Stevens, Director of Emergency Management, 604-829-4370

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B107 Clothing Donations Bins

Vancouver

Whereas donation bins are an important part of zero-waste programs in many municipalities contributing to textile diversion, and deliver an important revenue stream for non-profit organizations. However, in recent years, they have been the site of a number of deaths of people who have been trapped inside them;

And whereas on January 15, 2019 and on May 28, 2019, Vancouver City Council took steps to regulate the placement and design of donation bins in the city, including the requirement for verified safe bin designs, and resolved to bring the issue to the annual UBCM conference with the goal of mitigating public safety issues and avoiding tragic deaths.

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM support a ban on clothing donation bins until safe alternatives certified by a professional engineer that do not pose danger or life safety issues for the public are available in member municipalities.

Not presented to 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 UBCM to support a ban on clothing donation bins until safe alternatives are available.

CoV Staff Liaison: Kathryn Holm, Chief License Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Elections

B108 Youth Voting in Local Government Elections

Victoria

Whereas youth have a strong interest in the future of local communities;

And whereas empowering young people to participate in democratic processes fosters ongoing and active civic participation:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia revise the voting age for local government elections to 16 years of age.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has rejected previous resolutions calling for the lowering of the voting age to 17 (2011-B117) and to 16 (2006-B75) for local government elections.

CoV Staff Liaison: Rosemary Hagiwara, Chief Election Officer Director of Business & Election Services / Deputy City Clerk, 604-873-7177

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B109 Fresh Voices #LostVotes Campaign

New Westminster

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has the governing authority to implement electoral legislative changes including allowing for Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections; and

And whereas more than 45 countries have granted Permanent Residents some form of voting rights — including seven jurisdictions in the US and 25 European Union countries; and 11 municipalities in Canada are working toward extending local election voting rights to Permanent Residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia make the necessary changes to allow Permanent Residents to vote in local government elections 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 requesting the Province to allow permanent residents the right to vote in local government elections.

See also resolutions C10, C11.

CoV Staff Liaison: Rosemary Hagiwara, Chief Election Officer Director of Business & Election Services / Deputy City Clerk, 604-873-7177

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B110 Voter Registration Waiting Period

Fruitvale

Whereas the current residency waiting period in BC of 6 months to register to vote is too long;

And whereas that limits newly arrived BC residents their ability to vote:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province amend relevant legislation to reduce the waiting period to register to vote from 6 months to 30 days.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend relevant legislation to reduce the waiting period to register to vote in BC from 6 months to 30 days.

CoV Staff Liaison: Rosemary Hagiwara, Chief Election Officer Director of Business & Election Services / Deputy City Clerk, 604-873-7177

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B111 Removing Cap on Candidate Contribution to Their Own Campaign

Langley City

Whereas under the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act (LECFA), candidate contribution limits have been established which now put a cap on how much a candidate may contribute to his or her own campaign;

And whereas candidates who wish to fund their own campaigns without seeking external campaign contributions are now extremely limited in how much they can spend on their campaigns:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province amend the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act to raise the cap on how much a candidate may contribute to his or her own campaign from \$1,200 to \$5,000 per year.

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 asked that the cap on how much a candidate may contribute to their own campaign be raised from \$1,200 to \$5,000.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that support campaign contribution limits: 2013-B95 (Vancouver only request) and 2015-B94. The latter resolution 2015-B94 specifically asked "that limits be placed on the size of individual candidates' contributions and contributions to campaigns."

The Committee wishes to clarify that “contributions are limited to \$1,200 per year per campaign to an unendorsed candidate. However, as an exception, an unendorsed candidate may contribute up to \$2,400 to their own campaign in the calendar year of the election.” The resolution is asking that the limit be increased to \$5,000, which is significantly higher and may be considered contrary to the limits that were asked for in 2015-B94 for self-financing candidates.

CoV Staff Liaison: Rosemary Hagiwara, Chief Election Officer Director of Business & Election Services / Deputy City Clerk, 604-873-7177

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B112 Statement of Disclosure Updates

Richmond

Whereas professional regulatory bodies, such as CPABC, BC Law Society, APEGBC, and others, have conflict of interest and ethics rules for their members, under which appearance of conflict of interest is disallowed;

And whereas the public expects elected representatives to act to a professional standard of conduct;

And whereas the scope of decisions and responsibilities of an elected representative can be broad and encompass a variety of issues:

Therefore be it resolved that the Statement of Disclosure for municipal nominees and elected representatives be updated to additionally include a spouse's assets; a spouse's liabilities; and real property, other than their primary residence, held singly or jointly by a spouse, child, brother, sister, mother or father, to the best knowledge of the candidate. Further, within 60 days of being sworn in, to file a confidential financial disclosure statement to a non-partisan Municipal Conflict of Interest Commissioner.

Not presented to 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 update the Statement of Disclosure for local government nominees and elected representatives to be updated to include the spouses assets and liabilities and the real property, other than primary residence, belonging to a spouse, child, sibling or parent. It also calls for a Municipal Conflict of Interest Commissioner, to whom the Statement of Disclosure should be submitted.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2018-B82 requesting that “amendments be made to the Financial Disclosure Act to ensure that all potential conflicts and financial interests of local elected officials are disclosed per the stated intent of the Act.” In its response the Province advised:

“The Financial Disclosure Act requires a candidate for local office and a local government official to disclose their assets, liabilities, sources of income, real property and corporate assets, including assets held jointly with family members. The Act does not address conflicts of interest. However, local elected officials are also subject to conflict of interest provisions contained in Division 6 of Part 4 of the Community Charter. This Division sets out in detail the rules and procedures for conflicts of interest, which includes both direct and indirect pecuniary interests of the official.”

As well, resolution 2013-B95 called for amendments to the Vancouver Charter to allow Vancouver to, in part, make rules for election campaign finance that place greater limits on campaign spending and contributions, and provide for greater disclosure.

CoV Staff Liaison: Barbara Van Fraassen, Director, Access to Information, 604-873-7999

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

Transportation

B113 Amend the Fare Collection Regulation

Burnaby

Whereas the levying of fare infraction tickets disproportionately impacts low-income and/or young persons who may not have access to means of payment;

And whereas the structure for fare infraction enforcement practices utilized by TransLink are outlined in the South Coast British Columbia Transportation Authority Amendment Act (2012), Fare Collection Regulation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and any other applicable Ministry or body, to consider the elimination or reduction of fine levying to those under 18 years of age;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, and any other applicable Ministry or body, investigate the option of restorative justice and community service option(s) for settling fare infraction tickets by low-income individuals.

Not presented to 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 or reduce transit fine levying to those under the age of 18 and to also investigate the option of using restorative justice or community service for settling transit fare infractions by low-income people.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has called upon the Province to adopt a comprehensive and accountable provincial poverty reduction strategy to reduce the number of people living in poverty (2016-B47, 2015-B44).

The Resolutions Committee has chosen to put this resolution forward since it is broader in scope than the other resolutions addressing transportation costs/fare infractions which focused specifically on the All on Board campaign within the Lower Mainland.

See also resolutions B114, C14, C15, C16.

CoV Staff Liaisons:

Grant Murray, Solicitor, 604-873-7119

Tara Gallen, Planner, 604-606-2745

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B114 Increase Transportation Assistance for Low-Income Individuals

Burnaby

Whereas British Columbians receiving Income Assistance continue to struggle to meet their basic needs, despite recent needed increases to monthly rates, leaving little funds available for transportation, including transit;

And whereas the monthly \$52 'transportation allowance' that British Columbians are issued as Disability Assistance, is not sufficient to off-set the costs associated with purchasing a monthly transit pass in most regions;

And whereas access to transit is vital to many individuals in accessing health care, seeking employment, and contributing to the community:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Provincial government to investigate avenues of providing free or further subsidized transit passes, regardless of region, to those British Columbians receiving Income or Disability Assistance.

Not presented to 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 for free or further subsidized transit passes for all areas of BC, for all British Columbians receiving Income Assistance or Disability Assistance.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has called upon the Province to adopt a comprehensive and accountable provincial poverty reduction strategy to reduce the number of people living in poverty (2016-B47, 2015-B44).

The Resolutions Committee has chosen to put this resolution forward since it is broader in scope than the other resolutions addressing transportation costs/fare infractions, which focused specifically on the All on Board campaign within the Lower Mainland.

See also resolutions B113, C14, C15, C16.

CoV Staff Liaison:

Mary Clare Zak, Managing Director, Social Policy & Projects Division, 604-871-6643

Tara Gallen, Planner, 604-606-2745

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B118 Support Transformational Improvements to Regional BC Transit

Victoria

Whereas the transportation sector is the second-largest contributor of GHG, some of the largest reductions in GHGs are possible through facilitating a mode shift to low carbon mobility options, such as increased ridership of emissions-free transit;

And whereas transforming regional public transit could drastically increase mode-shift to clean public transit system:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia and BC Transit take immediate actions to support and provide funding for transformational improvements to regional BC transit infrastructure to promote and enable rapid mode shift to transit, including transitioning the BC Transit fleet to zero emissions as early in the 2020s as possible.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution that calls on the Province to provide funding for regional BC transit infrastructure to promote and enable rapid mode shift to transit, including transitioning the BC Transit fleet to zero emissions as early in the 2020s as possible.

However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions in support of robust and sustainable public transit service throughout the province (2017-B8, 2017-B9, 2015-B9, 2015-B55, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2010-B21, 2006-B20, 2005-B7, 2004-B55, 2003-B65).

CoV Staff Liaison: Tara Gallen, Planner, 604-606-2745

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B120 BC Rail Properties

Squamish

Whereas BCR Properties Ltd. owns surplus lands not required for railway and port operations and has a mandate to dispose of those lands at the highest price attainable;

And whereas for many local governments, these lands can represent critical opportunities relating to diverse social, recreational, economic, environmental and infrastructure needs and purposes:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure review and amend the mandate of BCR Properties Ltd. such that it be directed to dispose of its surplus lands with consideration to local government land needs for critical infrastructure, environmental needs, community recreation and economic development, as well as for social needs such as affordable housing lands at significantly less than fair market value prices.

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 direct BC Rail to dispose of surplus lands at less than fair market value to local governments.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed two identical resolutions, 2015-B33 and 2014-B117, which called on the Province to facilitate public acquisition and ownership of abandoned transportation corridors, including rail lines.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2002-B85 which called for the Province to purchase trails and recreational corridors, some along rail lines, for public good, when offered for sale.

CoV Staff Liaison: Neal Peacocke, Senior Transportation Engineer, 604-871-6472

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Taxation

B122 Modernization of Utility Taxation

Ucluelet

Whereas Section 644(2) of the Local Government Act is intended to define the requirements of a 1 per cent annual tax on utilities carrying on business in a municipality;

And whereas utility company services have expanded beyond electrical light, electric power, telephone, water, gas or television services to include Internet and cellular services:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province initiates the modernization of Section 644(2) of the Local Government Act to include Internet and cellular services.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee would note that the UBCM membership has considered a number of resolutions over the years that advocate a review of the revenue tax provisions of the Local Government Act as they apply to utilities. Recent interest has focussed on modernizing the tax to deal with deregulation in various industries including telecommunications of all kinds including new telephone companies, and natural gas distribution.

The Committee advises that the membership did not endorse previous resolutions proposing that the existing tax of 1 per cent of gross revenue be applied to satellite television companies (2001-B17) and long distance telephone service providers (2005-B98). However, these resolutions are dated and may not reflect current local government opinion on this matter.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B123 Tax Credit for Local Government Election Candidate Campaign Contributions

Langley City

Whereas tax credits are available for campaign contributions made to candidates in provincial and federal elections but are not available for campaign contributions made to candidates in local government elections;

And whereas there is not the same incentive for individuals to contribute to local government election campaigns as there is for provincial and federal election campaigns:

Therefore be it resolved that the Income Tax Act [RSBC 1996] Chapter 215 be amended to provide for the issuance of tax credits for campaign contributions made to candidates in local government elections.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee would note that the issue of tax credits was considered most recently by the Local Government Elections Task Force in 2010. Recognizing the scope of campaign finance the joint UBCM-Province Task Force decided to give priority to ensuring the financial costs of implementing the recommended changes can be met rather than exploring public financing in local elections. As a result the following recommendation was included in the joint UBCM-Province Task Force report: "Do not implement public financing (tax credits or rebates for campaign contributions or campaign expenses)."

Prior to that the membership endorsed resolution 1994-A16, which requested tax credits for local government election donations, as there is for provincial and federal election campaigns.

In response to the 1994 endorsed resolution, the Ministry of Finance advised that "the way political tax credits work is that tax credits offered by one level of government are only applicable to contributions made to political activities at that same level of government. So each government pays for its own tax credits separately through reduced tax revenue. This means that potential tax credits offered for contributions in a particular local jurisdiction would have to come out of the revenues of that local government, not the income tax revenues of either the Provincial or Federal Governments."

When a similar resolution was considered in 2000-B47 it was not endorsed by the membership. The 1994 provincial response may have contributed to the 2000 resolution not being endorsed.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Finance

B127 Collection of Unpaid Bylaw Fines

Kaslo

Whereas municipalities lose a significant amount of non-tax revenue annually because of unpaid bylaw fines;

And whereas non-tax revenue sources such as a bylaw fines help offset costs to municipal services and reduce the property tax burden on residents.

And whereas the current methods available to Municipalities for the collection of bylaw fines are slow, expensive and labor intensive;

And whereas the collection of bylaw fines with the cooperation of the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC will ensure prompt payment of any unpaid bylaw fines:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC collect outstanding bylaw fines on behalf of municipalities at the time of auto insurance and/or driver's licence renewal.

Endorsed by the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution, 2018-B18, which specifically sought assistance from the Province and ICBC to "collect outstanding traffic related bylaw fines on behalf of municipalities at the time of auto insurance and/or driver's licence renewal." Note, this 2019 resolution does not specifically stipulate "traffic related" bylaws.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed 2007-B81, which urged the Province and the Insurance Corporation of BC to approve the collection of bylaw fines in the same manner as fines imposed by violation tickets under provincial statutes.

The Committee further notes that members have previously endorsed resolutions requesting that unpaid bylaw vehicle-related offences be collected by ICBC and that local government be given the authority to add unpaid fines for property-related offences to the property tax roll (2003-A3, 2000-B17). The need for a better collection system for bylaw fines has been identified as an ongoing concern by local government.

CoV Staff Liaison: Grant Murray, Solicitor, 604-873-7119

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B131 Lottery Revenue Distribution

Armstrong

Whereas the Province of British Columbia received 1.4 billion dollars in 2018 from net gaming revenue, earned from lotteries, casinos and online gambling;

And whereas the vast majority of local governments do not receive any share of the net gambling revenue realized from their local populations:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia distribute to all BC local governments a 10 per cent share of the net gambling revenue earned from lotteries and online gambling to all local governments on the basis of population.

Not presented to 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 calling on the Province to share a portion of lottery revenue with:

- *all BC local governments (2011-B28, 2008-B119);*
- *communities under 25,000 (2018-B112); and*
- *host communities who should receive an increased percentage return (2013-B100).*

However, the Committee advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2012-B135, which asked to Province to:

- *re-distribute gaming revenues based on the residence of the patron at the gaming facility and the amount played, and*

- *distribute a percentage of the provincial gaming revenue with all local governments on a per capita basis while maintaining existing arrangements with host local governments.*

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Assessment

B132 Consent for Property Classification

Pouce Coupe

Whereas local governments are unaware of when BC Assessment is making property classification changes, without regard to zoning for that particular piece of property;

And whereas local governments have the authority to determine land use zoning within their boundary, and should be consulted on changes to the assessment classification:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC require that BC Assessment Authority obtain consent from a local government prior to making any property classification changes.

Endorsed by the North Central 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 calling on the Province to require BC Assessment to obtain consent from a local government prior to making property classification changes.

The Resolutions Committee would note that the current assessment system in BC was set up in 1974 when legislation was passed "to create a completely independent authority" that was separate from the municipal and provincial taxing functions. The rules by which BC Assessment classify property are set in provincial regulations. This resolution would change that model.

For the 2019 Assessment Roll, a change of this nature would have impacted about 8,000 property folios across British Columbia.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B133 Broadband Infrastructure Taxation

East Kootenay RD

Whereas the cost to deploy broadband infrastructure to support connectivity services is significant and revenue opportunities in rural areas are often not adequate to provide a return on investment that would attract private investment, resulting in underserved rural communities throughout the province;

And whereas both the Provincial and Federal Governments have made universal access to broadband services a priority including through the provision of infrastructure grants to encourage private investment in rural areas; however, the ongoing property taxation of broadband infrastructure creates a significant additional cost which further inhibits the already strained business case for private investment in broadband connectivity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to either exempt broadband telecommunication assets from property taxation or alter the valuation scheme for broadband infrastructure serving rural communities.

Not presented to 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 exempt broadband telecommunication assets from property taxation or to alter the valuation scheme for broadband infrastructure serving rural BC communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did not endorse resolution 2001-B17 which asked that the Local Government Act be amended to include satellite TV companies as utilities that must pay the utility taxes to municipalities.

Member have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the federal government, provincial government, and industry to ensure that every community in BC has access to broadband service, in order to develop economic growth opportunities (2018-B48, 2017-B37, 2013-B61, 2011-B72, 2010-B72, 2009-B57, 2006-B54, 2003-B35).

The Committee would also note that the provincial government amended Section 275 of the Local Government Act by adding broadband as a service for which capital financing can be provided. That had been a repeat resolution request of the UBCM membership.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B134 Tax Relief for British Columbia Legions

Victoria

Whereas Royal Canadian Legion Branches around British Columbia have a history of community service, neighbourhood social service partnership, and are active contributors to their host municipalities and residents, including those with and without past or current military service;

And whereas most BC municipalities in which a Legion branch exists offer a mechanism to relieve tax payment, but do so in a variety of different ways (e.g. grants to offset tax payments, or exemptions based on different classes of assessments as defined and allowed by BC Assessment, or classifications of use etc.);

And whereas exemption applications to municipalities depend on widely variable municipal policies and consideration of differential tax assessments and unexpected increases in property tax assessment jeopardize the future sustainability and operational capacity of Legion branches:

Therefore be it resolved that the British Columbia Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing be asked to work with the BC Assessment Authority and any other relevant agencies to consider a province wide policy and/or legislative change needed to provide exemptions to Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

Not presented to 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 and BC Assessment Authority to create a province-wide policy and/or legislative change needed to provide exemptions to Legions in British Columbia from payment of property taxes.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Environment

B135 Climate Change

Fort St. John

Whereas 187 local governments in British Columbia – 98 per cent of the total – are signatories to the Climate Action Charter that commits them to work towards carbon neutral operations, measure community-wide emissions and create complete compact, energy-efficient communities;

And whereas engaging in symbolic actions such as writing letters, passing resolutions and filing class-action lawsuits in the name of "climate liability" against major innovation drivers and employers is not an appropriate direction for BC municipalities because it will hinder rather than help the ability of municipalities and local communities to continue their work to implement the Climate Action Charter and enable healthy, thriving local economies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM recognize their role to represent and serve the common needs of all local governments in BC in our diverse, resource-based province and to affirm that decarbonisation and reduction of GHG emissions should continue to be an important focus for civic policy-makers, industry, British Columbians and other stakeholders, recognizing the value of BC's resource sector and its contribution to British Columbia's quality of life and that British Columbians support the resource sector to continue its work to serve the needs of society while transitioning to a low carbon economy.

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 UBCM to: recognize UBCM's role in representing and serving the needs of all communities; affirming the need for decarbonization

and GHG reduction to continue while recognizing the value of the resource sector; and for British Columbians to support the resource sector while transitioning to a low carbon economy.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B136 Recovering Municipal Costs Arising from Climate Change

Victoria

Whereas local governments are incurring substantial costs in relation to the impacts of climate change, including volatile weather patterns, drought, wildfires, erosion and other impacts;

And whereas it is fiscally prudent to recover these costs from corporations that have profited from the burning of fossil fuels, with knowledge that these economic activities contribute to climate change:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM explore the initiation of a class action lawsuit on behalf of member local governments to recover costs arising from climate change from major fossil fuels corporations;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia consider legislation to support local governments in recovering costs arising from climate change from major fossil fuel corporations.

Not Endorsed at 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 for a class action lawsuit against fossil fuel companies and legislation that would support local governments in recovering costs arising from climate change from major fossil fuel corporations.

See also resolutions B137, C39.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B137 Climate Accountability**Port Moody**

Whereas an overwhelming scientific consensus maintains that climate change, the single greatest threat to the future of the planet, is due primarily to the human use of fossil fuels, which release carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the air;

And whereas fossil fuel producers are collectively responsible through their operations and products for almost 30 per cent of human-caused greenhouse gases, and taxpayers are bearing the entire burden of the climate costs caused by fossil fuels, while fossil fuel producers continue to make significant profit from selling them:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy be called upon to enact legislation that holds fossil fuel companies financially liable for climate-related harms caused by their contributions to climate change.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to enact legislation that holds fossil fuel companies financially liable for climate-related harms caused by their contributions to climate change.

The Committee also advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2018-B128 that calls on UBCM to write a climate accountability letter to the twenty fossil fuel companies outlining the types of costs that communities are incurring and expected to incur due to climate change, and requesting that the companies pay their fair share of those impacts.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to commit to meeting reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions, as well as requesting funding for local government to continue undertaking climate action plans and projects (2014-B26, 2012-B25, 2011-B98, 2010-B40, 2010-B71, 2010-B76, 2010-B84, 2010-B86, 2009-B113, 2009-B134, 2008-B72, 2008-B74, 2008-B76, 2008-B79, 2008-B91, 2008-B148, 2007-B33, 2007-B35, 2007-B177, 2007-LR4, 2006-B27, 2006-B109, 2006-B145, 2005-B28, 2004-B79, 2001-SR3, 2001-Energy Forum Recommendations, 1991-B21, 1990-B38).

See also resolutions B136, C39.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B138 Subsidies to Fossil Fuel Companies**Victoria**

Whereas the Federal government recently released a scientific report that reveals that Canada is warming at twice the global rate, the Provincial government recently approved a \$5.35-billion package of tax incentives for a \$40-billion LNG Canada megaproject, supported by \$1.275 billion from the Federal government, and, according to a 2015 report by the International Monetary Fund, the annual Federal government subsidy to the fossil fuel industry is \$46 billion;

And whereas the funding formula for local governments has changed little since 1867 with local governments receiving roughly 8 cents of every tax dollar leaving them unprepared for the emerging and significant costs of mitigation and adaption to climate change:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Provincial government to end all subsidies to fossil fuel companies and to invest the money instead in climate change mitigation and adaptation activities being undertaken by local governments in a predictable and regularized funding formula;

And be it further resolved that the UBCM through the FCM call on the Federal government to end all subsidies to fossil fuel companies and to invest the money instead in climate change mitigation and adaptation activities being undertaken by local governments in a predictable and regularized funding formula.

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 in the provincial and federal governments to end subsidies to fossil (oil and gas) fuel companies and instead invest that money into climate change mitigation and adaptation activities being undertaken by local governments.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to commit to meeting reduction targets for greenhouse gas emission, as well as requesting funding for local government to continue undertaking climate action plans and projects (2014-B26, 2012-B25, 2011-B98, 2010-B40, 2010-B71, 2010-B76, 2010-B84, 2010-B86, 2009-B113, 2009-B134, 2008-B72, 2008-B74, 2008-B76, 2008-B79, 2008-B91, 2008-B148, 2007-B33, 2007-B35, 2007-B177, 2007-LR4, 2006-B27, 2006-B109, 2006-B145, 2005-B28, 2004-B79, 2001-SR3, 2001-Energy Forum Recommendations, 1991-B21, 1990-B38).

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

B139 Call to Action On Global Climate Emergency

LMLGA Executive

Whereas the earth's global climate has now tipped into an arguably irreversible and critical path, bringing unprecedented weather extremes and causing catastrophic loss of life and costly damage to property, crops and livestock,

And whereas these extremes are challenging the habitability of vast regions of the earth due to rising oceans, repetitive flooding, drought and wildfire devastation,

And whereas an unprecedented and rapid rise in the extinction of our planets species of plants, animals and indigenous cultures is causing an irreversible biodiversity crisis which is further accelerating the catastrophic impact to our planet,

And whereas the collapse of ecosystems threatens all life on earth,

And whereas the United Nations International Panel on Climate Change concluded that current levels of the greenhouse gases carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide in our atmosphere are higher than at any point over the past 800,000 years, and their ability to trap heat is changing our climate in multiple ways.

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM supports a call to action and asks all orders of Government (including local government) to adopt climate emergency motions and to take dramatic steps toward the protection of biodiversity and to accelerate the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, which are a primary cause of this climate emergency.

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 resolutions that calls on all levels of government to adopt climate emergency motions and take dramatic steps toward the protection of biodiversity and to accelerate the reduction in GHG emissions.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to commit to meeting reduction targets for greenhouse gas emission, as well as requesting funding for local government to continue undertaking climate action plans and projects (2016-B58, 2014-B26, 2012-B25, 2011-B98, 2010-B40, 2010-B71, 2010-B76, 2010-B84, 2010-B86, 2009-B113, 2009-B134, 2008-B72, 2008-B74, 2008-B76, 2008-B79, 2008-B91, 2008-B148, 2007-B33, 2007-B35, 2007-B177, 2007-LR4, 2006-B27, 2006-B109, 2006-B145, 2005-B28, 2004-B79, 2001-SR3, 2001-Energy Forum Recommendations, 1991-B21, 1990-B38).

See also resolutions B136, B141, C35, C36.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B140 Support for Property Assessed Clean Energy Legislation for BC

Port Moody

Whereas climate change is the greatest threat to our municipalities;

And whereas the pillars of the Clean BC program include better buildings, incentivizing retrofits and upgrading BC's stock of public housing so residents, many of whom are low income families or seniors, can live in a more energy efficient, healthier, and comfortable home;

And whereas the cost of clean energy infrastructure is a major barrier for low and middle income earners, as well as small businesses and municipalities;

And whereas Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) legislation has proven to be effective in financing retrofits in other jurisdictions:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia work with expert stakeholders with knowledge of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) best practices, including UBCM and FCM, to study the application of PACE in BC and develop PACE enabling legislation for BC Municipalities.

Not presented to 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 work with stakeholders knowledgeable about the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) best practices to study the application of PACE in BC and develop PACE enabling legislation for BC local governments.

s.13(1)

B141 Ramping Up BC Climate Action in Response to Climate Emergency Squamish

Whereas the detrimental effects of climate change are more and more evident in BC, Canada and the rest of the world;

And whereas the world is currently on track for a more than 3°C warming based on policies currently in place, and those policies will need to be strengthened significantly to limit warming to 1.5°C, based on recommendations of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;

And whereas both the provincial and federal governments have been advancing climate emergency response through Clean BC and the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change respectively:

Therefore be it resolved that the local, regional, provincial and federal governments be urged to both recognize the climate change emergency and accelerate their efforts to fight climate change at levels that match the urgency of the issue;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government establish a remaining carbon budget for all public and private sector emissions commensurate with limiting warming to 1.5°C and report annually on the expenditure of the Province's remaining carbon budget;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government form a "Climate and Equity" working group to provide guidance and support a transition off of fossil fuels in ways that prioritize those most vulnerable to climate impacts and most in need of support in transitioning to renewable energy.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to recognize a climate change emergency, accelerate their efforts to combat climate change, establish a carbon budget to limit global warming, and form a climate and equity working group to provide guidance.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions proposing policy and actions to mitigate the effects of climate change. These resolutions most recently include (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).

See also resolutions B136, B139, C35, C36.

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B142 Promoting and Enabling GHG Reductions

Victoria

Whereas the world's leading climate scientists have warned that we have less than 12 years to meet our climate targets, and early action is required to avoid significant costs and impacts to social and environmental well-being in our communities, and worldwide, local governments are uniquely positioned to enable this mobilization effort, in a coordinated and integrated fashion across sectors, enabling individual action with timely and accurate information, incentives, directions, coordination, tools, targets and scalable, impactful programs;

And whereas local governments GHG reduction plans will be effectively and expeditiously realized through a dedicated focus on cutting the most impactful GHG sources, including: retrofitting existing buildings to high-efficiency standards; renewable electricity; elimination of fossil fuel heating sources; shifting people to transit, active transportation, and renewably powered mobility options; and the electrification of commercial and passenger vehicle fleets, the complexity and pace/progress of GHG reductions in both local governments and community require additional resources and planning to reduce risks of missing interim and longer GHG and renewable energy targets:

Therefore be it resolved that local governments call on the Governments of Canada and British Columbia to pursue the following immediate sector actions to promote and enable GHG reductions and realize important social and economic co-benefits:

- Make available all ICBC municipal vehicle km/make/model/fuel economy information.
- Continue the development and implementation of world-class low carbon fuel standards.
- Fully invest in delivery of the zero-emission vehicles sales targets as established in the CleanBC Plan.
- Continue progressive and direct funding programs and partnerships for municipal low-carbon initiatives, including building retrofit, transportation, waste management and other priority and shared GHG reduction programs.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolutions calling for: ICBC municipal vehicle information; development of world class carbon fuel standards; delivery of zero emission sales targets; and direct funding programs and partnerships for municipal low carbon initiatives.

However, the membership has endorsed several resolutions supporting many elements of the enactment clause. In particular, the membership has supported requirements for zero emission vehicles to comprise at least 30 per cent of passenger vehicle sales by 2030 (2018-B131).

The membership has also endorsed a wide range of resolutions on low carbon initiatives including electric vehicle charging infrastructure (2017-B132); building efficiency and retrofit programs as well as benchmarking (2018-B32, 2018-B31, 2017-B62, 2014-B94); and zero waste strategies (2017-B63).

More generally, the UBCM membership has also endorsed resolutions calling greenhouse gas reductions (2014-B26).

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B143 Shifting Investment to Low-Emission Transportation

Victoria

Whereas the Prime Minister of Canada and the Premiers of BC and most provinces signed the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change in 2016, endorsing a policy shift that could substantially reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution from transportation while funding public transit improvements, including inter-city and commuter bus and rail service;

And whereas the transportation sector is the second-largest contributor of GHG pollution in Canada, representing 23 per cent of total emissions:

Therefore be it resolved that local governments call on the Governments of Canada and British Columbia to fully implement their commitment in the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change, to shift investments “from higher to lower-emitting types of transportation”.

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 shift investments from higher to lower emitting types of transportation in accordance with the Pan-Canadian Framework on Clean Growth and Climate Change.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting the provisions and incentives and infrastructure for electric vehicles (2018-B130, 2017-B132), as well as requirements for zero emission vehicles to comprise at least 30 per cent of passenger vehicle sales by 2030 (2018-B131).

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B144 Electric Vehicle Right-to-Charge Rules

Vancouver

Whereas the Province of BC has legislated that all new light-duty vehicle sales will be zero emission vehicles ("ZEVs") by 2040 to support its goal of reducing greenhouse gases by at least 80 per cent by 2050, and that access to home charging infrastructure will continue to be a prerequisite for many ZEV owners;

And whereas British Columbians living in multi-family buildings without access to home charging infrastructure do not have legal recourse if they are refused permission to install and/or use electric vehicle charging infrastructure in their own parking stall:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the province develop 'Right-to-Charge' rules, such as those in place in Ontario, California and Hawaii, to facilitate access to home charging infrastructure for British Columbians living in multi-family buildings.

Not presented to 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 develop right-to-charge rules, such as those in Ontario, California and Hawaii, to facilitate access to home charging infrastructure for British Columbians living in multi-family buildings.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed two resolutions that ask the Province to make electric vehicle charging more accessible in multi-family/strata properties (2017-B132, 2015-B100).

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B145 Beverage Container Recycling System

Oak Bay

Whereas increasing the effectiveness of BC's beverage container recycling system will result in fewer containers becoming ocean litter, while reducing greenhouse gases through recycling, avoiding taxpayer waste management costs, and creating green jobs:

Therefore be resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC support the Ocean Legacy Foundation request to:

- Increase the regulated deposit rate;
- Add all beverage containers to the deposit refund system;
- Require producers to collect and report on the recycling of bottle caps;
- Raise regulated targets to at least that achieved by Alberta and Saskatchewan, with long-term targets matching the EU; and
- Enforce the regulated targets in a meaningful way, such as requiring producers to pay for the clean-up of ocean plastics equal to the amount by weight that they fail to collect and recycle.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to support the Ocean Legacy Foundation's requests to increase beverage container deposit rates, expand to include all beverage containers in the deposit refund system, require producers to collect and report on recycling bottle caps, raise regulated targets, and enforce regulated targets.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the expansion of the beverage containers included in recycling deposit and refund system (2011-B38, 2010-B27, 2009-B121, 2009-B122, 2006-B30, 2005-B115).

CoV Staff Liaison: Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B146 Recycle BC – Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Printed Paper and Packaging

Central Kootenay RD

Whereas the Recycle BC program is only responsible for residential Printed Paper and Packaging, leaving the Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector including schools, hospitals, restaurants, stores, and entertainment events dependent on the private sector or local governments for access to recycling, and the producers of Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Printed Paper and Packaging unaccountable for the recovery of their product;

And whereas changes in the global recycling market has resulted in reduced access to recycling of Industrial, Commercial and Institutional Printed Paper and Packaging, local governments will be significantly challenged in meeting the Province's waste diversion targets and calls for restrictions on recyclable material entering landfills:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy expand the scope of the Recycling Regulation for Printed Paper & Packing to include the Industrial Commercial and Institutional sector;

And be it further resolved that the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change implement policy, consistent with the Provincial goal to reduce per capita waste to 350 kg per year, to stabilize the market system by mandating

recyclable material as a percentage into feedstock for finished products such as writing paper, toilet paper, facial tissue, paper towels, packaging, etc. as well as eliminating subsidies on virgin materials such as oil to create a more level playing field, reduce the carbon footprint and revitalize the already consumed cardboard and packaging waste.

Not presented to the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2018-B68 asking for an amendment to Recycling Regulation 449/2004 to include Industrial, Commercial and Institutional sector in the requirement for extended producer responsibility plans for Printed Paper and Packaging.

However, the Committee advises that the membership has not previously considered a resolution with the same ask as the second enactment clause, which requests that the Province implement policy to reduce per capita waste to 350 kg per year, to stabilize the market system by mandating recyclable material as a percentage into feedstock for finished paper products, as well as eliminating subsidies on virgin materials such as oil to create a more level playing field, reduce the carbon footprint and revitalize the already consumed cardboard and packaging waste.

See also resolutions C40, C41.

CoV Staff Liaison: Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B147 Single-Use Disposable Products

Powell River

Whereas single-use disposable products, whether they are recyclable or not, must be manufactured, handled and then disposed of which is not always done in the proper waste stream;

And whereas all petroleum plastic disposable products are derived from fossil fuels which increases carbon emissions in the atmosphere, and all plastic products created never “go away”;

And whereas the “compostable” or “biodegradable” disposable products are not accepted at all composting facilities and can contaminate the recycling stream by being confused with recyclable plastic products;

And whereas the costs (both known and unaccounted for) associated with these disposable “products of convenience”, should be borne by the manufacturers, the distributors and the retailers who are creating the products and then handing them out to consumers, would create an environment of responsibility and awareness by assigning an environmental handling fee to these products which is dispersed to local government responsible for financing solid waste and recycling;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to engage with retailers, manufacturers and industry to implement an environmental fee for all single use plastic products and packaged goods, (including compostable and biodegradable) entering the British Columbia market place to incentivize reduction, to help subsidize regional solid waste management programs, and to take action towards creating a Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a Provincial Zero Waste Strategy.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolution Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed a similar resolution calling for a Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a Provincial Zero Waste Strategy. Specifically, resolution 2018-B126 called on the Province of British Columbia to engage the packaging industry to develop a provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a provincial Zero Waste Strategy, which would include, but not necessarily be limited to, plastic and paper shopping bags, polystyrene foam cups and polystyrene foam containers, other hot and cold drink cups and take-out containers, straws and utensils, but would exclude all single use items needed for medical use or for people with disabilities.

However, the Committee notes that the resolution seeks to implement an environmental fee for all single-use plastic products and packaged goods, which was not contemplated in previous resolutions.

See also resolutions B42, B148, C37.

CoV Staff Liaison: Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B148 Confirming Municipal Jurisdiction to Regulate Single-Use Items

West Vancouver

Whereas single-use items increase waste, are often not recyclable, and have various negative impacts on communities across British Columbia;

And whereas several municipalities in British Columbia recently have acted or are in the process of acting to restrict the use of single-use items;

And whereas the ability of municipalities to regulate to protect the environment is specifically circumscribed by s. 9 of the Community Charter, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26, which states that a municipality may not adopt a bylaw for the protection of the natural environment unless the bylaw is established in accordance with a regulation made by the Province, is established in accordance with an agreement by the Province, or is approved by the Minister responsible (and there are no applicable regulations, agreements or approvals):

Therefore be it resolved that the Province specifically allow local governments to regulate or restrict single-use items by the Province's agreement, by regulation, or by approval of the Minister.

Not presented to 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 allow local governments to regulate or pass regulation reducing and banning single-use items within their municipality.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a similar resolution calling for a Provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a Provincial Zero Waste Strategy. Specifically, resolution 2018-B126 called on the

Province of British Columbia to engage the packaging industry to develop a provincial Single-Use Item Reduction Strategy as part of a provincial Zero Waste Strategy, which would include, but not necessarily be limited to plastic and paper shopping bags, polystyrene foam cups and polystyrene foam containers, other hot and cold drink cups and take-out containers, straws and utensils, but would exclude all single use items needed for medical use or for people with disabilities.

The membership also endorsed resolution 2018-B29 with calls for the Province to work with local governments and retailers to introduce uniform, province-wide business regulations in relation to disposable plastic packaging, to substantially reduce the volume of disposable plastic packaging in local solid waste streams.

The Resolutions Committee notes that this resolution, B148, calls for local governments to regulate or restrict single-use items, which appears contrary to B42 that asks the Province to develop a province-wide single-use item reduction strategy.

See also resolutions B42, B147, C37.

CoV Staff Liaisons:

Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

Sarah Hicks, Deputy Chief Licence Inspector/Licence Office Manager, 604-873-7546

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

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B149 Compostable Single-Use Items**Richmond**

Whereas businesses are beginning to switch to compostable single-use items for to-go meals and beverages, yet this material is not designed to biodegrade if littered, and is not guaranteed to biodegrade in industrial compost facilities because standards and certifications are not aligned with existing infrastructure that is designed to compost food scraps and yard waste;

And whereas local governments are facing increasing pressure to collect and manage this material, yet it is beyond local government's ability to control compostable packaging design or finance the specialized collection and processing infrastructure required for compostable packaging:

Therefore be it resolved that the Provincial Government ensure that compostable packaging (including single-use take-out food ware) distributed in Canada is designed to fully biodegrade if littered in the natural environment, that standards and certifications for compostable packaging are aligned with composting infrastructure, and that compostable single-use items are collected and managed through an extended producer responsibility program that covers the residential and commercial sectors as well as the public realm.

Not presented to 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 make compostable packaging fully biodegradable and that standards and certifications for compostable packaging are aligned with composting infrastructure, and that compostable single-use items are collected and managed through an extended producer responsibility program that covers the residential and commercial sectors as well as the public realm.

See also resolution C38.

CoV Staff Liaison: Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B150 Standards for Microplastic Filtration, Liquid Waste Management**Powell River**

Whereas British Columbia's coastal communities rely on healthy waterways and healthy marine ecosystems for economic, social and ecological well-being and where microplastic debris on land and in both marine and freshwater systems has become an emerging threat creating a growing need to understand the impacts of microplastics;

And whereas a number of organisms, both vertebrates and invertebrates have been found to ingest microplastics and become exposed to contaminants absorbed to the plastic which may then transport concentrated contaminants to other organisms including people;

And whereas these microplastic fibers are small enough to pass through wastewater treatment plants and enter the ocean or be distributed on to land:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia set standards for acceptable limits of microplastics being released into marine and freshwater environments or onto land as well as a standard methodology for testing and reporting and implementation of a governing body.

Not presented to 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 addressing microplastics released into water systems or onto land, nor one calling for a methodology for testing for and reporting on microplastics, nor one calling for the creation of a governing body.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2017-B110 that called on the provincial and federal governments to implement measures to prevent rigid foam pollution in the marine environment.

CoV Staff Liaison: Albert Shames, Director, Zero Waste & Resource Recovery, 604-873-7300

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B152 Greenhouse Gas Limits for New Buildings

Port Moody

Whereas climate change is recognized to be an urgent concern requiring rapid decarbonization of energy across all sectors, including buildings, in order to achieve 45 per cent GHG emissions reductions by 2030 and net-zero GHG emissions by mid-century, as noted by the IPCC Special Report on 1.5C;

And whereas the British Columbia Energy Step Code establishes targets for increasing energy efficiency of new construction, but these may not result in the necessary levels of GHG emissions reductions to support local government GHG reduction targets nor BC's legislated GHG emissions reduction targets;

And whereas new buildings can last for many decades and are difficult, expensive, and disruptive to retrofit for renewable energy after construction;

And whereas near-zero GHG emissions mechanical systems are well proven and can be cost effectively incorporated in new buildings, while also improving efficiency;

Therefore be it resolved that the Province include GHG limits for new construction as an enforceable element in Division B of the British Columbia Building Code, including a pathway to achieve zero GHG emissions for new construction in a timeline commensurate with the science of climate change and BC's reduction targets;

And further be it resolved that the Province's goal in the CleanBC Plan to "make every new building constructed in BC "net-zero energy ready" by 2032" be revised to "make every new building constructed in BC "zero emissions" and "net-zero energy ready" by 2032".

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 include GHG reduction limits to the BC Building Code and to establish a goal in the CleanBC Plan to make every new building constructed in BC zero emission and net-zero energy ready.

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

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B153 Water Sustainability Act Section 11 Change Approvals Review Time

Delta

Whereas the Province administers and processes Water Sustainability Act Section 11 Change Approvals ('Change Approvals') to authorize users to make complex changes in and about a stream;

And whereas the Province no longer commits to completing Change Approval reviews within 140 days of receipt of the application, causing excessive delays that result in increased project costs, missed funding opportunities and uncertainty in project timelines:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province must re-commit to processing Change Approvals within 140 days of receipt;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide adequate funding and staffing to fulfill the target review period of 140 days.

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 re-commit and provide funding and staffing to ensure the processing of Change Approvals under the Water Sustainability Act, happen within 140 days of receipt.

CoV Staff Liaison: Jimmy Zammar, Director, Integrated Strategy & Utilities Planning - 604-871-6880

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B154 Groundwater Extraction

Strathcona RD

Whereas water is an essential resource upon which all life, including all ecosystems and all local communities depend;

And whereas water is a public heritage and a public trust for present and future generations and access to water must not be compromised by commercial operations relating to commercial water bottling or commercial bulk water exports:

Therefore be it resolved that the Premier of British Columbia and the Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations and Rural Development be requested to immediately cease the licensing and extraction of groundwater for commercial water bottling and/or bulk water exports from aquifers.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed Resolution 2012-B119, which called on the Province to defer to local government and First Nations recommendations on commercial water license applications.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions expressing opposition to the bulk export of BC's water (2006-B147, 2003-B31). More generally, the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for more oversight and control over groundwater extraction (2018-B34, 2011-B43, 2008-B78, 2003-B22).

CoV Staff Liaison: Jimmy Zammar, Director, Integrated Strategy & Utilities Planning - 604-871-6880

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B155 Key Marine Cumulative Effects Values

Islands Trust

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has adopted the use of a cumulative effects framework to help identify and manage cumulative effects across the natural resource sector;

And whereas the cumulative effects framework allows for the inclusion of marine values but the Province has not yet approved any marine values for cumulative effects assessment to inform decision making in coastal regions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to prioritize the approval of key marine cumulative effects values for long-term monitoring and cumulative effects assessments in coastal regions.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island & 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 prioritize the approval of key marine cumulative effects values for long-term monitoring and cumulative effects assessments in coastal regions.

CoV Staff Liaison: Lisa Prescott, Director, Strategic Operations Planning & Program Management - 604-340-08557

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B158 Tier 1 Non-Road Diesel Engine Ban

Maple Ridge

Whereas emissions of diesel soot are responsible for the significant lifetime cancer risk from air pollution and the reduction of diesel emissions from older diesel-powered machines and equipment is important to improve air quality and public health;

And whereas Tier O and Tier 1 Non-Road diesel-powered machines and equipment are not regulated outside of Metro Vancouver Regional District and Port Metro Vancouver lands, and will be prohibited in Metro Vancouver

after January 31, 2020 with exceptions for engines less than 25 HP, those used in agricultural farm operations, personal recreational vehicles or emergency generators:

Therefore be it resolved that Tier 0 and Tier 1 Non-Road diesel-powered machines and equipment be prohibited across the Province of British Columbia by January 1, 2021.

Not presented to 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 for Tier 0 and Tier 1 non-road diesel-powered machines and equipment be prohibited across BC by January 1, 2021.

CoV Staff Liaison: Doug Smith, Director, Planning, Urban Design, and Sustainability, 604-829-4308

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B161 Drone Usage

Salmon Arm

Whereas flying recreational drones is an increasingly popular hobby that can disturb and pose risks to wildlife in sensitive ecological areas and recreational drones are prohibited in Canada's national parks for similar reasons;

And whereas there are multiple stakeholders including federal and provincial agencies and complex regulations involved in drone usage:

Therefore be it resolved that the federal and provincial governments collaborate to provide clarity and options for local governments in restricting the use of drones in local sensitive ecological areas.

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 provincial and federal governments to collaborate to provide options for local governments to restrict the use of drones in sensitive ecological areas.

CoV Staff Liaison: Kathryn Holm, Chief License Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Health

B171 Safer Drug Supply to Save Lives

Victoria

Whereas It has been two years since BC declared a public-health emergency due to increased overdoses, yet the death toll for those consuming substances continues to rise due to an unpredictable and highly-toxic drug supply;

And whereas people with opioid use disorder, a chronic relapsing medical condition, are at high risk of overdose-related harms including death and an estimated 42,200 people inject toxic substances in British Columbia, it is not possible for the treatment system to rapidly increase services fast enough to manage this number of people as “patients” within a medical treatment model given the many challenges in achieving and retaining the people on opioid use disorder treatment, people at risk of overdose in British Columbia do not have access to a safer alternative to the unpredictable, highly-toxic drug supply:

Therefore be it resolved that in an effort to save lives and reduce harm due to an unpredictable and highly-toxic drug supply, and as part of a holistic response to the public-health emergency, including prevention, treatment, and recovery, that the Province of British Columbia work with local communities, Health Authorities across the Province, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions, and the Ministry of Health ensure that people at risk of overdose harm have access to safer alternatives.

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 while the UBCM membership has previously endorsed resolutions calling for action by the provincial and federal governments to address overdose-related harms, the membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the provincial government to work specifically with local communities to ensure that people at risk of overdose harm have access to safer alternatives.

On the issue of overdose, the membership has previously endorsed resolutions requesting publicly available, anonymized, opioid prescription rates, by community (2018-B170), a comprehensive and culturally safe public health approach to the opioid crisis (2018-B142, 2017-B71).

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

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B172 Observed Inhalation Sites for Overdose Prevention**Victoria**

Whereas British Columbia is currently experiencing an unprecedented public health emergency due to an unpredictable and highly-toxic drug supply, and smoking or inhalation is the second most common mode of consumption among all people who have died from a suspected illicit drug overdose and the most common mode of consumption among men and those between the ages of 15 and 29;

And whereas observed consumption services (i.e. supervised consumption services and overdose prevention services) are evidence-based harm reduction approaches shown to reduce overdose-related harm, and there is not adequate access to observed consumption services that provide space for inhalation where communities are facing crisis:

Therefore be it resolved that to ensure that people at risk of overdose across BC have access to observed consumption services that provide space for inhalation, that the Province of British Columbia fund and work through local communities, Health Authorities across the Province, the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions and the Ministry of Health to provide these services as part of a holistic response to the public-health emergency, including prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Endorsed by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed resolution 2010-B145 which asked the Province to legislate base levels of harm reduction services in every local government of BC.

However, the membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to “work through local communities and other stakeholders to provide harm reduction services”.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B173 Limiting the Access and Appeal of Vape Products to Youth**Coquitlam**

Whereas Health Canada has stated that they share the concerns of parents, educators, youth and public stakeholders regarding the increase of youth vaping in Canada;

And whereas Health Canada is currently undergoing a public consultation process to gather comments on additional regulatory measures that would aim to reduce youth use of vaping products;

And whereas the local governments have limited powers and jurisdiction to protect youth from access, sale and appeal of vape products, including no resources for enforcement;

Therefore be it resolved that FCM and UBCM be asked to call upon Health Canada and the provincial and territorial governments to move quickly to coordinate additional public policy and regulations to address access,

sale and appeal of vape products to youth, and offer additional enforcement resources, to halt the growing usage of vape products among our youth as a matter of concern to local government and their communities.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that while the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B131 requesting that the provincial government regulate the use and sale of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and vaporizing systems under the BC Tobacco Control Act and Regulation, the membership has not considered a resolution requesting additional enforcement resources.

Staff would note that local governments provide enforcement on the sale of vape products to youth.

See also resolutions B59, C48.

CoV Staff Liaison: Kathryn Holm, Chief License Inspector and Director of Licensing & Community Standards, 604-873-7545

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B174 Investments in Local Government and Not-for-Profit Seniors' Services and Supports

New Westminster

Whereas municipalities and not-for-profit organizations are playing a greater role in supporting seniors' needs related to food security, health promotion, housing support, recreation programming, social engagement, and transportation provision;

And whereas the necessary collaborative and funding mechanisms are not present to assist local governments and not-for-profit organizations in supporting seniors to age in place in their own homes and communities and to maintain a high quality of life:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM undertake a research-based policy development project to address the growing pressures on local governments to provide additional services to support their aging populations, including identifying promising practices/initiatives by local governments and successful collaborations among municipalities, not-for-profit organizations, provincial agencies and/or the federal government, with the goal of developing policy proposals for creating the collaborative structure and processes needed to facilitate greater investments in municipal and not-for-profit seniors' services and supports.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution asks UBCM to develop policy proposals for all local governments on how they collaborate with stakeholders on the issue of seniors services and supports.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution with this request and provides the recommendation of "not endorse".

The Resolutions Committee provides this recommendation in recognition that each community in BC is unique and will liaise differently with their local and provincial stakeholders to support distinct population groups.

Also, many communities have created Age-Friendly plans through UBCM's Age-friendly funding program, some of which address collaboration with various stakeholders. Others have Age-Friendly Committees that are collaborative in nature and act to align funding and services supports for seniors.

The sponsor has asked UBCM, in part, to identify "promising practices / initiatives by local governments". The Committee would note that this information is already being shared on the UBCM Age-Friendly webpage that is designed to assist and support other local governments as they determine what actions will work best for their community.

Web link: <https://www.ubcm.ca/EN/main/funding/lgps/age-friendly-communities.html>

UBCM advocates for provincial policy change that meets the needs of local governments, and supports our members through funding programs, resources and information. UBCM respects community choice and individual members' OCPs, bylaws and other policies on collaboration with their local stakeholders.

See also resolutions C49, C50.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Selected Issues

B175 Voting Rights for Alternate Electoral Area Directors at UBCM

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Local Government Act provides that an Electoral Area Director must appoint an Alternate Electoral Area Director who may take the place of, vote and generally act in all matters for the absent Electoral Area Director;

And whereas the bylaws of UBCM disqualify Alternate Electoral Area Directors from participating in debate and voting at the Annual and Special Conventions;

And whereas this provision of the UBCM bylaws:

- prevents an Electoral Area from having a voice at UBCM Conventions when the Electoral Area Director is absent; and
- could be improved by permitting an Alternate Electoral Area Director to participate in debate and vote at the Annual and Special Conventions of the UBCM:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM change its bylaws to enable an Alternate Electoral Area Director, in the absence of the Electoral Area Director, to participate in debate and vote at Annual and Special Conventions of the UBCM.

Not presented to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

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 to amend the UBCM bylaws to grant unelected Alternate EA Directors the right to participate in debate vote at UBCM Annual and Special Conventions.

The Committee notes that the sponsor is correct; UBCM bylaws state the following:

11. REPRESENTATION AT CONVENTIONS:

All elected officials of members attending the Annual or any Special Convention of the Union shall be delegates entitled to participate in debates and to vote on any matter before the Convention. Other delegates shall not be entitled to the privilege of the floor unless authorized by the Convention.

This is an issue that has come forward periodically over the years from regional districts that have alternate electoral area directors attending UBCM Convention. While the Local Government Act provides for the same rights and responsibilities to an alternate as an elected EA director, UBCM bylaws are very clear in that a voting delegate must be an elected official. This issue also arose as part of the review of Alternate Electoral Area Directors that was undertaken by a UBCM working group. One of the recommendations by the working group was to eliminate the requirement to appoint an alternate but to also require that a by-election be triggered if a director does not attend meetings for 6 months.

The Committee would note that if this resolution was endorsed, then direction would be provided to the UBCM Executive to amend the UBCM Bylaws. Following Convention staff would need to review the Bylaws, identify where amendments are needed, determine what other sections may be affected as a result of this change and then bring forward those amendments to the 2020 UBCM Convention by way of an Extraordinary Resolution to amend the UBCM Bylaws. The Extraordinary Resolution would be provided to the membership in the 2020 Resolutions Book, identifying where amendments would need to be made and any consequential amendments required as a result to the Bylaws. An Extraordinary Resolution requires the endorsement of 60 per cent of the voting delegates.

CoV Staff Liaison: Grant Murray, Solicitor, 604-873-7119

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B177 FCM Travel Fund

Dawson Creek

Whereas FCM elected and appointed officials representing their Provinces or Territories attend Meetings of the Board and Standing Committee meetings each year, with their local governments covering travel expenses incurred;

And whereas some local governments do not have the funding available to cover the travel expenses for an elected official to participate as a Board or Standing Committee member and therefore may not nominate a capable individual as their local representative:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request FCM to include a fee for reimbursement of travel expenses in their annual dues paid by all member municipalities to support Local Government Elected and appointed directors who attend FCM Board and Standing Committee meetings to ensure an equal representation on Meetings of the Board and Standing Committees from communities big and small.

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 FCM to include a fee for reimbursement of travel expenses in their annual dues paid by all member municipalities to support Local Government Elected and appointed directors who attend FCM Board and Standing Committee meetings to ensure an equal representation on Meetings of the Board and Standing Committees from communities big and small.

Presently the UBCM-FCM Small Communities Travel Fund, administered by UBCM, is funded by BC members of FCM that voluntarily pay a separate fee (included in their FCM annual dues) to support the FCM travel fund. This travel fund covers the travel costs of elected officials who have been elected or appointed to the FCM Board or its associated Standing Committees. Only communities under 55,000 population are eligible to access the fund recognizing that smaller communities may not otherwise have the financial resources to support their elected officials to attend FCM Board or committee meetings. As well a community must also contribute to the Fund in order to access it. The Fund covers airfare, hotel accommodation and mileage, parking and ground transportation.

The sponsor has advised that FCM should include an additional fee in their annual membership dues to all members to help with the reimbursement of these travel expenses. This would enable all members big and small with the equal opportunity to attend FCM Board and Standing Committee meetings without the financial burden placed onto their local communities.

CoV Staff Liaison: Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk, 604-873-7998

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B178 Travel Cost Equalization for UBCM Conventions

Telkwa

Whereas direct interaction and discussions between local government elected representatives and the Premier, Provincial Government staff from Ministries, Agencies, Commissions and Corporations (MACC) at UBCM conventions are key to understanding important unique and collective local government issues, goals and priorities;

And whereas low revenue and rural communities find it cost prohibitive to incur the costs of flights, accommodation, registration and per diems required in order for local government elected officials to attend:

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.

Not presented to 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 it to provide a travel cost equalization policy to aid elected officials from low revenue and rural communities to attend the UBCM Convention.

The Committee understands that the sponsor is asking for development of a cost equalization policy but our questions would be:

- *What form the policy might take, for example, lower registration fees or subsidies to low revenue communities?*
- *What is the definition of “rural community”; and/or threshold for “low revenue” community?*
- *How would UBCM implement such a policy?*
- *How would the program be funded?*
- *What is the definition of “relatively close proximity to Vancouver, Victoria and Whistler” and how does that variable align with rural and low revenue communities?*

CoV Staff Liaison: Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk, 604-873-7998

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B179 Community Childcare

Terrace

Whereas affordable, quality childcare provides the foundation for life-long success, and benefits to society overall, and childcare is important for the economy and quality of life for British Columbians;

And whereas childcare is a responsibility of the provincial and federal levels of government, not local government;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to establish a universal plan for childcare facilities without depending on local governments to create and run childcare facilities.

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 previously endorsed resolution 2016-B49 which asked the provincial government to address child care needs in BC, and invite interested local governments to collaborate and participate in developing child care solutions, but with the understanding that child care is not a core mandate or service for local government. The resolution also noted that local government interest in participation in solutions should not be an invitation for further downloading of responsibility or funding for child care from the Province.

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-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2001-B98).

The Committee notes that the provincial government has invested \$1 billion over three years towards the creation of quality, affordable and accessible child care. As part of this commitment, UBCM administers two grant programs (total of \$13.7 million) to local governments who are interested in child care planning and assessment, or creating child care spaces in their communities. The Committee notes that participation in the grant programs is optional.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B180 Modernizing Property Tax Homeowner Grant Exemption Levels

Oak Bay

Whereas the Provincial Homeowner Grant reduces the property tax paid on a principal residence and not secondary residences;

And whereas the grant cutoff has increased by only \$50,000 (3.12 per cent) between 2017 and 2019;

And whereas the "average" home in many urban centers has now surpassed the \$1.65M cutoff resulting in an "up to and immediate" \$570 tax increase as homes cross the \$1.65M threshold;

And whereas many average homeowners are now facing significant tax increases when assessments rise beyond the exemption limit;

And whereas high average prices indicate that there are not significantly less expensive housing options available;

And whereas the tax burden is making it ever more difficult for regular workers to afford the annual costs of homes with the unintended impact of making average homes affordable for only the very-rich;

And whereas the Province already provides differentiated grant levels based on rural or urban, geographic locations, age and other factors:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the BC Government review the Homeowner Grant exemption level to incorporate consideration of the average value of homes in a municipality or region rather than the current flat value cutoff.

Not presented to 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 BC Government review the HOG exemption level to incorporate the average value of homes in a local government, rather than the current flat value ceiling.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing the HOG, including 2016-B79 that called for a Provincial review of the HOG to achieve a more equitable distribution across regions; 2008-B98 that would allow all seniors who own property to claim the full additional HOG; 2007-B111 that called for the removal of the upper limit assessed value ceiling; and 2004-A9 that called for indexing of the ceiling value limit of HOG to be consistent with the average residential property market value experienced in BC.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B182 Expanded Authority to Notify Renters Impacted by Renovations

Vancouver

Whereas renters are facing the risk of displacement and housing insecurity as a result of renovations to existing rental buildings;

And whereas the Residential Tenancy Act does not currently require landlords to provide proof of permits or a description of the scope of work for renovations where tenancies are likely to be terminated, and municipalities have limited authority to require notification related to tenancy issues as a condition of issuance of certain permits;

And whereas existing renters facing evictions due to renovations could benefit from information on the type and extent of renovations being undertaken to their buildings in order to support potential cases with the Residential Tenancy Branch:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to amend the Local Government Act, in alignment with changes that Vancouver wants to the Vancouver Charter, to clarify and broaden the conditions that can be imposed on building or development permit applications submitted for renovations or redevelopment of an existing building that contains rental housing units including, but not limited to, requiring applicants to provide information on existing tenancies and communicating the proposed work related to the requested permit.

Not presented to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Local Government Act, in alignment with changes that Vancouver wants to the Vancouver Charter, to require applicants wanting to renovate or redevelop a property with tenants to provide information on existing tenancies and communicating the proposed work related to the requested permit.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions looking to protect tenants' rights when facing eviction due to renovations (2017-B53, 2017-B126, 2016-B137).

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing recently announced a series of actions to address renter rights including further public education on rules around renovictions and the creation of a local government liaison position to address illegal renovictions.

CoV Staff Liaison: Dan Garrison, Assistant Director - Housing Policy & Regulation, 604-673-8435

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Whereas the retention of residential tenancy is having a critical impact on the security and stability of residents, seniors and families throughout the province of British Columbia;

And whereas the retention of workers in all sectors of our local economy is visibly linked to shelter affordability;

And whereas previous provincial government policies or lack thereof are clearly a contributing factor to the current situation of rental sustainability and home ownership affordability;

And whereas many local governments struggling to address this crisis have limited resources or powers to be able to adequately develop sustainable solutions to this problem:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM seek support of the Provincial Government to create an Office of The Renters Advocate, to monitor and analyzes renters' services and issues in BC, and make recommendations to government and service providers to address systemic issues caused by rental shortages, renovictions, demovictions and housing affordability.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation:

No Recommendation

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a request for the Province to create an Office of the Renters Advocate to protect renters from renovictions and demovictions and to address issues of rental shortages and housing affordability.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that call on the Province to amend the Residential Tenancy Act to better protect the rights of renters, including issues of renovictions and demovictions (2017-B126, 2016-B121). On this issue, UBCM's housing strategy also recommended: "enabling local governments to refuse demovictions that result in evictions and to require replacement rental housing before allowing the demolition to proceed. Also, enabling municipalities to manage renovictions through clearer authority where they can require and enforce standards of maintenance bylaws and deny building permits where renovations may result in evictions, without incurring liability". Members have also endorsed several resolutions supporting increased renter assistance (2017-B53, 2015-B45).

Conversely, members have noted the need to ensure balanced rights for landlords to ensure adequate incentive to continue providing long term rental accommodation (2017-B120).

Finally, the Committee notes that the Province is currently considering the recommendations of the Rental Housing Task Force, that address wide-ranging supports to ensure greater protection of renter rights including the creation of a new compliance and enforcement unit in the Residential Tenancy Branch and additional measures addressing renovictions and demovictions.

CoV Staff Liaisons:

Allison Dunnet, Senior Planner, 604-873-7754

Dan Garrison, Assistant Director, Housing Policy & Regulation - 604-673-8435

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments:

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B185 BC Housing Accountability

Grand Forks

Whereas the City of Grand Forks has been devastated by a recent flood and is challenged to protect and to rebuild its downtown core as a vibrant commercial area;

And whereas the basic principle of Community Charter is that municipalities and the Provincial government should foster cooperative approaches to matters of mutual interest;

And whereas BC Housing failed to consult Council about the location or size of supportive housing facilities before land was purchased and designs chosen:

Therefore be it resolved that BC Housing seek local government's approval before land is purchased for supportive housing initiatives.

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 seek local government approval prior to purchasing land for supportive housing initiatives.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions requesting affordable housing and social service investments by the province (2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2015-B47, 2013-B52), but these do not make specific requests around consultation on site selection.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of provincial communication and consultation with local government (2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2013-B36, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141, 2002-SR1, 2001-A9, 1995-B91, 1994-A2, 1990-B59).

In response to resolution 2009-B54 the provincial government confirmed the importance of consultation with local governments as "a key principle of local-provincial relations" and cited the statutory requirements for consultation that it uses to guide its actions:

- section 2 of the Community Charter, regarding consultation between the Province and municipalities on any matters of mutual interest;*
- section 3 of the Local Government Act, regarding consultation when provincial interests directly affect regional district interests; and*
- section 276 of the Community Charter, which identifies areas of provincial legislation and policy for which the ministers responsible must consult with local governments through UBCM.*

Membership also endorsed resolution 2017-B44 requesting improved oversight and accountability of supportive recovery homes.

CoV Staff Liaison: Allison Dunnet, Senior Planner, 604-873-7754

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B186 Building Act – Innovation Commitment**Penticton**

Whereas the Building Act includes a provincial commitment to innovation that supports local governments and other local authorities through the implementation of a provincial review process to evaluate innovative building proposals;

And whereas the continued complexity of building design, new products and expansion of the Codes have made it difficult for some communities to provide a level of consistency, interpretation and alternate solution reviews:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province outline and explain the review process to accept and evaluate innovative building proposals.

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 for the Province to explain the review process to evaluate innovative building proposals.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrick Ryan, Chief Building Official, 604-873-7524

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B187 Proactive Development Of Building Officials**Okanagan-Similkameen RD**

Whereas the Government of British Columbia passed the new Building Act in 2015 and mandatory certification requirements for Building Officials come into effect in March 2021;

And whereas the Act requires that a Level 3 certification will be required for Building Officials for the review and permitting of all complex projects;

And whereas the Building Officials Association of British Columbia (BOABC) certification exams have an average 41 per cent failure rate due to the complexity of all certification exams and Level 3 takes a minimum of 4 years to obtain;

And whereas there is already a shortage of qualified Building Officials:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be requested to work with Building Officials Association of British Columbia (BOABC) to ensure that enough Building Officials are certified and more candidates are attracted to the profession to meet the requirements of the Building Act, effective March 2021.

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 asked the Province to work with BOABC to ensure that more Building Officials are certified prior to the March 2021 deadline for certification.

UBCM's 2012 Policy Paper: Modernizing Building Code Safety Regulations raised concerns that proposed changes to the building approval process should take into account potential impacts on availability of building inspectors.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrick Ryan, Chief Building Official, 604-873-7524

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

B188 BC Building Code Alignment with National Building Code of Canada – Secondary Suites

Burnaby

Whereas the National Building Code of Canada is a model document developed by the National Research Council of Canada, via a collaborative expert-driven process;

And whereas the BC Building Code, though in many instances exceeding the standards of the National Building Code, is currently limiting the creation of affordable rental housing options, specifically secondary suites, through its standards:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to revise the BC Building Code in respect to secondary suites in order to bring it into alignment with the National Building Code of Canada.

Not presented to 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 revise the BC Building Code to align with the National Building Code of Canada with respect to secondary suites.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed other resolutions that call for a review or changes to the BC Building Code with respect to secondary suites:

- 2007-B69 to establish minimum size criteria in the BC Building Code for secondary suites; and
- 1992-A20 calling for review of BC Building Code to establish regulations for the development of secondary suites.

Membership has also endorsed resolution 2016-B63, calling for a review of impacts on affordability of other building codes changes (in this case, applying to two-storey homes under 2,000 square feet).

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrick Ryan, Chief Building Official, 604-873-7524

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

B189 Inspection Of Rooming Houses By Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction

Penticton

Whereas landlords may open rooming houses and accommodate low income individuals;

And whereas landlords may take advantage of the vulnerable individuals they house:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health (e.g. Interior Health) and Ministry of Social Development & Poverty Reduction create policy and an inspection process to ensure the integrity of the rooming houses.

Endorsed by the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the province to create a policy and inspection process for rooming houses.

However, the Committee would note that the membership has endorsed resolution 2017-B44, which requested that the province undertake licensing and more stringent regulation of supportive recovery homes.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrick Ryan, Chief Building Official, 604-873-7524

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

**B190 Increase the Maximum Size of Secondary Suites by Removing
the Fixed Maximum Floor Area Limit**

Burnaby

Whereas Part 1, Article 1.4.1.2 of the BC Building Code (2018) provides that the maximum size of a secondary suite is limited to the lesser of 90 m2 (970 sf) or 40 per cent of the total floor area of the single family residence in which it is located;

And whereas for many homeowners, restricting the floor area to a fixed maximum of 90 m2 (970 sf) presents design challenges and adds cost to the construction of a secondary suite, particularly where the cellar floor area exceeds the fixed maximum;

And whereas this restriction also excludes secondary suites as a housing option for larger households and the maximum of 40 per cent of total floor area is sufficient to ensure that the secondary suite remains an accessory use:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to amend the BC Building Code to increase the maximum size of secondary suites by eliminating the fixed maximum standard of 90 m2 (970 sf), retaining only the maximum of 40 per cent of total floor area.

Not presented to 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 2007-B69 which called on the Province to allow councils to vary the Building Code to allow secondary suites to exceed the current maximum of 90m2 of finished living area and/or 40 per cent of total living space of the building. The present resolution differs from this position by only removing the 90m2 fixed maximum while retaining the 40 per cent limit without the possibility of council varying the requirement.

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrick Ryan, Chief Building Official, 604-873-7524

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

**B193 Province of British Columbia/UBCM Memorandum
of Understanding**

Fort St. John

Whereas the Province of British Columbia and UBCM entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) titled 'Local Government's Participation in the New Relationship with First Nations';

And whereas this MOU establishes local government's role as primarily being a 'respected advisor' to the Province on First Nation issues, however local governments' responsibilities to their constituents place them as a stakeholder which goes beyond simply advising the Province on these issues:

Therefore be it resolved that the parties to this MOU recognize this MOU is considered non-binding on local governments unless local governments become signatories to this MOU.

Endorsed by the North Central 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 that the MOU titled "Local Government's Participation in the New Relationship with First Nations" between the Province and UBCM is non-binding on local governments, unless those local governments become signatories to the MOU.

The Committee would note that UBCM does not enter into MOUs and Protocols lightly. There is a defined process within Executive Policies that guides the Executive on how to deal with MOU requests and renewals. The MOU in question was approved by the membership and has been renewed four times over the course of 15 years. Most recently renewed at the 2018 Convention, the current iteration titled "Engagement with UBCM and Local Governments on Treaty Agreements, Non-Treaty Agreements and Indigenous Initiatives", was amended recognizing that there was a need for the Province to broaden its scope for engagement with UBCM and local governments due to the fact that Indigenous peoples are seeking agreements and initiatives, not just treaty, on matters "that will impact local government jurisdiction" and "have the potential to broadly impact local governments."

The Committee would also note that the MOU does not bind local governments to specific processes, but sets out principles for communication between the parties towards "sincere and honest engagement", to enable dialogue with local governments, not constrain it. In addition, UBCM monitors the implementation of the MOU, and has the opportunity to communicate to the province any concerns that may arise.

By putting this resolution forward is the sponsor asking that local governments not be engaged or consulted on treaty agreements, non-treaty agreements and Indigenous Initiatives that will impact their jurisdiction or have the potential to impact them as local governments? If so, this direction is not supportable as it is contrary to member direction.

CoV Staff Liaison: Katelyn Crabtree, Manager, Indigenous Relations, 604-873-7209

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Section B3-b

Transportation

B196 ICBC Rates

Sicamous

Whereas the Insurance Corporation of BC (ICBC), a provincial crown corporation in British Columbia, is charging drivers the highest average auto insurance rates in Canada;

And whereas ICBC has been approved to raise insurance rates by 6.3 per cent as of April 1, 2019;

And whereas 2017 research has shown average insurance rates across Canada vary, with BC's rates as the highest. [Alberta (\$1,251), Ontario (\$1,445), New Brunswick (\$819), Nova Scotia (\$842), Prince Edward Island (\$796), and Newfoundland & Labrador (\$1,132) rely entirely on private insurers to provide auto insurance.]

And whereas Saskatchewan (\$936) and Manitoba (\$1,080), who like British Columbia (\$1,680), have government owned insurers with a monopoly over basic auto insurance, but compete with the private sector in the market for optional insurance coverage, still have lower average rates:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the provincial government to open the basic auto insurance market to the private sector to create a more competitive market and help lower the average insurance premiums paid by British Columbian drivers.

Not presented to the Southern Interior Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a similar resolution, 1998-B56, that called for no more insurance premium rate increases, a reduction in current rates and deregulation of the auto insurance industry in order to access more competitive insurance pricing.

However, the Committee recognizes that this resolution is over 20 years old, and because it is fairly dated the Committee would offer no recommendation.

CoV Staff Liaison: Elvis Chan, Assistant Manager, Risk Financing & Loss Control, 604-829-4204

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

B197 ICBC Regional Premiums and Settlements

Houston

Whereas publicly available data indicates that rural BC residents are paying substantially more in ICBC insurance premiums than they are receiving in claims settlements and payouts;

And whereas ICBC has not released specific data showing, by postal code, the amount of money rural BC residents have collectively paid for ICBC insurance premiums and received in claims settlements and payouts over the past 5 years;

And whereas ICBC holds a vehicle insurance monopoly in BC and has made a strong public commitment to fairness in pricing:

Therefore be it resolved that ICBC release the data for the total value of premiums paid for insurance, and the total value of claims settlements and payouts, by postal code, for the years 2014 to 2018, and each year going forward.

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 for ICBC to establish a new, separate insurance pool for rural BC or for ICBC to ensure there is balance in the premiums paid and claim settlements paid in each postal code.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2006-B79 asking ICBC to review the insurance zones and boundaries to ensure fairness in the premiums paid in each zone.

CoV Staff Liaison: Elvis Chan, Assistant Manager, Risk Financing & Loss Control, 604-829-4204

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

Staff Comments: None

Health

B201 Health Authority Asset Management Plans

Spallumcheen

Whereas accurate planning for our future healthcare needs is critical and the Ministry of Health is fiscally responsible to all British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Health undertake asset management plans for all of the health authorities in the province.

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 for the Ministry of Health to undertake asset management plans for all the health authorities in BC.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B204 Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health and Addictions

Powell River

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 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 newly created 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.

Not presented to 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 for the change in name of the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to the Ministry of Brain Injury, Mental Health, and Addictions, and for the Province to work with the federal government to create a national strategy with funding for Acquired Brain Injury.

CoV Staff Liaison: Sandra Singh, General Manager, Arts, Culture, and Community Services, 604-871-6858

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

Selected Issues

B205 Gas Prices

Sicamous

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has the highest retail fuel prices in Canada;

And whereas the entire Okanagan and Shuswap region depends on the tourism industry to support our businesses and local economies;

And whereas the District of Sicamous has researched the cost of fuel across Canada, finding when combined, the excise taxes (\$0.10 per litre), the provincial taxes (\$0.13-\$0.15 per litre), and the carbon taxes (\$0.0778 per litre and \$0.0673 per litre respectively), the difference between BC and Alberta is ONLY approx. \$0.025/litre;

And whereas at the pump the average retail fuel cost in BC is \$1.24/litre. The average retail fuel cost in Alberta is \$0.94/litre. That's a difference of \$0.30/litre:

Therefore be it resolved that in the interests of full transparency UBCM petition the Province to require public disclosure of all taxes included in fuel costs on a regular basis, including Vancouver and Victoria.

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 considered a resolution asking the Province to regulate fuel costs in BC to better be in line with the fuel costs across Canada.

The Committee notes that on May 24, 2019, the BC Utilities Commission established an inquiry into gasoline and diesel prices in British Columbia. A final report is expected on August 30, 2019. A link to the Inquiry scope and timetable is as follows:

https://www.bcuc.com/Documents/Proceedings/2019/DOC_54156_A-4-Consultation-Reports.pdf

CoV Staff Liaison: Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance, Risk & Supply Chain Management/CFO, 604-873-7610

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

B207 Support of Indigenous Court System

New Westminster

Whereas the rate of Indigenous men and women in the Canadian federal and provincial criminal incarceration systems is disproportionately high;

And whereas 3 per cent of the population identify as Indigenous and the Indigenous population in our prison system is 27 per cent men and an alarming 38 per cent women;

And whereas cultural and spiritual reconnection is facilitated through the guidance of Indigenous Elders and families and the Indigenous Court:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and FCM lobby the Canadian federal and provincial governments to fund and expand the Indigenous Court System.

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 request for the federal and provincial governments to fund and expand an Indigenous Court System.

However, the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking the creation of, and funding for, other specialized court systems, such as a domestic violence treatment court (2007-B165); a drug treatment court (2005-B2, 2005-B104, 2004-B104, 2000-B61); and a bylaw court (2001-B11, 1998-B2, 1994-B11).

CoV Staff Liaison: Katelyn Crabtree, Manager, Indigenous Relations, 604-873-7209

CoV Staff Recommendation: s.13(1)

s.13(1)

From: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>
To: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
"Boyle, Christine" <Christine.Boyle@vancouver.ca>
Date: 9/23/2019 8:52:17 AM
Subject: FW: BCCLA and Lost Votes Presentation Follow up

From: Amy Gill [mailto:amy@bccla.org]
Sent: Friday, September 20, 2019 6:21 PM
Cc: Meghan McDermott; Mark Hosak; Iman Baobeid
Subject: BCCLA and Lost Votes Presentation Follow up

Hi Everyone,

Thank you to those who were able to join us for the webinar today and those who let us know ahead of time they were not able to attend.

Attached you will find an audio recording of the webinar, the PowerPoint presentation, and a two-page document outlining why we support this historic motion.

Please let us know if you have any questions and we hope you enjoyed the webinar!

Cheers,

Amy Gill

-Executive Coordinator | BC Civil Liberties Association
604-687-2919 | amy@bccla.org

*****PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR OFFICE RECENTLY MOVED TO THE ADDRESS BELOW*****

306 – 268 Keefer Street
Vancouver, BC V6A 1X5
Coast Salish Territory - shared lands of x̱m̱əθḵʷəy̱əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) & səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh)
www.bccla.org

Support human rights and freedoms in Canada! Please donate.

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<<

Permanent Residents & Municipal Voting Brief.pdf (516.5KB)
20190920 BCCLA and Lost Vote_audio.mp3 (5.8MB)
Webinar PPT_.pptx (715.4KB)

(7.0MB)

>>



Belonging in BC: Giving Permanent Residents the Right to Vote

Permanent Residents share much in common with citizens. They live, work, play, study, pay taxes, send their kids to schools, have access to healthcare coverage, and are protected by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. According to the 2016 census, there were 421, 935 resident immigrants in BC. Approximately 60, 000 Permanent Residents call Vancouver – xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) & səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) territories – home. This situation is comparable in other BC cities/territories. Despite their contributions to their communities, Permanent Residents are left without a voice, representation, and a diminished sense of belonging.

The provincial government has jurisdiction over municipal voting laws and sets the parameters that govern them. Several local municipalities and communities of the Lower Mainland, Vancouver Island, and Northern BC, have passed motions to have the BC government to change its legislation to give permanent residents the right to vote in local elections. These commendable efforts have blazed the trail towards Motion B109.

On September 23, 2019, the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), councilor and mayors from across the province will have the historic opportunity to endorse Motion B109, a resolution seeking to strengthen democracy in province.

The BCCLA encourages the endorsement of the resolution for the following reasons:

- Enfranchising Permanent Residents with a municipal vote is long overdue. The right to vote is essential to one's feeling of belonging and responsibility in a democratic society.
- The road to citizenship can be long and barrier ridden. Giving Permanent Residents the right to vote now is compatible with their status as *immigrants who permanently reside* in BC.
- Against the backdrop of declining voter turnout, the ability of Permanent Residents to vote may encourage broader civic participation with respect to municipal governance. Local governments will also be more accountable to the communities they serve as more residents will have a say in how public funds are spent and what bylaws are made on the issues affecting their daily lives.
- BC has the chance to join the ranks of many enlightened jurisdictions across the world that already give Permanent Residents voting rights at the municipal level.

Over the last 150 years, the electoral system in Canada has evolved to give many communities and groups the right to vote, in recognition that these communities and groups should be valued participants in public decision-making processes. For example, voting rights have been extended to women, Chinese, South Asian, Japanese, and Indigenous peoples. The BCCLA believes that the right to vote ought to be extended to Permanent Residents with respect to municipal elections. To do so would ensure that local governments are continuing to strive for greater inclusivity in BC cities.



What have you heard or what do you foresee as the biggest counter argument?

One thing that often comes up – why don't folks become citizens and then vote? People don't realize how difficult it is to become a citizen. You have to wait many years, it is a huge cost barrier, and is not immediately accessible. Once folks are able to realize how difficult that process is, it becomes less of a counterargument.

What is the definition of a Permanent Resident?

Someone who has been granted the status by having immigrated to Canada. They are not a Canadian citizen, and there are time and residency requirements imposed for the status to remain valid. To understand more about what a Permanent Resident is, see <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/new-immigrants/pr-card/understand-pr-status.html>

How do I know that this person even resided in our municipality?

There are already processes to proving residency status. Bringing mail addressed to you, or if you've moved provinces, you have to move through electoral hoops, etc.

What is the value of citizenship over permanent residency? If we're granting the right to vote, what really differentiates them from citizens?

Ultimately, what it comes down to, is that democracy works better when more voices are represented. If we want our municipal government to be representative of the people that are accessing those spaces and services, than it makes sense to give them a voice in who represents them.

Maybe the conversation about voting in federal elections is a different conversation. There are a lot of privileges that come with being a Canadian citizen, including a broader freedom of movement, the lack of the need to renew your residency status every 5 years.

We have a stake in what is happening in our local communities, these are issues that affect everyday life. The value of Canadian citizenship, we shouldn't discount the fact that as permanent residents we can still get kicked out of the country. Current immigration policies in the United States, for example, are shifting, and more green card holders are being kicked out.

**LOST
VOTES**
YVR

B109 Fresh Voices #LostVotes Campaign

New Westminster

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has the governing authority to implement electoral legislative changes including allowing for Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections; and

And whereas more than 45 countries have granted Permanent Residents some form of voting rights — including seven jurisdictions in the US and 25 European Union countries; and 11 municipalities in Canada are working toward extending local election voting rights to Permanent Residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia make the necessary changes to allow Permanent Residents to vote in local government elections in British Columbia.

Endorsed by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

UBCM Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

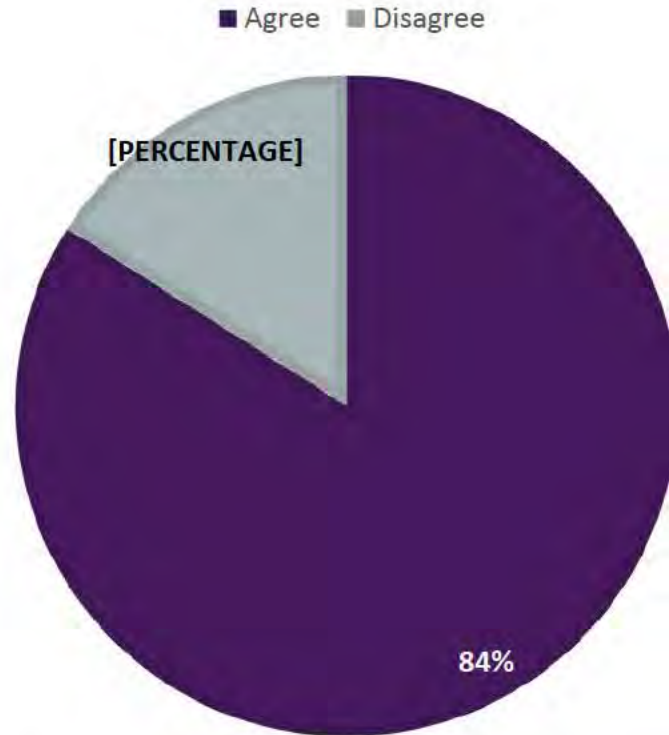
UBCM Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting the Province to allow permanent residents the right to vote in local government elections.

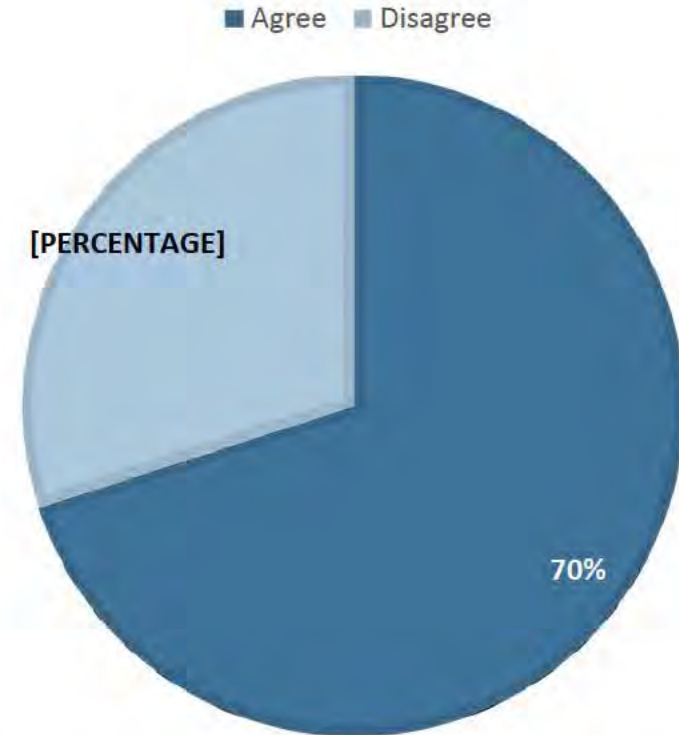
See also resolutions C10, C11.

Conference decision: _____

**84% OF METRO VANCOUVERITES
DESCRIBE PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS
"VALUABLE, CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS
OF SOCIETY"**



**7 OUT OF 10 METRO VANCOUVERITES
SUPPORT ALLOWING PERMANENT
RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS**



Methodology: Results are based on an online study conducted from September 4 to September 7, 2018, among 829 adults in Metro Vancouver. The data has been statistically weighted according to Canadian census figures for age, gender and region in Metro Vancouver. The margin of error—which measures sample variability—is +/- 3.5 percentage points, nineteen times out of twenty.

Vote YES to Resolution B109
at UBCM to allow permanent
residents to vote in municipal
elections and **strengthen our**
democracy

From: "Nelson, Jessica"

To: "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>

Date: 9/16/2019 7:41:15 AM

Subject: FW: IETF powerpoint

Attachments: COV_IETF_Campaign finance 2019.pptx

Hi Rosemary,

Here is the IETF's presentation.

Jess

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22(1)

Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 6:42 AM

To: Nelson, Jessica

Subject: Re: IETF powerpoint

Hi Jessica,

Actually please use this second version instead!

cheers

Shoni

----- Original Message -----

From: "Shoni" s.22(1)

To: "Nelson, Jessica" <jessica.nelson@vancouver.ca>

Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 6:36:03 AM

Subject: IETF powerpoint

Hi Jessica,

Please find attached our powerpoint for today. I used the template prepared previously for our first report so hopefully it should work on a city computer in terms of fonts/spacing etc.

Best regards,

Shoni

A review of campaign financing by third party and independent candidates in municipal elections

Independent Election Task Force

Shoni Field

Ela Esra Gunad

Antony Hodgson

Robert Matas

Halena Seiferling

Agenda

- 1. Who we are and our mandate**
- 2. Importance of campaign finance regulations**
- 3. Current context**
- 4. Guiding values**
- 5. Recommendations**
- 6. What we're asking from you**
- 7. Questions**

Current Mandate

- In 2016, Vancouver City Council established an Independent Election Task Force.
- Twelve members were selected.
- First report issued in 2017.
- Progress has been made on our recommendations.
- In May 2018, Council voted to reconvene the Independent Elections Task Force.
- Five members were able to participate. We worked from Feb. to June 2019.
- All of our work is as

THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding:

- Appropriate regulation of Third-Party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections;
- The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.

Properly regulated campaign financings is vital to democratic health

- Elected municipal officials make decisions related to the **organizational interests of those who contribute** directly or indirectly to their election campaign.
- Participating in the decision-making process after receiving contributions directly or indirectly **creates a perception of a conflict of interest** that undermines public confidence in the electoral system.
- Surveys have found that a significant number of **voters say they believe campaign contributions have an undue influence** over elected candidates and the perceived links to contributors could distort spending priorities of elected decision makers.
- As voter cynicism grows, **voter engagement declines** (as does its barometer, voter turnout).

Context

- **Time for reflection: 2018 was the first municipal election under new provincial campaign finance legislation for municipalities. See page 7 for legislative history**
- **Momentum: Significant work has been done by city staff and council in Vancouver around engagement and elections over the last few elections. See Election Office report.**
- **Realism: Campaign finance regulations are never done**

Guiding Values



Equality of citizens - No voter should have disproportionate influence in the electoral process.



Accountability - Regulations and processes should enhance and not diminish the elected official's direct accountability to voters at large.



Transparency - Regulations and processes should enhance and not diminish the voter's ability to view, without unreasonable effort, what money is spent and by whom to exert influence over the election outcomes.



Freedom of association - Citizens have a legally recognized right to organize in order to express a collective opinion or to magnify their individual voices.



Diversity of viewpoints - Regulations and processes should encourage and not restrict the introduction of a range of views and experiences into the campaign.



Voter political knowledge - Regulations and processes should increase and not restrict the voters' ability to inform themselves about the candidates and key election issues.



Voter engagement - Regulations and processes should encourage and not suppress

Recommendation Themes

- **Who can donate and how much?**
- **How should donations and activities be disclosed?**
- **When should regulations apply?**
- **What qualifies as advertising?**
- **Other**

Priority Recommendations

1. Individual donation limits for qualified donors should apply to the cumulative total of donations given to all candidates, elector organizations and third parties.

3. Require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.

5. Extend the campaign period to begin immediately after Labour Day.

Priority: Recommendation 1

Individual donation limits for qualified donors should apply to the cumulative total of donations given to all candidates, elector organizations and third parties.



Equality of citizens: Prevents wealthier citizens from wielding disproportionate influence by funding the same ideas through multiple channels.



Accountability: Reduces risk of elected officials being beholden to individuals wielding disproportionate influence. Places emphasis back on individual voters.



Transparency: Cumulative totals remove opportunity for some donors to hide disproportionate influence behind multiple third parties (or candidates).



Diversity of viewpoints: Cumulative totals allow more people to participate equally opening potential for greater diversity.



Freedom of association: The public should be able to contribute to the political process through whichever entities best represent their political perspectives, whether those be candidates, political parties or third parties, with no differentiation.



Voter political knowledge: Disproportionate influence can distort knowledge, giving a well-funded minority viewpoint the appearance of being widely held.



Voter engagement: The less disproportionate influence the greater people's perceptions that they can make a difference which can lead to greater engagement.

Priority: Recommendation 3

Require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.



Equality of citizens: A central portal run by Elections BC would ensure all donations used by all candidates comply with the election laws.



Accountability: Accurate, real time disclosure means that candidates can be held accountable for funds financing their campaigns.



Transparency: Voters could see who is influencing an election in real time.



Voter political knowledge: Disproportionate influence can distort knowledge, giving a well-funded minority viewpoint the appearance of being widely held.

Priority: Recommendation 5

Extend the campaign period to begin immediately after Labour Day.



Equality of citizens: Having the campaign rules which limit disproportionate influence apply over a longer period extends the period where all participants are operating on a generally level playing field.



Accountability: Shifts emphasis of public discourse near election time to candidates and the public.



Voter political knowledge: Ensures that voters know who is promoting particular messages



Transparency: Currently third parties have the potential to exert significant influence close to the election without any disclosure requirement. Expanding the period maintains freedom of speech while ensuring influencers are fully visible to the voter.



Voter engagement: This should be watched closely. There is a potential that a longer campaign period may lessen the enthusiasm of campaign volunteers thus diminishing very high-level engagement.

Priority: Recommendation 9

Prohibit use of own funds for third parties.

Provisions should be made for membership-based organizations using funds from 'qualified members' membership dues paid in the year of the election up to the individual limit per member on election advertising activities. If recommendation 1 is accepted, then members would have to “sign over” their limit to their membership organization to spend on their behalf.



Equality of citizens: Restricts disproportionate influence of wealthy third parties.



Accountability: Source of funds more easily identifiable.



Transparency: Source of funds more easily identifiable



Diversity of viewpoints: Encourages all entities to participate provided funds are contributed by qualified donors



Freedom of association: Enables individuals to organize, provided contributions are directly traceable to qualified donors



Voter political knowledge: Increases awareness of influence

The Treatment of Independents vs. Candidates from Elector Organizations

The treatment of independents vs. candidates with elector organizations under campaign finance regulations is an example where inequality does not necessarily translate to inequity. However, results suggest that **this bias does not generally outweigh other advantages accruing to those running with an electoral organization.**

However, the situation does encourage candidates to use “slates” or an “endorsement”, rather than elector organizations, which informally **may diminish voter knowledge or transparency around candidate allegiances.**

We feel this is best addressed by **cumulative donation limits** as outlined in Recommendation 1.

Other Recommendations

- **Research into municipal elections**
- **Ongoing Independent Election Task Forces**
 - **Citizens' Assembly**

What We're Asking from You...

1. Strenuously call on the provincial government to improve upon the positive work done in the 2017 amendments to LECFA by implementing campaign finance recommendations from this report.
2. Work with municipal allies so that calls also come from UBCM and not just Vancouver.
3. Continue to make voter engagement a priority.
4. Make voting reform a priority:
 - Follow previous councils' example in calling on the province to introduce the Berger commission recommendations.
 - Push for permissive legislation for B.C. municipalities to select their own electoral systems (like in Ontario).
 - Convene a Citizens' Assembly to design and choose a voting system for Vancouver.

Questions?

1. Individual donation limits for qualified donors should apply to the **cumulative total** of donations given to all candidates, elector organizations and third parties.
2. The **definition of qualified donors**, who can donate to candidates, elector organizations and third parties, should be restricted to eligible voters and permanent residents of the municipality.
3. Require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a **centralized portal** run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
4. A public, easily searchable **online election advertising registry**, run by either Elections BC or the City of Vancouver should be established.
5. Extend the **campaign period** to begin immediately after Labour Day.
6. Expand the **definition of advertising** to include paid phone banking, paid digital campaigns, polling and paid door-to-door canvassing
7. If a **person/company is paid/compensated** for work, wages, goods or services, whether by the candidate, electoral organization, third-party or a non-registered body in the election, the value must be **disclosed**.
8. The costs of paid staff, or staff who are **reimbursed for their work** by another body & who are working on what is
9. Prohibit use of **own funds** for third parties.
10. Bring BC legislation up to standards set by **federal legislation** on transparency of third-party engaging in election advertising.
11. Exempt **small third-party entities** who are spending less than the individual contribution limit on election advertising from registration, use of own funds and disclosure requirements.
12. Increase **penalties & associated enforcement** mechanisms to a level where there is a reliable disincentive to contravene regulations, & increase public awareness of both penalties & those that incur them.
13. As elections become more complex and citizens grow more cynical, the IETF recommends that the city of Vancouver continue to invest in **increased voter engagement** when setting budgets for election funding.
14. Vancouver, municipalities in Metro Vancouver and Elections BC are strongly encouraged to actively pursue opportunities to expand the body of **research around municipal elections**.
15. A **new Independent Election Task Force**, comprised of individual engaged citizens, should be convened in the first year after each election.
16. That council move forward with **establishing a Citizens' Assembly** to recommend the preferred proportional system for Vancouver as per our original report.

From: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
To: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>
Date: 1/14/2020 3:11:37 PM
Subject: FW: Invitation to Lost Votes Press Conference, Nov 9th 9am

From: Swanson, Jean
Sent: Tuesday, November 6, 2018 10:00 PM
To: Fresh Voices
Subject: Re: Invitation to Lost Votes Press Conference, Nov 9th 9am

Great ela. My number is s.22(1) or 604 729 2380

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 6, 2018, at 8:38 PM, Fresh Voices <contactfreshvoices@gmail.com> wrote:

Hi Jean,

This is an amazing news! Thank you. Your support as an elected means a lot to us. Would you be open to say few words at the press conference?

We will have a member of Fresh Voices, Hana Woldeyes moderating the press conference and have few speakers from the community to outline the importance of issue. It would be great to briefly hear from you as the new Council member and COPE's support. Christine Boyle is also supportive and confirmed to say few words (2 min) at the end.

The flow of the day will be:

9:00 - 9:05 am Introduction

9:05 - 9:10 am Key findings from the Polls and the Need for Change by Ashvan Wal

9:10 - 9:15 am Experiences of moving from ineligible to vote to being an

elected by Sharmarke Dubow, a former refugee and newly elected
Victoria City Council

9:15 - 9:20 am How can allowing PRs to have the voting rights strengthen

democracy?, Khelsilem, Squamish language educator and leader

9:20 - 9:25 am Renewal of City's commitment to advocate to allow permanent
residents vote by Vancouver City Councillors

9:25 - 9:40 am Questions and Answers

9:40 - 9:45 am Closing

My cell is 604.315.0633. If you have any questions, I would be more than happy to chat. Could you also provide me a cell phone number that I can reach you on the day?

Best,
Ela

On Tue, Nov 6, 2018 at 5:52 PM Swanson, Jean <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Hi Ela. I'll come. Cope totally supports city voting for permanent residents.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 6, 2018, at 1:53 PM, Fresh Voices <contactfreshvoices@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Jean,

Congratulations for your first day as a City Councillor at City Hall. We are writing you today as the citizens and residents of Vancouver to ask that you join us at a press conference to renew Vancouver City Council's commitment to advocate to the provincial government to allow permanent residents the right to vote.

Fresh Voices is a grassroots community group led by young immigrants and refugees, active in public engagement, research, and partnership work that improves the experiences of newcomer communities in BC. Last year, we announced the start of #LostVotesYVR campaign to secure the ability for permanent residents to vote in municipal elections in Vancouver.

On April 18, 2018 Vancouver City Council unanimously passed a motion to request the provincial government to allow permanent residents the right to vote in municipal elections. We were excited to see the support from the City Council on this important issue. But there's still more that needs to be done. The latest Vancouver municipal election saw a voter turnout of only 39 per cent, with more than 60,000 permanent residents left without a voice. **We are inviting you to speak at a press conference to show the renewal of your commitment to advance democracy and request that the provincial government make necessary legislative changes to allow permanent residents the right to vote in municipal elections.**

What: Fresh Voices is hosting a press conference to share findings of a report showing British Columbians support for granting permanent residents the right to vote.

Who: Fresh Voice, as well as a diverse group of caring citizens and residents who are fighting to grant permanent residents the right to vote in municipal elections. Media will be hearing both from residents, citizens, and elected officials.

When: Friday, November 9, 2018 at 9:00am to 9:45am.

Where: Creekside Community Centre, Multipurpose Room 1 at 1 Athletes Way, Vancouver, BC V5Y 0B1

We look forward to hearing from you and hopefully hearing from you at the press conference.

On behalf of Lost Votes Campaign,

Ela Esra Gunad
604.315.0633

From: "Nelson, Jessica"

To: "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>

Date: 11/7/2018 3:12:08 PM

Subject: FW: Invitation to Lost Votes Press Conference, Nov 9th at 9am

Just a FYI – s.22(1) but Janice is going to attend. Ela (organizer) is a former IETF member.

From: Fresh Voices [mailto:contactfreshvoices@gmail.com]

Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2018 4:27 PM

To: contactfreshvoices@gmail.com

Cc: simran@peernetbc.com

Subject: Invitation to Lost Votes Press Conference, Nov 9th at 9am

Dear Community Partners,

We would like to invite you to join us at Fresh Voices' **#LostVotesYVR Press Conference on Friday, November 9th at 9am at Creekside Community Centre** in Vancouver, B.C.

Fresh Voices is a grassroots community group led by young immigrants and refugees, active in public engagement, research, and partnership work that improves the experiences of newcomer communities in BC. Last year, we announced the start of #LostVotesYVR campaign to secure the ability for permanent residents to vote in municipal elections in Vancouver.

The purpose of the press conference is share new public opinion research about the #LostVotesYVR campaign to extend municipal voting rights to permanent residents in Vancouver. We are excited to follow up on the unanimous decision made by the Vancouver City Council on April 17, 2018 in regards to advocating to the Provincial Government on this issue.

The latest Vancouver municipal election saw a voter turnout of only 39 per cent, with more than 60,000 permanent residents left without a voice. The B.C. Government has jurisdiction over municipal voting laws and set the parameters that govern them, including the Vancouver Charter (1953) which governs the City of Vancouver's voting and electoral process. The Legislature of British Columbia has the power to make necessary changes to the Vancouver Charter to allow permanent residents to vote in municipal elections.

We invite you as our ally to be present at the press conference and show your support for allowing permanent residents the right to vote in municipal elections.

What: Fresh Voices is hosting a press conference to share findings of a report showing British Columbians support for granting permanent residents the right to vote.

Who: Fresh Voices, as well as a diverse group of caring citizens and residents who are fighting to grant permanent residents the right to vote in municipal elections. Media will be hearing both from residents, citizens, and elected officials.

When: Friday, November 9, 2018 at 9:00am to 9:45am.

Where: Creekside Community Centre, Multipurpose Room 1 at 1 Athletes Way, Vancouver, BC V5Y 0B1

Please share it widely with your circle. We hope to see you there!

On behalf of #LostVotesYVR Campaign,

From: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
To: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>
Date: 1/14/2020 3:44:08 PM
Subject: FW: Motion - April 18, 2018

From: Boyle, Christine
Sent: Monday, November 12, 2018 5:16 PM
To: Swanson, Jean
Subject: RE: Motion - April 18, 2018

I can't remember if we've talked about this again. Apparently we can't re-submit a motion that was already passed, even if it's updated. But I have a couple other ideas I've been talking with these organizers about. Happy to chat with you about it all more too!

Councillor Christine Boyle

CITY OF VANCOUVER

phone 604-873-7242 email CLRboyle@vancouver.ca

address 453 W 12 Ave Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

twitter @christineboyle facebook www.facebook.com/ChristineBoyleVancouver

From: Swanson, Jean
Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 11:05 AM
To: Boyle, Christine
Subject: FW: Motion - April 18, 2018

Here's the PR motion that was passed earlier this year. Maybe we want new whereas's ???

From: Chu, Juliana
Sent: Friday, November 9, 2018 11:02 AM
To: Swanson, Jean
Subject: Motion - April 18, 2018

Hi Councillor Swanson,

As requested, please find below [the link](#) to the motion passed on April 18, 2018 regarding the request that the provincial government allow permanent residents the right to vote in municipal elections.

<https://council.vancouver.ca/20180418/documents/pspc15.pdf>

Best regards,

Juliana Chu

Assistant to Councillors | City of Vancouver

P: 604.871.6713

E: juliana.chu@vancouver.ca

From: "Nelson, Jessica"
To: "Nikolic, Sandra" <Sandra.Nikolic@vancouver.ca>
Date: 11/8/2018 10:58:46 AM
Subject: FW: Permanent Resident Voting - Motion B.8

Hi Sandra,

I was wondering if you knew if anything regarding providing voting rights to permanent residents was submitted by the City as a motion/resolution for the most recent UBCM?

Jess

From: Hagiwara, Rosemary
Sent: Thursday, November 08, 2018 10:57 AM
To: Nelson, Jessica
Cc: Lowe, Janice
Subject: RE: Permanent Resident Voting - Motion B.8

Can you check with Sandra please?

Rosemary Hagiwara
Chief Election Officer
Director of Business & Election Services | Deputy City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver
t: 604.873.7177
e: rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca

From: Nelson, Jessica
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2018 2:32 PM
To: Hagiwara, Rosemary
Cc: Lowe, Janice
Subject: RE: Permanent Resident Voting - Motion B.8

Hi Rosemary,

I can respond. I was just planning on including the letter from our office and the response from the Ministry. The only action in the motion from Council was that we advocate to the Province, which we did. In the response, however, the Minister suggested that the City put forward a motion at UBCM. Do you know if one was put forward (I'm not sure how these get put forward – is it from staff or elected officials – I would assume the latter)? I've had a look through this document and couldn't find anything.

https://www.ubcm.ca/assets/Resolutions~and~Policy/Resolutions/Resolutions_Decisions_2018.pdf

Jess

From: Hagiwara, Rosemary
Sent: Wednesday, November 07, 2018 11:49 AM
To: CC Meeting Coordinators - DL
Cc: Lowe, Janice; Nelson, Jessica
Subject: FW: Permanent Resident Voting - Motion B.8

Please find out when the letter was sent to the Ministry.

Janice/Jess Y please respond once you have the information from Meeting Coordinators.

Rosemary Hagiwara
Chief Election Officer
Director of Business & Election Services | Deputy City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver
t: 604.873.7177
e: rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca

From: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2018 1:36 PM
To: vi.nguyen@vancouverfoundation.ca
Subject: FW: Permanent Resident Voting - Motion B.8

[Thank you for your email, which has been forwarded to Council Operations, City Clerk's Office.](#)

From: Vi Nguyen [<mailto:vi.nguyen@vancouverfoundation.ca>]
Sent: Monday, November 05, 2018 12:30 PM
To: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office
Cc: contactfreshvoices@gmail.com
Subject: Permanent Resident Voting - Motion B.8

Dear City Clerk:

I'm writing to inquire and follow up on the City Council motion B.8 on April 17, 2018. If you can please confirm or notify us about any action or next steps the City advanced after this meeting with the Provincial Government, that would be much appreciated.

Fresh Voices had been an initiative at Vancouver Foundation when the #lostvotesYVR campaign was first launched in May 2017. As of 2018, Fresh Voices is a grassroots-led group supported by PeerNet BC. Fresh Voices will be sending a direct invitation to the new Mayor and Council to attend a Press Conference this Friday, November 9th. That invitation is forthcoming directly from Fresh Voices and the group will go through the official web form on the City's website to submit their request/invitation. In the meantime, I have copied Fresh Voices and its membership in this email.

Thank you for your assistance.

Vi

Vi Nguyen | [Director, Grants & Community Initiatives](#)
Vancouver Foundation | 200-475 West Georgia Street, Vancouver, BC V6B 4M9
T. 604.688.2204 | D. 604.629.5363 | vancouverfoundation.ca

Situated on the traditional and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

From: "Kirby-Yung, Sarah" <Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca>

To: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>

Date: 1/21/2020 2:54:59 PM

Subject: FW: Reminder: BCCLA and Lost Vote: Voting for Permanent Residents starts in 1 Hour

From: Amy Gill [mailto:customer@gotowebinar.com]

Sent: Friday, September 20, 2019 1:00 PM

To: Kirby-Yung, Sarah

Subject: Reminder: BCCLA and Lost Vote: Voting for Permanent Residents starts in 1 Hour



Dear Sarah,

This is a reminder that "BCCLA and Lost Vote: Voting for Permanent Residents" will begin in 1 Hour on:

Fri, Sep 20, 2019 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PDT

Add to Calendar: [Outlook® Calendar](#) | [Google Calendar™](#) | [iCal®](#)

Please send your questions, comments and feedback to: amy@bccla.org

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Please call into the conference line to participate and listen to the audio:

1) Dial [s.15\(1\)\(i\)](#)

2) Then enter the guest code [s.15\(1\)\(i\)](#)

3) Please mute yourself, unless the moderator call you on to speak

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From: "Leckovic, Katrina" <Katrina.Leckovic@vancouver.ca>
To: "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>
"Nelson, Jessica" <Jessica.Nelson@vancouver.ca>
Date: 10/9/2019 4:26:53 PM
Subject: FW: Rental Housing
Attachments: 248873_DIR_Steyer M_Permanent Resident Voting_Vancouver_SERV.pdf

FYI

Katrina Leckovic | City Clerk
City Clerk's Office | City of Vancouver
katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca
604.873.7998

From: s.22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 9:52 AM
To: Swanson, Jean
Cc: Leckovic, Katrina
Subject: Re: Rental Housing

Dear Councillor Swanson,

Following up on our correspondence about Permanent Resident voting in July, I inquired with the Province regarding the status of the City's motion in 2018. I received the attached letter, which indicates to me that the Province is not seriously considering this matter at this time.

In closing, it notes, "If you would like to encourage the City to pursue this matter through the UBCM resolution process, you may wish to contact the City's Clerk Katrina Leckovic by email katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca or by phone at 604-873-7998."

I find this response disheartening and suggests to me that the Province hasn't taken the City's request seriously to date. Furthermore, it suggests to me that further motions from the City will likely have little / no impact.

That being said, this matter is of vital importance, and I encourage you and the City to publicly pursue this matter in a determined manner. I know there would be substantial support from the PRs in the City. If the City is interested in improving civic engagement, I would think enfranchising +/- 60,000 people would be a good start!

I'm cc'ing the Clerk's office on this email. You are welcome to forward this letter to those you think appropriate. Alternatively, I am happy to meet with you to discuss further and/or present this at Council.

I welcome you thoughts,

s.22(1)

s.22(1)

On Thu, Jul 4, 2019 at 1:40 PM s.22(1) wrote:

Great, thank you Councillor Swanson.

s.22(1)

Thanks s.22(1) I have been working in this but will renew my efforts after your prompt. Thanks so much

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 4, 2019, at 11:45 AM, s.22(1) wrote:

Councillor Swanson,

Thank you for your response regarding the Granville Street project.

On an entirely different note, I strongly support your efforts to [give Permanent Residents the vote in Vancouver](#). I understand the City passed a motion in 2018, but I haven't heard any progress from the Province. I've since inquired with AG Eby's office for an update.

As a Permanent Resident (and soon to be Citizen), I think it's essential for the political health of our City to enfranchise this vital, engaged, and substantial group of residents (~60,000 people!).

If there's anything I can do to assist in these efforts, please let me know.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

On Wed, Jun 26, 2019 at 1:09 PM Swanson, Jean <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Thanks for your letter s.22(1) I'm hoping that by rejecting the permit the developer will be encouraged to provide more affordability. It was a tough decision though.

From: s.22(1)

Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2019 1:05 PM

To: Swanson, Jean

Subject: Rental Housing

Dear Councillor Swanson,

I was disappointed in last night's vote regarding the Granville St project and that Council did not support a project that turned one single family lot into 21 rental units (many for families) without displacing tenants or replacing older units. Many of us rely on market rental housing to be able to live and work in Vancouver. Having been in a building where people were starting to get renovicted, it took me 6 months (while renovations were going on all around my unit) to find a suitable 2 bedroom rental unit for my partner and me due to the lack of vacancy and housing choice.

I think you will find that many of us who support market rental also support your efforts to build more social housing across the City (for example, s.22(1)

s.22(1)

s.22(1)).

However, I would hope that you see that they don't need to be mutually exclusive (i.e., social

housing or no housing) and that they both share a common goal - providing more housing and choice to people who live here, across all income levels.

Finally, while I understand your concerns re: affordability and focus on social housing, I'm concerned that others are using "not affordable" as another euphemism for "no change" when it comes to introducing rental housing across the City, such as in areas like Shaughnessy.

Thank you for your consideration,

s.22(1)



Ref: 248873

August 19, 2019

s.22(1)

Email: s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Thank you for your email of July 4, 2019 to the Honourable David Eby, Attorney General, regarding the City of Vancouver's request to allow permanent residents to vote in local elections. As Director, Governance and Structure, I am pleased to respond on behalf of the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the minister responsible for the local government system.

As you are likely aware, permanent residents are not eligible to vote in British Columbia provincial elections or in federal elections. The Canadian Constitution protects the rights of Canadian citizens to vote in federal and provincial elections. The *Local Government Act* and *Vancouver Charter* mirror the voter eligibility requirements at the federal and provincial level and provide that only Canadian citizens may vote in local elections.

Currently under the local election legislation, to be eligible to vote in local elections an individual must:

- be 18 years of age or older on the date of registration, or, if an election is in progress, be 18 years of age or older on general voting day for the election;
- be a Canadian citizen;
- have been a resident of British Columbia for six months prior to registration;
- have been a resident of the municipality or jurisdiction for which they are voting at least 30 days prior to registration; and,
- not be disqualified by the *Local Government Act* or any other Act from voting.

As you noted in your email, there have been calls from some local governments including the City of Vancouver, and from some members of the public, to enfranchise permanent residents. There are also many strong opinions regarding voter eligibility as a fundamental democratic right of Canadian citizens.

Voter eligibility is consistent across B.C. Any change to voter eligibility in local elections would require careful consideration and analysis of the legal and constitutional implications. This work would also likely involve consultation at both the federal and provincial levels of government.

...2

Local governments' requests for changes, such as amendments to election legislation, often come to the Province through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), the organization representing all local governments in British Columbia. If local governments were to collectively support legislative amendments that would allow permanent residents to vote, that request would be brought to the Province's attention through the UBCM resolution process, or through some other form of direct contact by between UBCM and the Province.

Upon such a request, the Province would then consider the proposal with a thorough analysis to examine the implications of any proposed changes, including consideration of the principles supporting the existing framework against arguments in support of change.

If you would like to encourage the City to pursue this matter through the UBCM resolution process, you may wish to contact the City's Clerk Katrina Leckovic by email katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca or by phone at 604-873-7998.

Thank you for writing,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent Mueller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brent" being more prominent than the last name "Mueller".

Brent Mueller
Director, Governance and Structure Branch

PC: Katrina Leckovic
City Clerk
City of Vancouver

From: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
To: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>
Date: 1/14/2020 2:33:38 PM
Subject: FW: Rental Housing
Attachments: 248873_DIR_Steyer M_Permanent Resident Voting_Vancouver_SERV.pdf

From: s.22(1)
Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 9:52 AM
To: Swanson, Jean
Cc: Leckovic, Katrina
Subject: Re: Rental Housing

Dear Councillor Swanson,

Following up on our correspondence about Permanent Resident voting in July, I inquired with the Province regarding the status of the City's motion in 2018. I received the attached letter, which indicates to me that the Province is not seriously considering this matter at this time.

In closing, it notes, "If you would like to encourage the City to pursue this matter through the UBCM resolution process, you may wish to contact the City's Clerk Katrina Leckovic by email katrina.leckovic@vancouver.ca or by phone at 604-873-7998."

I find this response disheartening and suggests to me that the Province hasn't taken the City's request seriously to date. Furthermore, it suggests to me that further motions from the City will likely have little / no impact.

That being said, this matter is of vital importance, and I encourage you and the City to publicly pursue this matter in a determined manner. I know there would be substantial support from the PRs in the City. If the City is interested in improving civic engagement, I would think enfranchising +/- 60,000 people would be a good start!

I'm cc'ing the Clerk's office on this email. You are welcome to forward this letter to those you think appropriate. Alternatively, I am happy to meet with you to discuss further and/or present this at Council.

I welcome you thoughts,

s.22(1)

s.22(1)

On Thu, Jul 4, 2019 at 1:40 PM s.22(1) wrote:

Great, thank you Councillor Swanson.

s.22(1)

On Thu, Jul 4, 2019 at 12:24 PM Swanson, Jean <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Thanks s.22(1) I have been working in this but will renew my efforts after your prompt. Thanks so much

Sent from my iPhone

Councillor Swanson,

Thank you for your response regarding the Granville Street project.

On an entirely different note, I strongly support your efforts to [give Permanent Residents the vote in Vancouver](#). I understand the City passed a motion in 2018, but I haven't heard any progress from the Province. I've since inquired with AG Eby's office for an update.

As a Permanent Resident (and soon to be Citizen), I think it's essential for the political health of our City to enfranchise this vital, engaged, and substantial group of residents (~60,000 people!).

If there's anything I can do to assist in these efforts, please let me know.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

On Wed, Jun 26, 2019 at 1:09 PM Swanson, Jean <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Thanks for your letter s.22(1) in hoping that by rejecting the permit the developer will be encouraged to provide more affordability. It was a tough decision though.

From: s.22(1)

Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2019 1:05 PM

To: Swanson, Jean

Subject: Rental Housing

Dear Councillor Swanson,

I was disappointed in last night's vote regarding the Granville St project and that Council did not support a project that turned one single family lot into 21 rental units (many for families) without displacing tenants or replacing older units. Many of us rely on market rental housing to be able to live and work in Vancouver. Having been in a building where people were starting to get renovicted, it took me 6 months (while renovations were going on all around my unit) to find a suitable 2 bedroom rental unit for my partner and me due to the lack of vacancy and housing choice.

I think you will find that many of us who support market rental also support your efforts to build more social housing across the City (for example, s.22(1)

s.22(1)

s.22(1)).

However, I would hope that you see that they don't need to be mutually exclusive (i.e., social housing or no housing) and that they both share a common goal - providing more housing and choice to people who live here, across all income levels.

Finally, while I understand your concerns re: affordability and focus on social housing, I'm concerned that others are using "not affordable" as another euphemism for "no change" when it comes to introducing rental housing across the City, such as in areas like Shaughnessy,

Thank you for your consideration,

s.22(1)

From: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
To: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>
Date: 1/14/2020 3:13:48 PM
Subject: FW: Thank you & Follow-up

From: Fresh Voices [mailto:contactfreshvoices@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 9:46 AM
To: Swanson, Jean
Subject: Re: Thank you & Follow-up

Hi Jean,

We received confirmation from Jessica Nelson (Election Manager) from the City. She confirmed that "on April 24, 2018, the City Clerk sent a letter to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing outlining the motion approved by Council.

"The Minister responded in July 2018 and noted some concerns regarding the complexity of such a change being proposed and that it would take significant time and work to better understand the policy implications, including broader considerations respecting provincial and federal election rules, which could not be completed before the 2018 municipal election. The Minister suggested that a resolution be brought forward by the City to the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) regarding this issue.

The deadline for UBCM resolutions to be submitted by municipalities was June 30, 2018 and no resolutions specific to this area were brought forward by City of Vancouver elected officials at the 2018 UBCM meeting (September 2018)."

So that means we missed the deadline for a resolution... which is nothing fair knowing that elections were in October. Do you know any other way to bring this issue there?

I am not familiar with their program or how they pick speakers.

Thank you for your support,
Ela

On Fri, Nov 9, 2018 at 7:23 PM Swanson, Jean <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Sounds good. I'll try to get a copy of the letter.

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 9, 2018, at 2:24 PM, Fresh Voices <contactfreshvoices@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Jean,

Thank you so much for your ongoing support #LostVotesYVR campaign to allow permanent residents to vote in the elections. It is always encouraging to see electeds working side by side with the communities. I wanted to follow up on two things that arise from this morning:

- We have confirmed with the City Clerk that Vancouver City Council officially sent a letter to the
City of Vancouver - FOI 2020-024 - Page 151 of 280

BC Government to request to make necessary changes to the Vancouver Charter to allow permanent residents to vote. Provincial Government has not responded the City.

We have asked City Clerk to provide us a copy of the letter and were informed it may take some time due to their workload. It would be great if you could also request this letter for your own information and helping us to follow up with the BC Government.

- There was a good political intention about the idea of bringing another motion to the City Council to renew their commitment. Based on our knowledge about the local governance, we believe the same motion cannot be brought to the Council with the same wording. Last motion was passed unanimously which sent a very strong message to the Province and it took us many years to bring everyone on board to support the motion. We understand that a motion that was passed by a previous council cannot be override, undo, or bypass by the new Council. The new council can only choose to be passive or proactive in their follow-up actions. After the press conference, we were reflecting on the idea, and we believe it would be most helpful and effective to follow up on the letter the City sent to the BC Government. We are currently asking Selina Robinson to meet with us before the year end and a follow-up from the City could help us to make more pressure.

Also you can find the polling results here: <http://freshvoices.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Public-Opinion-Research-on-PR-voting-rights.pdf>

Let me know if you would like to chat about this further.

With appreciation,
Ela

From: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
To: "Okano, Kana" <kana.okano@vancouver.ca>
Date: 1/14/2020 3:15:44 PM
Subject: FW: Thank you & Follow-up
Attachments: pspc 15 - Signed decision letter to Province re Permanent Resident Votin....pdf
ATT00001.htm
pspc 15 - Response from Selina Robinson RE Permanent Resident Voting.PDF
ATT00002.htm

From: Swanson, Jean
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2018 10:59 AM
To: Boyle, Christine
Subject: Fwd: Thank you & Follow-up

It looks like the province wants the ubcm to call for pr voting rights b4 they'll do anything. I think the ubcm only meets in October But if we have to convince the whole province that could take time. Also noted that the letter was signed by clerk not mayor. Seems like a weak request. Want to talk about this b4 getting back to fresh voices?

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Chu, Juliana" <Juliana.Chu@vancouver.ca>
Date: November 15, 2018 at 9:50:28 AM PST
To: "Swanson, Jean" <Jean.Swanson@vancouver.ca>
Subject: FW: Thank you & Follow-up

Good morning Councillor Swanson,

Please find attached the requested letter, as well as the response letter from the Province regarding the necessary changes be made to the Vancouver Charter to allow permanent residents to vote.

Best regards,

Juliana Chu
Assistant to Councillors | City of Vancouver
P: 604.871.6713
E: juliana.chu@vancouver.ca

From: Dragnea, Irina
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 9:47 AM
To: Chu, Juliana
Cc: CC Meeting Coordinators - DL
Subject: RE: Thank you & Follow-up

Hi Juliana,

Please see attached signed letter from the City as well as a response letter from the Province.

Best,

From: Leckovic, Katrina
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 10:13 AM
To: CC Meeting Coordinators - DL
Subject: RE: Thank you & Follow-up
Importance: High

MCs,

Can you please forward?

Thank you,

Katrina Leckovic
City Clerk
Office of the City Clerk | City of Vancouver
604.873.7998

From: Chu, Juliana
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 10:12 AM
To: Leckovic, Katrina
Cc: [jean.s.22\(1\)](#)
Subject: FW: Thank you & Follow-up

Good morning Katrina,

Councillor Jean Swanson is looking for a letter that the Vancouver City Council has officially sent to the BC Government to request that the necessary changes be made to the Vancouver Charter to allow permanent residents to vote.

Could you please advise as to where or who I should contact to find this letter? Thank you!

Best regards,

Juliana Chu
Assistant to Councillors | City of Vancouver
P: 604.871.6713
E: juliana.chu@vancouver.ca

From: Swanson, Jean
Sent: Friday, November 09, 2018 7:26 PM
To: Chu, Juliana
Subject: Fwd: Thank you & Follow-up

Juliana could u try to get a copy of this letter to the province that was evidently sent. ?? Thanks. Let me know if u don't have time or if there r other difficulties. Thanks so much.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Fresh Voices <contactfreshvoices@gmail.com>
Date: November 9, 2018 at 2:24:05 PM PST
To: <jean.swanson@vancouver.ca>
Subject: Thank you & Follow-up

Dear Jean,

Thank you so much for your ongoing support #LostVotesYVR campaign to allow permanent residents to vote in the elections. It is always encouraging to see electeds working side by side with the communities. I wanted to follow up on two things that arise from this morning:

- We have confirmed with the City Clerk that Vancouver City Council officially sent a letter to the BC Government to request to make necessary changes to the Vancouver Charter to allow permanent residents to vote. Provincial Government has not responded the City.

We have asked City Clerk to provide us a copy of the letter and were informed it may take some time due to their workload. It would be great if you could also request this letter for your own information and helping us to follow up with the BC Government.

- There was a good political intention about the idea of bringing another motion to the City Council to renew their commitment. Based on our knowledge about the local governance, we believe the same motion cannot be brought to the Council with the same wording. Last motion was passed unanimously which sent a very strong message to the Province and it took us many years to bring everyone on board to support the motion. We understand that a motion that was passed by a previous council cannot be override, undo, or bypass by the new Council. The new council can only choose to be passive or proactive in their follow-up actions. After the press conference, we were reflecting on the idea, and we believe it would be most helpful and effective to follow up on the letter the City sent to the BC Government. We are currently asking Selina Robinson to meet with us before the year end and a follow-up from the City could help us to make more pressure.

Also you can find the polling results here: <http://freshvoices.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Public-Opinion-Research-on-PR-voting-rights.pdf>

Let me know if you would like to chat about this further.

With appreciation,
Ela

VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20

April 24, 2018

Chief Electoral Officer
Elections Canada
30 Victoria Street
Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0M6

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Chief Electoral Officer and the Honourable Selina Robinson:

RE: Permanent Resident Voting

Following the meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Policy and Strategic Priorities on Wednesday, April 18, 2018, Vancouver City Council approved the following:

WHEREAS

1. A "Permanent Resident" is someone who has been given permanent resident status by immigrating to Canada as a skilled worker, refugee, caregiver, sponsored family member, but is not a Canadian citizen;
2. Permanent residency is a first step to Canadian citizenship. Allowing Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections is important for the confidence and trust in our democracy;
3. Because citizenship is not solely defined by an oath or a test but through a daily practice and many Permanent Residents are active members of Vancouver's communities: contributing to the financial viability of the city as property taxpayers, have children who attend schools, and are contributors to municipal programs and services with user fees and have the same responsibilities as citizens but not the same opportunity to affect decisions directly at a municipal level;
4. In 2011 there were 60,000 permanent residents living in Vancouver equivalent to 33% of voters that voted in the 2014 municipal election;

5. City Council endorsed the 2014 Engaged City Task Force recommendations to seek Permanent Resident voting rights in municipal elections as a powerful way of creating an inclusive, equitable, and caring community in Vancouver;
6. A 2017 motion from City Council asking city staff to investigate this matter determined that the Provincial government is the appropriate authority to undertake this work;
7. The Province of British Columbia has the governing authority to implement electoral legislative changes including allowing for permanent residents to vote in municipal elections; and
8. More than 45 countries have granted Permanent Residents some form of voting rights — including seven jurisdictions in the U.S. and 25 European Union countries. In Canada, 11 municipalities are working toward extending local election voting rights to Permanent Residents.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver advocate to the Province of British Columbia to make the necessary changes to allow Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections in Vancouver.

Yours truly,



Katrina Leckovic

City Clerk

tel: 604.873.7998

City Clerk's Office e-mail: info@vancouver.ca



Ref: 236722

Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave
Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Ms. Leckovic:

Thank you for your letter, addressed to the Chief Electoral Officer, Elections Canada, and me, regarding the issue of expanding voting rights to permanent residents. As Minister responsible for the local government system, I am pleased to respond and apologize for the delay.

The *Local Government Act* and the *Vancouver Charter* set out consistent rules respecting the eligibility of an individual to vote in a local election in British Columbia. This includes the requirement for an individual to be a Canadian citizen, which is consistent with the eligibility requirements in federal and provincial elections.

Any changes to allow for individuals who are not Canadian Citizens to vote in a local election would be complex, and significant time and work would be required to understand better the policy and legal implications of such an amendment. With the fast-approaching 2018 general local elections, it would not be feasible to undertake the thorough analysis needed to understand fully these implications, which could include broader considerations respecting provincial and federal elections rules.

As voter eligibility rules for local elections are consistent across the province, the City of Vancouver may wish to consider using the Union of BC Municipalities' (UBCM) resolutions process to determine if there is broader local government support to expand voting rights. As you may be aware, resolutions endorsed by the UBCM membership at its annual convention are communicated to the Province of British Columbia for response. The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing is currently not aware of any proposals by another British Columbia local government to expand voting rights to permanent residents in local elections.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson
Minister

pc: Anton Boegman, Chief Electoral Officer, Elections BC

From: "Christine Boyle" s.22(1)

To: "Boyle, Christine" <Christine.Boyle@vancouver.ca>

Date: 11/26/2019 4:19:14 PM

Subject: Fwd: #LostVotes Campaign follow up with the Minister

Attachments: City Councillor Letter to Honorable Selina Robinson.docx

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Ela Esra Günad s.22(1)

Date: Mon, Nov 18, 2019 at 12:10 PM

Subject: #LostVotes Campaign follow up with the Minister

To: Barry Cunningham <Barry.Cunningham@princerupert.ca>, Christine Boyle

s.22(1) Sharmarke Dubow s.22(1)

alubick@portmoody.ca <alubick@portmoody.ca>, alubik@portmoody.ca <alubik@portmoody.ca>,

rgoffinet@kitimat.ca <rgoffinet@kitimat.ca>, nnakagawa@newwestcity.ca

<nnakagawa@newwestcity.ca>

CC: Rodrigo Samayoa s.22(1) Tanvi Bhatia s.22(1)

Hi everyone,

Hope this email finds you well. It was great to see the motion get passed at UBCM to allow permanent residents to vote in municipal elections. This really made possible with your leadership. Thank you again!

Now we are focusing our efforts on the BC Government to act on this request from UBCM. Our campaign team joined forces with BCCLA again to request a meeting with Selina Robinson, we are sending an official letter and following this up with a press release next week. Meanwhile, we are individually sending letters to UBCM President and Executives this week. Our goal is securing a meeting with the Minister in the New Year.

We are hoping that you will continue your support by sending an individual letters from your office to the Minister. I have attached a template letter for you to review, edit and sign as you find necessary. We suggest sending a letter by November 29th before year-end business.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions or require more information.

Looking forward to hearing from you,
Ela

--

Ela Esra Gunad
604-315-0633

Hi everyone,

It was a great webinar which was made possible with all your support. THANKS to EACH of YOU :
BCCLA for weighing into the conversation and backing up the campaign so strongly
Barry, Rob, and Chris for taking a leadership role in leading this campaign from inside the local governments
Tanvi, Rodrigo and Megan for laying the ground work for the conversation and answering questions.

There are so many of us behind the campaign like Nadine, Amy, Sharmarke and campaign team.

I am glad for the opportunity to hear from diverse perspectives and learn about new insights from City of Kitimat.

Amy and Sharmarke have been trying to organize City Councillors who are going to be at UBCM. Barry and Rob, can you help them to connect with Northern City Councillors? I believe each of you in addition to Nadine and Christine will be speaking to the motion. Maybe there could be a time to strategize together before the motion discuss on the floor. Unfortunately, none of us from campaign team will be in that room. We will be here to support you from outside with resources when needed.

Best,
Ela

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 20, 2019, at 4:42 PM, Mark Hosak <mark@bccla.org> wrote:

Hi Everyone,

Thank you to everyone for your work on this campaign. Amy will be sending a follow up email sharing resources and a recording of the webinar with all those who expressed interest very shortly (including those who were not able to attend).

We hope the vote is successful next week! Please let us know how the BCCLA can be involved going forward in supporting this initiative.

Thanks and all the best,

Mark

Mark Hosak

he/him/his

Director of Community Engagement | BC Civil Liberties Association

604-630-9745 | mark@bccla.org

306 – 268 Keefer Street
Vancouver, BC V6A 1X5

Coast Salish Territory - shared lands of x̱m̱əθḵəy̱ɬən (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish) & səliłwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh)

www.bccla.org

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--

Christine Boyle, Unceded Coast Salish Territories, Vancouver BC

"Camiante, no hay camino. El camino se hace al andar." ~Antonio Machado
(Sojourner, there is no road. We make the road by wa king.)

November 12, 2019

Honorable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Citizens' Services
Room 310 Parliament Buildings
Victoria, BC V8V 1X4

Dear Minister,

RE: Allowing Permanent Residents to Vote in Municipal Elections

I am honoured to share the strong support for the resolution on allowing permanent residents to vote in municipal elections.

On September 26, 2019, councillors and mayors from across the province made a historic statement and endorsed Resolution B109 at the Union of B.C. Municipalities. This resolution aimed to strengthen democracy in British Columbia. I am a true-believer in making our cities inclusive and that includes making efforts towards inclusivity in the way we govern. As a City Councillor, I contributed to this conversation by bringing forward and passing a motion in my City in support of the #LostVotes Campaign, composed of citizens and permanent residents and passing the Resolution B109 at the UBCM Convention in September, 2019.

B109 Fresh Voices #LostVotes Campaign

New Westminster

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has the governing authority to implement electoral legislative changes including allowing for Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections; and

And whereas more than 45 countries have granted Permanent Residents some form of voting rights — including seven jurisdictions in the US and 25 European Union countries; and 11 municipalities in Canada are working toward extending local election voting rights to Permanent Residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia make the necessary changes to allow Permanent Residents to vote in local government elections 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 requesting the Province to allow permanent residents the right to vote in local government elections.

See also resolutions C10, C11.

Over the last 150 years, the electoral system in Canada has evolved to give many communities and groups the right to vote, in recognition that these communities and groups should be valued participants in public decision-making processes. Voting rights have been extended to women, Chinese, South Asian, Japanese, and Indigenous peoples. I believe that the right to vote in municipal elections ought to be extended to Permanent Residents. Doing so would ensure that local governments are continuing to strive for greater inclusivity in BC cities.

Today, more than 45 countries have granted permanent residents some form of voting rights – including seven jurisdictions in the US and 25 European Union countries. I am looking forward to the day that our Province will join these countries and put us forward as an inclusive city.

The right to vote is essential to one's feeling of belonging and responsibility in a democratic society. Permanent residents are permanent members of our communities, who live in and contribute to our cities. Giving Permanent Residents the right to vote will not only remove barriers to civic engagement, but also increase the confidence and accountability of our local government. Today, BC has a chance to strengthen our leadership in becoming a true democracy.

I request the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing make the necessary legislative changes to allow permanent residents to vote in municipal elections, and offer myself as a resource if needed.

Sincerely,

NAME

Signature

From: "Minister, MAH MAH:EX" <MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca>

To: "Swanston, Denise" <Denise.Swanston@vancouver.ca>

CC: "Elections BC, Generalmail EBC:EX" <ElectionsBC@elections.bc.ca>

Date: 7/10/2018 11:02:05 AM

Subject: HPE CM: 236722: Expanding Voting Rights to Permanent Residents

Attachments: 236722 Leckovic Signed Final.pdf

pspc 15 - Signed decision letter to Province re Permanent Resident Votin....pdf

Please find attached a signed letter from the Honourable Selina Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

Thank you.

From: Swanston, Denise [mailto:Denise.Swanston@vancouver.ca]

Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2018 4:22 PM

To: Elections BC, Generalmail EBC:EX <ElectionsBC@elections.bc.ca>; Robinson.MLA, Selina <Selina.Robinson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>

Subject: Decision letter from Vancouver City Council regarding Permanent Resident Voting

Good afternoon,

Please find a decision letter from Vancouver City Council's Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting held April 18, 2018, attached for your information.

Thank you,

Denise

Denise Swanston | Meeting Coordinator

City Clerk's Department | City of Vancouver

604-871-6399 | denise.swanston@vancouver.ca



Ref: 236722

Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
City of Vancouver
453 West 12th Ave
Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

Dear Ms. Leckovic:

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Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson
Minister

pc: Anton Boegman, Chief Electoral Officer, Elections BC

VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20

April 24, 2018

Chief Electoral Officer
Elections Canada
30 Victoria Street
Gatineau, Quebec, K1A 0M6

Honourable Selina Robinson
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Chief Electoral Officer and the Honourable Selina Robinson:

RE: Permanent Resident Voting

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Vancouver advocate to the Province of British Columbia to make the necessary changes to allow Permanent Residents to vote in municipal elections in Vancouver.

Yours truly,



Katrina Leckovic

City Clerk

tel: 604.873.7998

City Clerk's Office e-mail: info@vancouver.ca

From: "Nelson, Jessica"
To: "Hagiwara, Rosemary" <rosemary.hagiwara@vancouver.ca>
Date: 9/16/2019 12:38:48 PM
Subject: IETF Material
Attachments: COV_IETF_Campaign finance 2019.pptx
Independent Election Task Force Report June 2019_letter from Chair.pdf

Hi Rosemary,

For distribution to Council:

Please find attached the presentation that was made today, September 16, 2019, by the Independent Election Task Force (IETF). The IETF's two reports to Council can be found at the links below:

- ☐ ***A Review of Campaign Financing by Third Parties and Independent Candidates in Municipal Elections (June 2019):*** <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/independent-election-task-force-report-on-campaign-financing-june-2019.pdf>
- ☐ ***Independent Election Task Force Final Report (January 2017):*** <https://council.vancouver.ca/20170124/documents/rr3AppendixA.pdf>

These reports are available on the City's website under 'Reports' on this page: <https://vancouver.ca/your-government/2018-election.aspx>

Shoni Field was the Chair of the IETF for both reports. Her phone number is s.22(1) and her email is s.22(1)

A review of campaign financing by third party and independent candidates in municipal elections

Independent Election Task Force

Shoni Field

Ela Esra Gunad

Antony Hodgson

Robert Matas

Halena Seiferling

Agenda

1. Who we are and our mandate
2. Importance of campaign finance regulations
3. Current context
4. Guiding values
5. Recommendations
6. What we're asking from you
7. Questions

- In 2016, Vancouver City Council established an Independent Election Task Force.
- Twelve members were selected.
- First report issued in 2017.
- Progress has been made on our recommendations.
- In May 2018, Council voted to reconvene the Independent Elections Task Force.
- Five members were able to participate. We worked from Feb. to June 2019.
- All of our work is as volunteers.

Current Mandate

THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding:

- Appropriate regulation of Third-Party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections;
- The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.

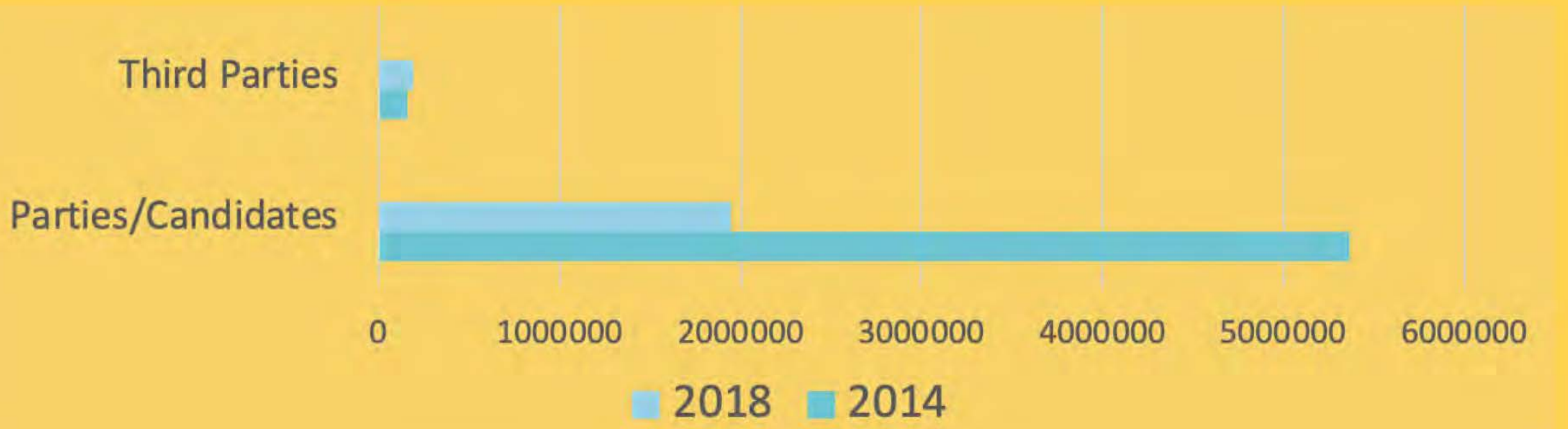
Properly regulated campaign financings is vital to democratic health

- Elected municipal officials make decisions related to the **organizational interests of those who contribute** directly or indirectly to their election campaign.
- Participating in the decision-making process after receiving contributions directly or indirectly **creates a perception of a conflict of interest** that undermines public confidence in the electoral system.
- Surveys have found that a significant number of **voters say they believe campaign contributions have an undue influence** over elected candidates and the perceived links to contributors could distort spending priorities of elected decision makers.
- As voter cynicism grows, **voter engagement declines** (as does its barometer, voter turnout).

Context

- Time for reflection: 2018 was the first municipal election under new provincial campaign finance legislation for municipalities. See page 7 for legislative history
- Momentum: Significant work has been done by city staff and council in Vancouver around engagement and elections over the last few elections. See Election Office report.
- Realism: Campaign finance regulations are never done

Campaign Spending: Candidates/Parties vs Third Parties



Guiding Values



Equality of citizens - No voter should have disproportionate influence in the process.



Accountability - Regulations and processes should enhance and not diminish the elected official's direct accountability to voters at large.



Transparency - Regulations and processes should enhance and not diminish the voter's ability to view, without unreasonable effort, what money is spent and by whom to exert influence over the election outcomes.



Freedom of association - Citizens have a legally recognized right to organize in order to express a collective opinion or to magnify their individual voices.



Diversity of viewpoints - Regulations and processes should encourage and not restrict the introduction of a range of views and experiences into the campaign.



Voter political knowledge - Regulations & processes should increase & not restrict the voters' ability to inform themselves about the candidates & key election issues.



Voter engagement - Regulations and processes should encourage and not suppress voter participation in the process, including but not limited to voting.

Recommendation Themes

- Who can donate and how much?
- How should donations and activities be disclosed?
- When should regulations apply?
- What qualifies as advertising?
- Other

Priority Recommendations

1. Individual donation limits for qualified donors should apply to the cumulative total of donations given to all candidates, elector organizations and third parties.
3. Require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
5. Extend the campaign period to begin immediately after Labour Day.
9. Prohibit use of “own funds” for third parties.

Priority: Recommendation 1

Individual donation limits for qualified donors should apply to the cumulative total of donations given to all candidates, elector organizations & third parties.



Equality of citizens: Prevents wealthier citizens from wielding disproportionate influence by funding the same ideas through multiple channels.



Accountability: Reduces risk of elected officials being beholden to individuals wielding disproportionate influence. Places emphasis back on individual voters.



Transparency: Cumulative totals remove opportunity for some donors to hide disproportionate influence behind multiple third parties (or candidates).



Diversity of viewpoints: Cumulative totals allow more people to participate equally opening potential for greater diversity.



Freedom of association: The public should be able to contribute to the political process through whichever entities best represent their political perspectives, whether those be candidates, political parties or third parties, with no differentiation.



Voter political knowledge: Disproportionate influence can distort knowledge, giving a well-funded minority viewpoint the appearance of being widely held.



Voter engagement: The less disproportionate influence the greater people's perceptions that they can make a difference which can lead to greater engagement.

Priority: Recommendation 3

Require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.



Equality of citizens: A central portal run by Elections BC would ensure all donations used by all candidates comply with the election laws.



Accountability: Accurate, real time disclosure means that candidates can be held accountable for funds financing their campaigns.



Transparency: Voters could see who is influencing an election in real time.



Voter political knowledge: Disproportionate influence can distort knowledge, giving a well-funded minority viewpoint the appearance of being widely held.

Priority: Recommendation 5

Extend the campaign period to begin immediately after Labour Day.



Equality of citizens: Having the campaign rules which limit disproportionate influence apply over a longer period extends the period where all participants are operating on a generally level playing field.



Accountability: Shifts emphasis of public discourse near election time to candidates and the public.



Voter political knowledge: Ensures that voters know who is promoting particular messages



Transparency: Currently third parties have the potential to exert significant influence close to the election without any disclosure requirement. Expanding the period maintains freedom of speech while ensuring influencers are fully visible to the voter.



Voter engagement: This should be watched closely. There is a potential that a longer campaign period may lessen the enthusiasm of campaign volunteers thus diminishing very high-level engagement.

Priority: Recommendation 9

Prohibit use of own funds for third parties.

Provisions should be made for membership-based organizations using funds from 'qualified members' membership dues paid in the year of the election up to the individual limit per member on election advertising activities. If recommendation 1 is accepted, then members would have to “sign over” their limit to their membership organization to spend on their behalf.



Equality of citizens: Restricts disproportionate influence of wealthy third parties.



Accountability: Source of funds more easily identifiable.



Transparency: Source of funds more easily identifiable



Diversity of viewpoints: Encourages all entities to participate provided funds are contributed by qualified donors



Freedom of association: Enables individuals to organize, provided contributions are directly traceable to qualified donors



Voter political knowledge: Increases awareness of influence

The Treatment of Independents vs. Candidates from Elector Organizations

Results suggest that **this bias does not generally outweigh other advantages accruing to those running with an electoral organization.**

However, the situation does encourage candidates to use “slates” or an “endorsement”, rather than elector organizations, which informally **may diminish voter knowledge or transparency around candidate allegiances.**

We feel this is best addressed by **cumulative donation limits** as outlined in Recommendation 1.

Other Recommendations

- **Research into municipal elections**
- **Ongoing Independent Election Task Forces**
 - **Citizens' Assembly**

What We're Asking from You...

1. Strenuously call on the provincial government to improve upon the positive work done in the 2017 amendments to LECFA by implementing campaign finance recommendations from this report.
2. Work with municipal allies so that calls also come from UBCM and not just Vancouver.
3. Continue to make voter engagement a priority.
4. Make voting reform a priority:
 - Follow previous councils' example in calling on the province to introduce the Berger commission recommendations.
 - Push for permissive legislation for B.C. municipalities to select their own electoral systems (like in Ontario).
 - Convene a Citizens' Assembly to design and choose a voting system for Vancouver.

Questions?

1. Individual donation limits for qualified donors should apply to the **cumulative total** of donations given to all candidates, elector organizations and third parties.
2. The **definition of qualified donors**, who can donate to candidates, elector organizations & third parties, should be restricted to eligible voters & permanent residents of the municipality.
3. Require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a **centralized portal** run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
4. A public, easily searchable **online election advertising registry**, run by either Elections BC or the City of Vancouver should be established.
5. Extend the **campaign period** to begin right after Labour Day.
6. Expand the **definition of advertising** to include paid phone banking, paid digital campaigns, polling & paid door-to-door canvassing
7. If a **person/company is paid/compensated** for work, wages, goods or services, whether by the candidate, electoral organization, third-party or a non-registered body in the election, the value must be **disclosed**.
8. The costs of paid staff, or staff who are **reimbursed for their work** by another body & who are working on what is considered election advertising, should be **included in advertising limits**.
9. Prohibit use of **own funds** for third parties.
10. Bring BC legislation up to standards set by **federal legislation** on transparency of third-party engaging in election advertising.
11. Exempt **small third-party entities** who are spending less than the individual contribution limit on election advertising from registration, use of own funds and disclosure requirements.
12. Increase **penalties & associated enforcement** mechanisms to a level where there is a reliable disincentive to contravene regulations, & increase public awareness of both penalties & those that incur them.
13. As elections become more complex and citizens grow more cynical, the IETF recommends that the city of Vancouver continue to invest in **increased voter engagement** when setting budgets for election funding.
14. Vancouver, municipalities in Metro Vancouver and Elections BC are strongly encouraged to actively pursue opportunities to expand the body of **research around municipal elections**.
15. A **new Independent Election Task Force**, comprised of individual engaged citizens, should be convened in the first year after each election.
16. That council move forward with **establishing a Citizens' Assembly** to recommend the preferred proportional system for Vancouver as per our original report.



Independent Election Task Force City of Vancouver

June 3, 2019

Dear Mayor and Council,

It is our pleasure to share with you A Review of Campaign Financing by Third Parties and Independents in Municipal Elections.

On May 1 2018, Council voted to reconvene the Independent Elections Task Force to review the policy questions below.

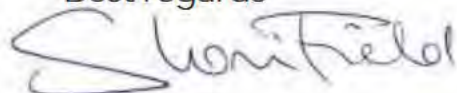
THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding:

- *Appropriate regulation of third-party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections;*
- *The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.*

We were pleased to reconvene to further address campaign financing, a topic critical to democratic health. We were also pleased to review progress on recommendations issued in our initial 2017 report.

We look forward to the opportunity to answer your questions after you have had the opportunity to review our recommendations.

Best regards



Shoni Field
Chair, Independent Election Task Force

s.22(1)