

**From:** "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**Date:** 9/27/2023 4:37:08 PM  
**Subject:** Summary - 2023 UBCM Convention

---

Dear Mayor and Council,

As a follow-up to the 2023 UBCM Annual Convention, our IGR team has produced the following summary of:

- Convention Highlights
- Election of UBCM Board Members
- Resolutions

For those of you that attended the UBCM Convention, please let us know if there are any action items or other follow up required from staff. I will share your feedback with the appropriate team.

#### Convention Highlights:

Premier Eby made a number of funding [announcements](#) on the Convention's closing day including:

1. \$4.75 M to rural firefighter teams across the province
2. \$61 M to support local governments on delivering housing targets
3. \$20 million to the Canadian Cancer Society and Hope Air to help British Columbians in rural and remote communities travel to cancer treatment centres.

The Convention was highly focussed on [issues](#) stemming from climate emergencies, including the impacts of climate change and mitigation attempts by governments. Several convention sessions were devoted to the wildfire season. The toxic drug supply and decriminalization of simple possession dominated discussions on the opening day of the Convention. Local government leaders raised a range of questions on pending changes to the housing system in BC during sessions with Minister Kahlon.

During the fall legislative session, which begins on October 3, UBCM is planning to provide local governments with updates on the Government of BC's direction. UBCM will be monitoring feedback provided by communities as the various pieces of legislation are tabled.

#### Election of UBCM Board Members:

UBCM delegates voted for their new Executive board members at the 2023 Convention. The City of Vancouver has 2 representatives on the UBCM Executive:

- Councillor Kirby-Yung - Vancouver Representative
- Councillor Fry - Vancouver Metro Area Representative.

For a full overview of UBCM's 2023 - 2024 Executive [click here](#).

#### Resolutions:

The [resolutions summary](#) and highlights from the 2023 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention, held in-person in Vancouver from September 18-22, 2023 are now available online.

Of the eight resolutions submitted by the City of Vancouver Council, three were endorsed by voting delegates.

Below are the voting results for the eight resolutions submitted by City of Vancouver Council:

Resolution	Result
------------	--------

1. Maintenance, Repair and Replacement support for Municipally Owned Child Care Facilities	<b>Endorsed</b>
2. Ensuring Accessibility Under the Federal Plastic Straw Ban	<b>Not Endorsed</b>
3. Equitable BC Hydro Pricing in Distribution Energy Policy for Missing Middle Housing	<p><b>Not Admitted for Debate</b></p> <p>This resolution was referred back to sponsor by the UBCM Resolutions Committee with the following comments:</p> <p><i>The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM to communicate its support for Option 3 for BC Hydro’s Distribution Extension Policy Update to BC Hydro, the BC Government, and the BC Utilities Commission, and encourage that option be implemented as quickly as possible.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee notes that BC Hydro is undertaking an engagement process on its distribution extension policy. At a May 2023 workshop, BC Hydro shared three options for amending the current distribution policy, which are highlighted in the following document: <a href="https://www.bchydro.com/content/dam/BCHydro/customer-portal/documents/corporate/regulatory-planningdocuments/regulatory-matters/Distribution-extension-policy-booklet.pdf">https://www.bchydro.com/content/dam/BCHydro/customer-portal/documents/corporate/regulatory-planningdocuments/regulatory-matters/Distribution-extension-policy-booklet.pdf</a></i></p> <p><i>The Committee questions whether the UBCM resolution process is the appropriate avenue through which to communicate support for a specific option that is under consideration in an open engagement process. In its documentation, BC Hydro has indicated that once it completes its engagement process it will be filing an application to the BCUC in Summer 2023. As this process is open for comment and feedback, local governments have the opportunity to provide their input through this mechanism or through the independent regulatory body, the BC Utilities Commission once BC Hydro has filed its application.</i></p>
4. B.C. Affordable, Net Zero, Offsite Wood Housing Industrial Development	<p><b>Not Admitted for Debate</b></p> <p>This resolution was referred to a similar resolution submitted for debate, which was <b>Endorsed (NR89)</b>.</p>
5. Tackling BC's Toxic Drug Health Emergency	<p><b>Endorsed as Amended</b></p> <p>Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the BC Government to work with medical researchers, experts, local service providers, other key stakeholders and people who use drugs to determine a comprehensive, integrated, economically and geographically accessible, and evidence-based provincewide plan to better tackle BC’s toxic drug health emergency, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing safety by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Rapidly delivering access province-wide to resources and services that will improve users’ and public safety, including drug testing, supervised consumption spaces and overdose prevention sites;</li> <li>o Quickly amending the Tobacco and Vapour Products Control Act to enable supervised consumption and other harm reduction facilities to allow inhalation or smoking of drugs where operations can otherwise be demonstrated as WorkSafe compliant; and</li> <li>o Preparing for a review of the current 3-year (January 31, 2023 to January 31, 2026) Provincial decriminalization pilot program and the 4-year (2020-2024) Federal Safer Supply Pilot Project to determine how drug policies and programs can be refined to better support people who use drugs in accessing throughout BC a safer and tested drug supply therefore reducing their exposure to the often fatal dangers of the illicit market.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Increasing economically accessible treatment by supporting the BC Nurses’ Union 2023 convention resolution to “develop a system of mental and addiction treatment and recovery services that are regulated, evidence-based, economically and geographically accessible, and are</li> </ul>

	<p>available when people are looking for it”; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increasing prevention by investing in mental health treatment and life-enhancing youth, family and community well-being programs, including early childhood detection, intervention and ongoing supports for learning differences.</li> </ul>
6. Decreasing Food Waste, Increasing Food Security	<b>Endorsed</b>
7. Increasing BC Hydro's Pricing for Renewable Energy Production	<b>Endorsed</b>
8. A New Fiscal Framework for Sustainable and Predictable Local Government Funding	<p><b>Not Admitted for Debate</b></p> <p>This resolution was referred to UBCM Executive by the UBCM Resolutions Committee with the following comments:</p> <p><i>The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the joint provincial-UBCM Local Government Financial Review Working Group explore developing a multiyear funding framework for local governments similar to Quebec’s 2020-2024 Partnership: Building Even Stronger Municipalities and Regions framework whereby the Province would transfer an amount corresponding 172 UBCM 2023 Resolutions Book to the growth in revenues it derives from one point of the provincial sales tax (PST) to local governments as a sustainable, predictable, and reliable source of funding.</i></p> <p><i>However, the Committee notes that that membership has supported resolutions asking for local government to receive a share of other taxation revenues, including:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cannabis Taxation Revenue (2022-NR30, 2022-EB32, 2020-SR2, 2019-A2, 2018-SR1, 2017-SR1, 2016-A3);</li> <li>• Provincial Sales Tax (2020-EB34, 2012-B11);</li> <li>• Fuel Tax (2021-EB20, 2013-B99, 2012-B19, 2010-B24, 2007-B21, 2007-A5, 2005-B20, 2003-B60, 2003-B75, 2003-B65);</li> <li>• Liquor Tax (2019-B31, 2014-B60, 2011-B26, 2004-B111); and</li> <li>• Property Transfer Tax (2021-EB20, 2019-B30, 2017-B17, 2012-B18, 2011-B67, 2008-A3, 2007-B23, 2007-B109, 2006-B23, 2005-B87, 2004-A8).</li> </ul> <p><i>The Resolutions Committee further notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to create revenue sharing programs as a way of establishing new revenue sources for local governments (2015-B82, 2011-B28, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2010-B24, 2010-B76, 2009-B30, 2009-LR9, 2008-B119, 2006-B24, 2005-B18, 2005-B20, 2005-B106, 2004-A6, 2004-A8, 2004-B11, 2004-B111).</i></p> <p><i>The Committee is recommending that this resolution be referred to the UBCM Executive, as this is the most appropriate body to make decisions regarding the potential use of UBCM resources.</i></p>

Best,  
Paul

**Paul Mochrie (he/him)**  
City Manager  
City of Vancouver  
[paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca](mailto:paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca)

