

From: **"Mochrie, Paul"**

To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**

Date: 2024-04-26 4:46:09 PM

Subject: LMLGA 2024 Annual Convention (May 1-3) - Briefing Package for Mayor and Council

Attachments: 2024 LMLGA AGM - Package for CoV Elected Officials (April 26, 2024).pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

In advance of the 2024 LMLGA Annual Convention taking place May 1-3 in Whistler, staff have prepared a convention briefing package for you.

The briefing packages includes:

1. LMLGA Program
2. City of Vancouver Key Policy Priorities
3. Cabinet Minister Profiles
4. City of Vancouver Staff Comments on Resolutions up for Debate

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱məθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Sḵwx̱wú7mesh (Squamish), and səliwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.



**2024 LMLGA AGM
PACKAGE FOR
VANCOUVER CITY COUNCIL**



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LOWER MAINLAND

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

2024 Conference Program *Tackling the Big Issues*

The Westin Resort & Spa Whistler
4090 Whistler Way, Whistler, BC

Conference Program

Wednesday May 1

Time	Item	Location
1:00 pm – 7:00 pm	Registration opens <i>Registration & Delegate Kit sponsored by BC Hydro</i> <i>Name badges sponsored by BCLC</i> <i>Conference App sponsored by ICBC</i>	Emerald Foyer in front of Ballroom (lower floor of Westin)
3:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Pre-Conference Tours Tour of Whistler’s Tourism Facilities Join us for a walking tour through Whistler Village for a Whistler Tourism Facilities Tour to see the attractions that help make Whistler an award winning all-season resort. <i>Sponsored by: CN</i>	Meet outside front entrance of Westin Whistler by valet station at 2:45 pm
7:00 pm	Official Opening Welcome – Councillor Patricia Ross, Lower Mainland LGA President National Anthem –Whistler Children’s Choir First Nations Welcome-Squamish Lil’wat Cultural Centre Cultural Ambassadors Host Community Welcome – Mayor Jack Crompton, Resort Municipality of Whistler Opening Keynote: Khelsilem, Council Chairperson of Squamish Nation <i>Sponsored by: CUPE BC</i>	Emerald A/B
To follow	Welcome Reception & Networking Event <i>Sponsored by: Vancouver Fraser Port Authority</i>	Emerald C

Thursday, May 2

Time	Item	Location
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast <i>Sponsored by: E-Comm 9-1-1</i>	Emerald A/B/C
8:30 am- 8:35 am	Session: Public Safety Challenges in Public Spaces Description: This session is informed by engagement with over 61 local governments across BC through the provincial project, Local Leadership United (LLU). Delivered through partnership between the Community Action Initiative (CAI) and the BC Centre for Disease Control, LLU supports local governments with challenges related to substance use and community overdose response. With a focus on public consumption and public safety, this session will equip elected officials with practical tools, examples from other communities and resources to support community health as it relates to these complex issues. Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Councillor Nadine Nakagawa, City of New Westminster - Mayor Nathan Pachal, Langley City - Fire Chief Larry Thomas, City of Surrey - Inspector Kevin Murray, Abbotsford Police Department - Michael Grandia, Safe & Healthy Community Consultant Session Moderator: Andrea Derban, Clinical Lead, Episodic Overdose Prevention, Community Action Initiative	Emerald A
10:05 am-10:25 am	Coffee Break	Emerald Foyer
10:25 am to 10:55 am	Q & A Session with the Leader of the BC Green Party, Sonia Furstenau	Emerald A/B
10:55 am -12:00 pm	Session: The Future of Transportation in the Lower Mainland Description: This panel will discuss what the future of transportation looks like in the Lower Mainland. Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Kevin Quinn, Chief Executive Officer, TransLink - Reg Bawa, Assistant Deputy Minister, Policy, Programs and Partnerships Division, Ministry of Transportation - Chris Fudge, Director, Government Relations, BC Transit Session Moderator: Mayor Armand Hurford, SLRD rep on the Lower Mainland LGA Board and Mayor of the District of Squamish	Emerald A/B
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	The Power of Partnerships: BC Builds Program Description: Rising to meet the challenge of building homes that middle income households can afford requires a collaborative effort.	Emerald A/B

	<p>The province’s new BC Builds program works in partnership with non-profits, local governments, First Nations, and the construction sector to identify available underused land, provide low-cost financing and funding, and quickly deliver projects that create more rental homes and help bring rents more in line with what middle income households earn. Lisa Helps will unpack how this initiative is designed to deliver through current obstacles to developing rental housing – inflation, the cost of land, the cost of construction, and high interest rates – through the power of partnerships across the sector. Work is already underway to build thousands of rental homes quickly so middle-income households and families can have access to rental housing and the housing stability required for communities and economies across B.C. to flourish.</p> <p>Presenter: Lisa Helps, Executive Lead, BC Builds Project Origination</p>	
12:30 pm-1:30 pm	<p>Delegates Lunch</p> <p>Sponsored by: National Police Federation</p>	Emerald A/B/C
1:30 pm	<p>Annual General Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -President’s Report -Minutes of the 2023 AGM -Nominating Report -2023 Financial Statements -2024 Budget <p><i>Thursday Afternoon Sessions sponsored by the BC Council of Forest Industries</i></p>	Emerald A/B
To follow until 4:30 pm	Resolutions Session	Emerald A/B
2:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Afternoon coffee station	Emerald Foyer
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Elections (if necessary)	Emerald Foyer
6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	<p>Pre-Banquet Reception</p> <p><i>Sponsored by: Rogers Communications</i></p>	Emerald C
7:30 pm – 8:45 pm	<p>Annual Banquet</p> <p><i>Sponsored by: Fortis BC</i></p> <p><i>Wine Co-Sponsored by: Municipal Insurance Association of BC and Young Anderson</i></p>	Emerald A/B/C
8:45 pm -10:30 pm	Entertainment: Ruckus Deluxe Band	Emerald A/B

	Ruckus Deluxe is based in Whistler and features Cirque du Soleil lead singer Chad Oliver on acoustic guitar and GRAMMY nominated violinist Ian Cameron on fiddle, electric guitar and mandolin. They perform over 200 dates a year and cover a massive range of rock, pop and country hits along with their award-winning originals.	
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Friday, May 3

Time	Item	Location
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast <i>Sponsored by: Enbridge</i>	Emerald A/B/C
8:30 am	Start of Day Announcements <i>Friday Morning Sessions sponsored by the Municipal Finance Authority</i>	Emerald A/B
8:30 am- 9:00 am	Q & A Session with the Leader of the Opposition, BC United, Kevin Falcon	Emerald A/B
9:00 am – 10:00 am	Indigenous Insights into UNDRIP Implementation Panelists: - Jordan Point, Councillor Musqueam Indian Band - Wilson Williams: Squamish Nation General Councillor and Spokesperson - Rena Soutar, Manager of Decolonization, Arts and Culture at Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation Session Moderator: Theresa Fresco, Senior Manager, Indigenous Partnerships and Initiatives, Fraser Basin Council	Emerald A/B
10:00 am - 10:15 am	Morning Coffee Station	Emerald Foyer
10:15 am- 10:30 am	UBCM Address Councillor Trish Mandewo, UBCM President	Emerald A/B
10:30 am -11:00 am	Q & A Session with Minister of Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Anne Kang	Emerald A/B
11:00 am -12:00 pm	Closing Keynote: Keith Baldry and Vaughn Palmer Keith Baldrey is highly regarded as one of BC’s best known political commentators. He currently serves as the chief political correspondent and legislative bureau chief for Global BC where he provides insightful coverage and analysis on the latest developments in BC’s political landscape. Emerald A/B 5 Vaughn Palmer’s hard-hitting columns have seen him cover the feats and follies of BC’s premiers for almost 40 years. An award-winning journalist, Palmer is the Vancouver Sun’s	Emerald A/B

	<p>provincial political columnist, based in Victoria. Palmer is a regular commentator on radio station CKNW in Vancouver.</p> <p><i>Sponsored by: Lidstone & Company</i></p>	
<p>12:00 pm – 12:15 pm</p>	<p>Address from the Incoming President</p> <p>Wrap Up & Door Prizes Announced</p> <p>Address from the Outgoing President</p>	<p>Emerald A/B</p>



Section 1: City of Vancouver – Partnership Opportunities
and Key Policy Priorities

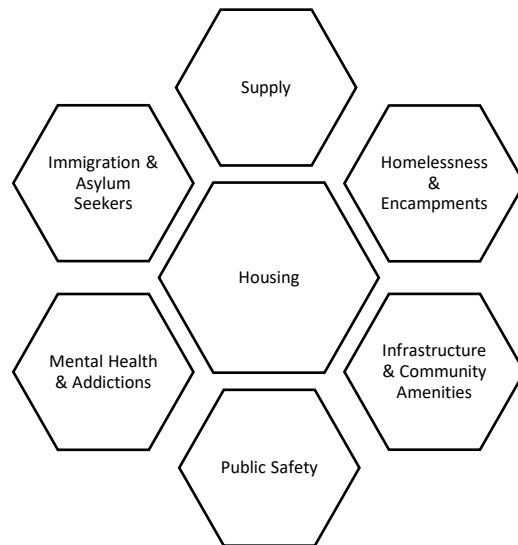


GOVERNMENT OF BC AND CITY OF VANCOUVER PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Government of BC and the City of Vancouver share many priorities. There are various opportunities to collaborate and partner together to achieve tangible results:

- **Affordable & Accessible Housing:** Accelerate the housing supply by supporting legislative changes and increase funding for social and supportive housing.
- **Infrastructure & Growth:** Modernize the municipal fiscal framework to enable municipalities to address challenges related to population growth, urbanization and increased demand on public services.
- **Safe & Healthy Communities:** Support vulnerable populations with investments to build an inclusive society.
- **Climate Change & Adaptation:** Invest in active transportation and charging infrastructure for electric vehicles.

The City of Vancouver urges the Government of BC to collaborate with municipalities and other partners to focus on policies and funding programs that integrate and address key issues related to housing and related growth-enabling infrastructure.



City of Vancouver Key Policy Priorities

1. Modernize the municipal funding framework to enable housing delivery

Vancouver requests the Government of BC establish a permanent, predictable funding program for housing-related infrastructure and facilities, such as water, sewer, childcare, and parks, to support growth, similar to the Growing Communities Fund.

- Vancouver is a frontrunner in achieving ambitious housing goals and focused on delivering the appropriate housing supply. For instance, the Broadway Plan uses provincial and federal investments in new transit to create substantial new residential and commercial density along the Broadway Corridor, aiming for over 30,000 homes by 2050.
- However, the transition to rental and non-market housing, along with rising land and construction costs and increasing interest rates, makes it difficult to fund infrastructure and amenities through the "growth pays for growth" approach, rendering the delivery of the right housing supply financially unsustainable.
- Based on expected growth, the City estimates that new and expanded infrastructure and amenity needs over the next 10 years to be in the range of \$8 to 10B.

2. Pursue a regional approach to homelessness, mental health and affordable housing

Vancouver urges the Government of BC partner with municipalities and the federal government to develop integrated policies and funding programs to address homelessness, mental health and affordable housing at the regional level.

- The 2023 Metro Vancouver homeless count revealed a 20% increase in the homeless population from 2020. For the first time, every municipality in the Metro Vancouver area saw an increase in the homeless population. It further revealed that 50% (2420) of the roughly 4,800 homeless individuals in the Metro Vancouver area were located in Vancouver. Additionally, 22% of those surveyed were already homeless before they arrived in Vancouver – this equates to almost 600 people, which puts significant pressures on services.
- With only 25% of the overall population of the Metro Vancouver region, the City of Vancouver is home to over 75% of the region's operating shelter spaces, over 77% of the region's supportive housing units, and over 50% of the region's social housing.
- Vancouver leads the region in terms of construction of rental units with 51% of the regional rental starts over the last 5 years.

3. Adjust Provincial funding contributions towards housing and childcare to address significant cost escalation faced by municipalities

Vancouver encourages the Government of BC to increase funding for housing and childcare units to account for the significant rise in costs and the unique challenges that result in higher costs in urban areas like Vancouver.

- Vancouver, like many major urban centers, faces elevated construction and operational costs, impacting the delivery of childcare and housing under the current funding framework.
- Over the past fifty years, in collaboration with the BC Government, the City of Vancouver has helped establish over 4,500 licensed childcare spaces, offering crucial early learning and care services to city residents.
- The City of Vancouver is striving to align its childcare space policies and design guidelines with those of the Province.



Section 2: B.C. Minister Profiles





Biography

- Elected in 2013 and re-elected in 2017 and 2020.
- MLA for Vancouver-Point Grey.
- Previous Portfolios:
 - Minister of Housing
 - Attorney General
- Before entering politics, the Premier was a lawyer who started his career working in the DTES.
- Served as adjunct professor of law at UBC, president of the HIV/AIDS Legal Network and served the Foundation's of Health and Social Development Committee.
- 2009 – 2013: Executive Director of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$49 M of Growing Communities Funding to support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.
- \$150 M in Provincial funding to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services at:
 - 58 West Hastings St., 1015 East Hastings St., and Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

Homelessness and the Downtown Eastside (DTES)

- The City is keen for the Province to share details of its *DTES Action Plan* and anticipates further collaboration to advance efforts in the DTES.
- Collaborate with the City and federal government to replace inadequate SROs in the DTES to address the housing crisis effectively.
- Review and adjust funding programs to reflect economic challenges faced by large cities like Vancouver, considering higher construction and operating costs, climate adaptation, and increased subsidies due to high rents.

UBCx

- Deliver on existing commitment to fund 40% of the development of the business case for UBCx and extend that commitment to the project construction costs.
- The City is eager to see provincial support for the Millennium Line UBC Extension (UBCx) in upcoming provincial election campaigns. UBCx benefits the entire region, including:
 - Unlocking economic potential for a regionally important corridor,
 - Creation of significant employment and housing opportunities for people of all incomes;
 - Reconciliation with MST; and
 - Providing a wide range of housing options along the regional SkyTrain system.

Minister of Agriculture and Food – Honourable Pam Alexis



Biography

- Elected in 2020
- MLA for Abbotsford-Mission
- Served as a school trustee from 2005-2011.
- Served as Mission City Councillor from 2014-2018.
- Current Cabinet Committees:
 - Committee on Economy
- From 2014-2020, she sat on the Abbotsford-Mission Joint Shared Services Committee and the Fraser Valley Regional District executive committee.
- Before entering politics the Minister was on the Mission Chamber of Commerce Board and VP of the BC Winter Games from 2012-15.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$49 M of Growing Communities Funding to support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.
- \$150 M in Provincial funding to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings St.
 - \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 East Hastings St.
 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

Climate Change

- The City has set a bold target to cut carbon pollution in half by 2030, and to be carbon neutral before 2050.
- Support for green rainwater infrastructure and the urban forest by providing \$10 M to fund green rainwater infrastructure and new street trees in Vancouver.
- Urban forests and natural areas are the most effective natural carbon sequestration assets in the city and offer significant unrealized potential for combating climate change.

At orney General – Honourable Niki Sharma



Biography

- Elected in 2020
- MLA for Vancouver-Hastings.
- Previous Portfolio: Parliamentary Secretary for Community Development and Non-Profits
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Legislative Review Committee
- The Minister practiced law with a focus on representing Indigenous people, including residential school survivors.
- Ms. Sharma was elected to the board of VanCity Credit Union serving as vice-chair.
- Served as Chair of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation.

Acknowledgements

- The City is grateful for the following Provincial government commitments:
 - Provisional funding for 525 Powell St.
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units at 58 W. Hastings St.
 - \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 E. Hastings St.
 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity will be built at Slocan St. and 21st Ave.

Discussion Points

Affordable Housing

- Request the Province to increase funding in support of low-income and social housing, specifically:
 - Invest up to \$400 M (40% of \$1 B) over 10 years in partnership with partners to end reliance on Single Room Occupancy Hotels as low-income housing by redeveloping, renovating or replacing these buildings with shelter-rate social housing in and outside the DTES.
- Commit early to fund priority social housing projects serving at-risk and systemically marginalized populations (e.g. Women’s Legacy Project, 3475 E Hastings St)

Opioid Crisis and Mental Health

- Vancouver requests that the Government of BC partner to create a 24-hour respite facility in the DTES that will provide support to people experiencing intoxication and/or mental episodes that don’t require hospitalization.
- That the provincial government invest funding for dedicated healing and wellness spaces for Indigenous Peoples.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Children and Family Development – Honourable Mitzi Dean



Biography

- Elected: 2017 and re-elected in 2020
- MLA for Esquimalt-Metchosin
- Previous Portfolios: served as Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity
- Current Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Cabinet Committee on Social Initiatives
 - Cabinet Working Group on Mental Health, Addictions and Homelessness
- Before moving to Victoria in 2005, worked for the UK's National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

Acknowledgements

- The City is grateful for the following Provincial government commitments:
 - Provisional funding for 525 Powell St.
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units at 58 W. Hastings St.
 - \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 E. Hastings St.
 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity will be built at Slocan St. and 21st Ave.

Discussion Points

- The City is seeking \$12.6 M in funding to complete the new Indigenous Centre that will include a childcare center, and which will replace the Urban Native Youth Centre's current building.

Minister of Citizens' Services – Honourable Lisa Beare



Biography

- Elected: 2017 and re-elected 2020
- MLA for Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
- Previous Portfolios: Deputy House Leader, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Current Cabinet Committees:
 - Legislative Review Committee
 - Cabinet Committee on Economy
- Elected as a member of the local school board in 2014, passionate about education access and literacy.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$49 M of Growing Communities Funding to support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.
- \$150 M in Provincial funding to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
- \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings St.
- \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 East Hastings St.
- \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

- N/A

Minister of Education and Childcare – Honourable Rachna Singh



Biography

- Elected: 2017 and re-elected 2020
- MLA for Surrey-Green Timbers
- Previous portfolios: Parliamentary Secretary for Anti-Racism Initiatives.
- Ms. Singh was previously the convener of the Special Committee to Appoint a Police Complaint Commissioner, as well as the Special Committee to Appoint a Conflict of Interest Commissioner.
- Ms. Singh moved to Canada in 2001 and before entering politics worked as a drug and alcohol counsellor, support worker for women facing domestic violence and community activist.

Acknowledgements

The City expresses gratitude for the following Provincial government commitments:

- Revision to the New Spaces Fund, which removed the \$40 K per space funding cap for childcare;
- Budget 2024 decision to raise the funding cap for each childcare space to \$100 K; and
- April 5, 2024, announcement to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village, which includes:
 - \$150 M allocated for the construction of the Olympic Village school.
 - Capacity for 630 students by 2029.

Discussion Points

- Provide \$12.6 M in funding to complete the new Indigenous Centre that will include a childcare center, and which will replace the Urban Native Youth Centre's current building.
- A new consistent and reliable Provincial funding stream is needed to maintain municipally owned childcare facilities, and to replace them at the end of their life.

Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness – Honourable Bowinn Ma



Biography

- Elected: in 2017 and re-elected in 2020
- MLA for North Vancouver-Lonsdale
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of Education, Minister of State for Infrastructure
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Social Initiatives
- Prior to being elected, Minister Ma managed terminal expansion and redevelopment projects at the Vancouver International Airport.
- Has served as parliamentary secretary for Translink and chair of the Select Committee on Crown Corporations.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$49 M of Growing Communities Funding to support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings St.
 - \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 East Hastings St.
 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

- Secure \$100 M over four years to rehabilitate aging amenities in a financially sustainable and resilient manner.
- The City calls on the Province to speed up the implementation of recommendations from the Ombudsperson of BC's "Special Report 54, Fairness in a Changing Climate." The City specifically seeks swift action on accepted recommendations, including:
 - Enhancing support for ESS teams with timely surge support, professional mental health care, and a reliable communication hub for evacuees;
 - Ensuring accessible and culturally safe local reception centres, and providing flexible assistance; and
 - Developing a people-centered strategy for long-term displacement, including offering over 72 hours of emergency housing to prevent homelessness.

***Note: urban areas in the province see a high number of Emergency Support Service (ESS) events and have many of the same challenges as communities that have been impacted by wildfire events. For this reason, the City supports recommendations made in the Ombudsperson's report even though it is geared toward climate related events.*

Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation – Honourable Josie Osborne



Biography

- Elected: 2020
- MLA for Mid Island-Pacific Rim
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of Municipal Affairs, Minister for Land, Water and Resource Stewardship.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Economy
- Mayor of Tofino from 2013-2020 and served as Chair and Vice-Chair for the Alberni Clay.
- Chaired the Tofino Housing Corporation, Chair of the Board for the Island Coastal Economic Trust.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$500,000 Provincial grant to add protected bike lanes connecting Drake Street to Pacific Boulevard through the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants program.

Discussion Points

- Provide additional funding to help the City align with TransLink and Metro Vancouver's Driving Down Emissions project, which is determining the preferred policy pathway to reduce emissions from light duty vehicles (LDVs) by 65% by 2030.
- The City encourages the Province to support changes to the Motor Vehicle Act and safety for vulnerable modes of transportation (walking / cycling).

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy – Honourable George Heyman



Biography

- Elected in 2013 and re-elected in 2017 and 2020.
- MLA for Vancouver-Fairview
- Previous Portfolio: has been serving in current portfolio since 2017.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Economy
- Served as the Executive Director of Sierra Club of BC and three terms as president of the BC Government and Service Employees' Union.
- SFU faculty member.
- Minister Heyman will not be seeking re-election in the 2024 Provincial election.

Acknowledgements

- The City is grateful for the recent \$500,000 Provincial grant to add protected bike lanes connecting Drake Street to Pacific Boulevard through the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants program.

Discussion Points

- Support for green rainwater infrastructure and the urban forest:
 - Provide \$10 M to fund green rainwater infrastructure and new street trees in Vancouver.
- Urban forests and natural areas are the most effective natural carbon sequestration assets in the city and offer significant unrealized potential for combating climate change.

Transportation

- Deliver on existing commitment to fund 40% of the development of the business case for UBCx and extend that commitment to the project construction costs.
- The City is eager to see provincial support for the Millenium Line UBC Extension (UBCx) in upcoming provincial election campaigns. UBCx benefits the entire region, including:
 - Unlocking economic potential for a regionally important corridor,
 - Creation of significant employment and housing opportunities for people of all incomes;
 - Reconciliation with MST; and
 - Providing a wide range of housing options along the regional SkyTrain system.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Finance – Honourable Katrine Conroy



Biography

- Elected in 2005 and re-elected in 2009, 2013, 2017, 2020
- MLA for West Kootenays
- Previous Portfolio: Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Children and Family Development
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Economy
- Executive Director of Kootenay Family Place. Founding member of the Community Social Services Employers Association.
- Co-chair of the Castlegar and District Social Planning Council.

Acknowledgements

The City was pleased to see the following included in the 2024 BC Budget:

- \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings Street project in Vancouver.
- \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 East Hastings Street in Vancouver.
- \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity that will be built at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.
- \$4.2 B to build, renovate and seismically upgrade schools and playgrounds over the next three years as part of provincial Capital Plan.
- More rebates for heat pumps to households with low and middle incomes and increasing funding for electric vehicle public charging stations.

Discussion Points

- The City submitted three major recommendations in its 2024 Pre-Budget Submission:
 1. Modernize the municipal funding framework to enable housing delivery;
 2. Pursue a regional approach to mental health and affordable housing; and
 3. Adjust Provincial funding contributions towards housing and childcare to address significant cost escalation faced by municipalities.
- The CoV is eager to see provincial support for the Millenium Line UBC Extension (UBCx) in upcoming provincial election campaigns.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Forests – Honourable Bruce Ralston



Biography

- Elected: 2005 and re-elected in 2009, 2013, 2017, 2022.
- MLA for Surrey-Whalley.
- Previous Portfolio: Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation.
- Cabinet Committees
 - Treasury Board
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Economy
- Ran his own lawn firm in Surrey.
- Served on Surrey City Council from 1988 to 1993.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$49 M of Growing Communities Funding to support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.
- \$150 M in Provincial funding to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings St.
 - \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 East Hastings St.
 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Health – Adrian Dix



Biography

- Elected: 2005 and re-elected in 2009, 2013, 2017 and 2020.
- MLA for Vancouver-Kingsway.
- Previous Portfolio: has served as Minister of health since 2020.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Social Initiatives
- Executive Director for the B.C.-Yukon Branch of Canadian Parents for French, a non-profit organization promoting language education.
- Chief of Staff to former B.C. Premier Glen Clark from 1996-1999.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

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- \$150 M in Provincial funding to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
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 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

- Request the Province to increase invest in and support low-income and social housing, specifically:
 - \$31 M for Women’s Legacy Project
 - \$31 M for 3475 E Hastings
 - \$25.5 M for 1700 E Hastings
- Work with the City and the federal government to replace the SROs in the DTES that are inadequate to address the current social housing crises, and for those that are suffering with mental health and addictions.
- Continue to work collaboratively with the City to prevent more drug poisoning and overdose deaths and increase the safe supply for those struggling with addictions.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Housing – Honourable Ravi Kahlon



Biography

- Elected: 2017 and re-elected in 2020
- MLA for Delta North
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Legislative Review Committee
 - Economy
 - Caucus Committee on Economy
- Two-time field hockey Olympian for Team Canada and inducted into the Delta Sports Hall of Fame
- Board volunteer for Delta Parks and Recreation Committee and Men's High-Performance Field Hockey BC.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- Provincial provisional funding for 525 Powell St, contributing to low-income and social housing in Vancouver.
- Vancouver welcomes the Government of BC's bold actions to incentivize new housing supply, including the creation of the innovative Growing Communities Fund in February 2023 to support the infrastructure needed for growing communities.
- The City supports provincial legislative changes under the Housing Supply Act and looks forward to ongoing collaboration with provincial government staff to ensure these changes continue to contribute to the appropriate housing supply in the region.

Discussion Points

Homelessness and the Downtown Eastside (DTES)

- The City is keen for the Province to share details of its *DTES Action Plan* and anticipates further collaboration to advance efforts in the DTES.
- Collaborate with the City and federal government to replace inadequate SROs in the DTES to address the housing crisis effectively.
- Review and adjust funding programs to reflect economic challenges faced by large cities like Vancouver, considering higher construction and operating costs, climate adaptation, and increased subsidies due to high rents.

Asylum Seekers Accessing the Shelter System

- The City urges the Government of BC to develop, coordinate and fund a regional response that serves asylum seekers appropriately both in new, dedicated emergency shelters, and longer-term housing solutions before housing, shelters and settlement and social services are overwhelmed.

Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation – Honourable Murray Rankin



Biography

- Elected: 2020
- MLA for Oak Bay-Gordon Head
- Previous Portfolio: Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Legislative Review Committee
- A lawyer with expertise in environmental, Indigenous, and public law
- Elected and served as the Member of Parliament for Victoria from 2012 until 2019 for the federal NDP.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$151 M announced in Budget 2024 to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 E. Hastings St.
- Recently announced funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings St.
 - \$151 M to develop 248 units of Indigenous focused social housing and community services at 1015 East Hastings St.
 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

- Request for the Province to increase capacity funding for engagement with local government to advance Reconciliation, specifically:
 - Provide \$255,000 annually to cost-match the capacity funding the City is providing to Musqueam Indian Band, Squamish Nation and Tsleil-Waututh Nation (\$85,000 per Nation per year).
- Invest funding for dedicated healing and wellness spaces for Indigenous Peoples.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Jobs, Economic Development and Innovation – Honourable Brenda Bailey



Biography

- Elected: 2020
- MLA for Vancouver-False Creek
- Previous Portfolio: Parliamentary Secretary for Technology and Innovation.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Economy
 - Caucus Committee on Economy
- Co-founder of Canada’s first women-owned and operated video game studio
- Served as head of DigiBC an interactive and creative digital marketing association.
- Degrees in political science and social work and advanced studies in business and law.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$49 M of Growing Communities Funding to support the delivery of infrastructure projects necessary to enable community growth.
- \$150 M in Provincial funding to fund an elementary school in Olympic Village.
- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
 - \$158 M to develop 231 supportive housing units as part of the 58 West Hastings St.
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 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

- Vancouver’s submission to the 2024 BC Budget Consultation supports BC’s economic recovery and the creation of jobs in areas of construction, development, housing, recreation, green jobs, public safety and security, etc.

Minister of Labour – Honourable Harry Bains



Biography

- Elected: 2005 and re-elected in 2009, 2013, 2017, 2020
- MLA for Surry Newton
- Previous Portfolio: N/A
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Economy
 - Social Initiatives
- Served on the Kwantlen University College Board of Governors from 1993-99.
- Volunteer for Habitat for Humanity
- Elected officer for Steelworkers-IWA Canada Local 2171 for more than 15 years.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

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- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
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Discussion Points

- N/A

Minister of Mental Health and Addiction – Honourable Jennifer Whiteside



Biography

- Elected: 2020
- MLA for New Westminster
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of Education and Childcare.
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Social Initiatives
 - Government Caucus Committee on Social Initiatives
- Chief spokesperson and lead negotiator for the Hospital Employees' Union.
- Worked for community organizations and labour unions at the provincial and national levels. Community organizer with ACORN.

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$117M for 2,200+ mental health and substance use treatment beds.
- \$49M to enhance harm reduction.
- \$39M for Peer Assisted Care Teams and Mobile Crisis Response.
- \$10M for treatment and recovery programs.
- Provincial Capital plan includes expansion of Red Fish Healing Model.
- New mental health and addictions care for youth at Covenant House.
- Road to Recovery initiative at St. Paul's Hospital, supporting detox and recovery.
- Province-wide complex-care housing, including dedicated units in Vancouver.

Discussion Points:

The City strongly advocates for a regional approach led by the Provincial government to comprehensively address homelessness, encompassing housing and service needs for those at risk and the underhoused.

- Despite hosting 75% of the housing and services in the Metro Vancouver region, Vancouver accounts for only 25% of the region's total population.
- There is an urgent need to reform the SRO system and provide appropriate housing solutions.
- Stable and predictable funding is essential to manage the public realm impacts of homelessness, which has outpaced the availability of shelter beds and supportive services.
- Support from senior levels of government is crucial to maintain public spaces, including facilities such as washroom trailers, street cleaning, storage options for belongings of the homeless and underhoused, and community navigator/outreach services.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Municipal Affairs – Honourable Anne Kang



Biography

- Elected: 2017 and re-elected in 2020
- MLA for Burnaby-Deer Lake
- Previous Portfolios: Minister of Advanced Education and Skills Training, Minister of Citizens' Services and Parliamentary Secretary for Seniors and Multi-culturalism
- Current Cabinet Committees:
 - Legislative Review Committee
 - Appointment Orders Committee
 - Cabinet Committee on Social Initiatives
- Three-term Burnaby City Councillor before becoming an MLA and has been a leader for organizations that build community and support vulnerable people.

Acknowledgements

- Vancouver commends the Province for the \$1 B Growing Communities Fund, supporting local governments in delivering essential infrastructure for community growth.
- The City values the collaborative efforts of City and MUNI staff regarding the City's motion to dissolve Vancouver's Park Board.
- The City appreciates the provincial government's work to advance amendments to the Vancouver Charter, including:
 - Bill 11: Recognizing First Nations for exemptions from the City's development cost levy and amenity cost charge for social housing on First Nations-owned land.
 - Bill 18: Aligning the Vancouver Charter with rules under the Local Government Act, requiring Vancouver to adopt an ODP and streamlining approval processes.
 - Bill 4: Expediting administrative processes for dog licensing and landscaping in Vancouver.

Discussion Points

Infrastructure Funding:

- With a 2022 asset replacement value of \$34 B, Vancouver requires around \$800 M annually for asset maintenance. The 2023-26 Capital Plan's annual asset renewal funding of ~\$475 M falls short, highlighting the need for a long-term funding strategy to tackle the growing infrastructure deficit.

Asylum Seekers Accessing the Shelter System

- The City urges the Government of BC to develop, coordinate and fund a regional response that serves asylum seekers appropriately both in new, dedicated emergency shelters, and longer-term housing solutions before housing, shelters and settlement and social services are overwhelmed.

Municipal Finance Reform:

- The City advocates for a modern funding system to replace the outdated property tax for cities to address long-term capital and operating needs.

Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills – Honourable Lisa Beare



Biography

- Elected: 2017 and re-elected 2020
- MLA for Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows
- Previous Portfolios: Deputy House Leader, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture
- Current Cabinet Committees:
 1. Legislative Review Committee
 2. Cabinet Committee on Economy
- Elected as a member of the local school board in 2014, passionate about education access and literacy

Acknowledgements

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 - \$267 M for a new Centre for Children and Youth Living with Health Complexity at Slocan Street and 21st Avenue.

Discussion Points

- The City is eager to see provincial support for the Millenium Line UBC Extension (UBCx) in upcoming provincial election campaigns. UBCx benefits the entire region, including:
 - Unlocking economic potential for a regionally important corridor;
 - Linking UBC with the rest of the region;
 - Creation of significant employment and housing opportunities for people of all incomes;
 - Reconciliation with MST; and
 - Providing a wide range of housing options along the regional SkyTrain system.
- There is a need for qualified trades technicians to work in this capacity. Vancouver is well poised to support expanded education in this capacity through practical work and education opportunities.
- Increase investment is needed in technical schools to enable increased number of trades students in existing trades programs relevant to climate change/adaptation (such as HVAC trades, plumbers, carpenters, etc) as these are often over subscribed.

Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General – Honourable Mike Farnworth



Biography

- Elected: 1991 and re-elected in 1996, 2005, 2009, 2013, 2017, 2020
- MLA for Port Coquitlam
- Previous Portfolio: N/A
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Cabinet Committee on Social Initiatives
- Elected to Port Coquitlam city council for three terms in 1983, 1985 and 1990.
- Worked in Bulgaria, the Balkans and then Iraq on democratic governance programs to help build multiparty democracies in former one-party states.

Acknowledgements

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- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
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Discussion Points

- The City appreciates the government's efforts to modernize the *Police Act*. It is a tall order that will require a commitment to change at all levels of government including long-term investments from senior governments and a willingness to understand and acknowledge historic harms and listen and be responsive to community realities and lived experiences.
- Legislative change and investments in mental health, social supports, including income, and housing must occur at the Provincial level in order for meaningful and lasting change to occur at the municipal and local community level.
- There has been increasing concern from the public about street disorder, safety issues, and randomized crime. The City cannot address these complex social issues without additional support and policy levers from senior levels of government.
- The VPD is insufficiently resourced to address drug addiction, overdoses, and mental health issues. At its core these are health issue and not criminal justice issues that require a more comprehensive response from mental health professionals, community support groups, and senior levels of government.

Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction – Honourable Sheila Malcolmson



Biography

- Elected: 2019 and re-elected in 2020
- MLA for Nanaimo
- Previous Portfolio: Minister for Mental Health and Addictions
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Social Initiatives
 - Government Caucus Committee on Social Initiatives
- Elected four times to the Islands Trust Council, serving six of those years as Chair of the Islands Trust Council, where she championed fair ferry service, marine safety and oil spill prevention
- Served as a Member of Parliament from 2015 – 2019

Acknowledgements

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Discussion Points

- The City strongly advocates for a regional approach led by the Provincial government to comprehensively address homelessness, encompassing housing and service needs for those at risk and the underhoused.
 - Despite hosting 75% of the housing and services in the Metro Vancouver region, Vancouver accounts for only 25% of the region's total population.
 - There is an urgent need to reform the SRO system and provide appropriate housing solutions.
 - Stable and predictable funding is essential to manage the public realm impacts of homelessness, which has outpaced the availability of shelter beds and supportive services.
 - Support from senior levels of government is crucial to maintain public spaces, including facilities such as washroom trailers, street cleaning, storage options for belongings of the homeless and underhoused, and community navigator/outreach services.

Minister of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport – Honourable Sheila Lana Popham



Biography

- Elected in 2009 and re-elected in 2013, 2017 and 2020.
- MLA for Saanich South
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Treasury Board
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Economy
- Degree in Urban Geography.
- Co-founded and operated Barking Dog Vineyard, the first organically certified vineyard on Vancouver Island.
- Served on Saanich’s Planning, Transportation and Ec Dev Committee

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- The City appreciates provincial government support for significant sporting and cultural events, benefiting Vancouver businesses, communities, and the wider tourism sector.
- The City acknowledges the 2024/25 budget proposal to increase the BC Arts Council budget from \$38.56M to \$38.97M.
- The City recognizes efforts to raise legacy and impact funding for FIFA World Cup 2026 to maximize benefits across Vancouver and BC.
- The City acknowledges the strong collaboration between the FIFA Secretariat and the Province's TACS and Finance staff.

Discussion Points:

- Properly maintained infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and amenities like community centres and libraries, is vital for public safety, health, and the economy, as well as for enriching Vancouver’s arts and culture scene.
- Advocate for upgrading Vancouver’s historic Chinatown and Gastown, focusing on enhancing public spaces, transportation, and highlighting local First Nations presence.
- Vancouver is hosting major sporting events: Grey Cup 2024, Invictus Games 2025, and FIFA World Cup 2026.
- Vancouver is committed to bolstering its arts and culture scene by simplifying the permit process for festivals and events to attract more international sporting events.

As a member of the Treasury Board:

- Support the UBCx Business Case.
- Advocate for programs supporting arts, culture, and infrastructure upgrades.

Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure – Honourable Rob Fleming



Biography

- Elected in 2005 and re-elected in 2009, 2013, 2017, 2020
- MLA for Victoria-Hillside
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of Education
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Planning and Priorities
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Economy
- Previous two-term Victoria Councillor, worked as a research and policy analyst for the Ministry of Advanced Education, helped create CRD's Affordable Housing Trust
- Involved in many community organizations, dedicated soccer fan and helps coach his son's team

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

- \$500,000 Provincial grant to add protected bike lanes connecting Drake Street to Pacific Boulevard through the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants program.

Discussion Points

Transportation

- Deliver on existing commitment to fund 40% of the development of the business case for UBCx, and extend that commitment to the project construction costs.
- The CoV is eager to see provincial support for the Millennium Line UBC Extension (UBCx) in upcoming provincial election campaigns. UBCx benefits the entire region, including:
 - Unlocking economic potential for a regionally important corridor,
 - Creation of significant employment and housing opportunities for people of all incomes;
 - Reconciliation with MST; and
 - Providing a wide range of housing options along the regional SkyTrain system.

Infrastructure

- Secure long term, predictable funding for growth-enabling infrastructure, including sewer and drainage upgrades to accommodate growth, and for the rehabilitation of aging amenities in a financially sustainable and resilient manner.

Minister of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship – Honourable Nathan Cullen



Biography

- Elected: 2020
- MLA for Stikine
- Previous Portfolio: Minister of State for Lands and Natural Resource Operations; Minister of Municipal Affairs
- Cabinet Committees:
 - Environment and Land Use
 - Economy
 - Government Caucus on Social Initiatives
- Member of Parliament for Skeena-Bulkley Valley from 2004-2019

Acknowledgements

The City is grateful for the following Provincial commitments:

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- Funding to develop much needed supportive housing units and community services:
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Discussion Points

- Support green rainwater infrastructure and new street trees in Vancouver.
- The City would be interested in participating in the development of the Province's Coastal Marine Strategy. Stanley Park is an example of a marine-terrestrial park that is uniquely co-managed with First Nations and the federal government.
- The City has set a bold target to cut carbon pollution in half by 2030, and to be carbon neutral before 2050.
- In 2022, UBCM endorsed a resolution, led by the CoV that resolved UBCM to:
 - Request the BC government commit to advocate to the federal government on the issue of exhaust gas cleaning systems acidic wastewater discharge, as part of a comprehensive BC Coastal Marine Strategy; pushing for stronger environmental protections, in line with thriving cruise and cargo waters of our US neighbours, to include preventative measures to stop scrubber dumping from ships and require cleaner fuels be used.



Section 3: Resolutions Package with CoV Staff Comments



LMLGA 2024 Resolutions Summary

This section contains resolutions to be considered at the 2024 LMLGA AGM.

Included in the package are:

- Resolutions Referred from UBCM (too regional in nature)
- Resolutions from Members Received by the Deadline

The Resolutions Section of this package is structured as follows:

PART 1 – Executive resolutions

- None received

PART 2 – Referred resolutions

- Includes **one resolution** that UBCM has referred from the 2023 resolutions cycle back to the Lower Mainland LGA as it is considered too regional in nature. If endorsed, this resolution will not be sent to UBCM.

Part 3 – Resolutions received by the deadline

Section A:

- Includes **21 resolutions** that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment by the LMLGA.
- The City of Vancouver has submitted one resolution to the LMLGA AGM, “R5 – Housing is Healthcare”, which is found in this section.
- **City of Vancouver staff recommendations are noted below each resolution in blue font.**

Section B:

- Includes **36 resolutions** that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse by the LMLGA.
- **City of Vancouver staff recommendations are noted below each resolution in blue font.**

Section C:

- Includes **1 resolution** that is regional in nature and if endorsed, will not be forwarded to UBCM.
- **City of Vancouver staff recommendation is noted below the resolution in blue font.**

PART 1 – EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

None received.

PART 2 – REFERRED RESOLUTIONS

UBCM has referred this resolution from the 2023 resolutions cycle back to the Lower Mainland LGA as it is considered too regional in nature. If endorsed, this resolution will not be sent to UBCM.

RR1-South of Fraser Interurban Rail

Township of Langley

Whereas the Township of Langley has the highest growth rate in Metro Vancouver and public transit has not kept up with population growth, resulting in inadequate services to support current and future Township of Langley residents and businesses;

And whereas communities south of the Fraser, including Delta, Surrey, Township of Langley, City of Langley, Abbotsford and Chilliwack have a combined population over 1.2 million and yetR15 there is no interregional public transit connecting these respective Fraser Valley communities;

And whereas existing transit routes and Highway #1 continue to be congested within these respective communities south of the Fraser River, and without greater investment in public transit infrastructure and service congestion will continue to worsen:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA urge the Province of BC to re-activate the interurban rail service along the existing rail corridor that connects Delta, Surrey, Langley, Abbotsford and Chilliwack.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution urging the Province to re-activate interurban rail service along the existing rail corridor that connects Delta, Surrey, Langley, Abbotsford, and Chilliwack.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for expansion of passenger and freight rail service and networks, including as a means of low-emission transportation (2019-B143, 2018-B14, 2016-B117, 2010-B15, 2008-B107, 2004-B65, 2004-B58).

The Committee would point out, however, that this resolution focuses solely on the Fraser Valley, as well as selected communities in Metro Vancouver located south of the Fraser River. As

written, the resolution is regional in scope, and the absence of interurban rail service in the Lower Mainland has little impact on the rest of British Columbia. Because of the regional focus, the Committee recommends that this resolution be referred to the Area Association, which can engage in advocacy on this issue.

Recommendation:

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering Services, Transit Integration and Projects

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse with amendments

Staff support advancing improved inter-regional transit services (e.g. Metro Vancouver to the Fraser Valley and Squamish Lillooet Regional Districts) but studies should be completed prior to introducing new rail service. Studies should build off the recent Provincial work completed in 2021 (Fraser Valley Regional Rail Pre-Feasibility Study) but include other transit modes such as buses operating along Highway 1.

Further, if this were expanded to look at the whole Fraser Valley and Metro Vancouver, it could be the start of an interregional conversation about commuter rail that could be part of solving future capacity constraints on the SkyTrain system.

PART 3 – RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE

Part 3 Section A - This section contains resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse, or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R1-Provincial Funding for Child Care Facilities

City of Burnaby

Whereas recent provincial housing legislation, specifically Bills 44 and 47, will mean increased population growth leading to greater need for child care spaces;

And whereas barriers to accessing provincial funding exist for local governments and the private sector:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to review its funding model and work with local governments and the private development sector to streamline its process for the disbursement of provincial funds to facilitate the construction of new public or non-profit owned child care facilities, including facilities within new private development.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed recent resolutions seeking a change to the funding model for local governments on the creation of child care facilities.

For example, endorsed resolution 2023-NR1 asked the Province to provide multi-year funding to local and Indigenous governments and non-profits organizations to coordinate the development of child care; and that the Province replace the current grant-based application process with a systematic expansion of universal child care. Additionally, endorsed resolution 2023-NR2 asked the Province to adequately fund ongoing operational costs associated with the maintenance, repair and replacement of municipally owned childcare facilities, while the proposed resolution is seeking child care facilities in new private developments.

The membership has also endorsed several resolutions requesting that the Province create a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB22, 2022-EB23, 2021-EB67, 2021-EB68, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2020-NR68).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Long Term Financial Planning & ACCS

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Child care falls within senior government mandates. The Province (and the Federal government) should commit to providing adequate and predictable capital and operating funding for the delivery of child care that reflects:

- 1) the need to streamline the current complex, misaligned and unpredictable capital funding models in place;
- 2) the disproportionate financial burden that the City of Vancouver has taken on in regards to facility ownership, maintenance and recapitalization;
- 3) the relatively higher cost per space in the urban setting; and
- 4) the design standards that are imposed by the Province.

R2-Medical Emergency Service Alarm Calls Cost Recovery

City of Langley

Whereas gaps within the BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) service delivery continue to be filled by local government fire departments, by way of their regular response to a high-volume of Medical Emergency Service Alarm (MESA) calls; resulting in significant direct costs to local governments;

And whereas to date the solution provided by the Province of BC recommends that concerned local governments stop responding to select MESA calls; thus, failing to rectify the gap in service internally or financial impacts externally, and simultaneously shifting the accountability for health decisions onto local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM demand that the Province of BC immediately review their Resource Allocation Plan to implement an equitable cost recovery model to compensate local governments for responding to MESA calls.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14, 2004-B26).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services, Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

- Municipal fire departments often find themselves filling gaps in emergency medical service provision, particularly when the BC Ambulance Service (BCAS) is unable to respond promptly or adequately due to high call volumes. This places an additional burden on fire departments to provide medical assistance, which may not be their primary mandate but is necessary for public safety.
- Responding to medical emergency calls incurs significant direct costs for local governments. These costs include personnel, equipment, and resources required to respond effectively. Without fair compensation, these expenses strain municipal budgets and may lead to other financial difficulties.
- The resolution highlights that the current solution recommended by the Province of BC, which advises local governments to stop responding to select medical emergency calls, does not address the underlying issue or alleviate the financial burden. This lack of internal resolution places the responsibility on local governments without providing adequate support or resources.

R3-Additional Funding for Overdose Prevention Sites Across Local Governments

City of New Westminster

Whereas the Province of British Columbia declared a drug toxicity public emergency in 2016, acknowledging the rapid increase in overdose deaths and the need to deploy the necessary harm reduction strategies with urgency to prevent additional deaths;

And whereas over 13,000 people have died of toxic drugs since 2016 in communities across British Columbia, including at least 2,500 people in 2023, about two-thirds of which were from inhalation, yet only about 40% of supervised consumption and overdose prevention sites in British Columbia offer inhalation services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for Health Authorities to augment existing, and to open new, supervised consumption and overdose prevention sites, including related inhalation services, across British Columbia and including local governments which do not currently offer this service to residents.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed special resolution 2023-SR3 which asked the Province to immediately provide financial investments to ensure the provision of geographically accessible, on-demand mental health and addiction treatment, detox and recovery services; overdose prevention sites with inhalation; and access to safe supply

and drug testing for all regions of BC.

Additionally, the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2023-SR3, 2022-EB9, 2022-NR4, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB59, 2021-EB60, 2020-SR8, 2020-EB79, 2020-NR62, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2014-B70, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

*R4- Eliminating Barriers to Publicly Owned and Operated Home Care Services and Long-Term Care
City of New Westminster*

Whereas seniors, families and seniors organizations have been advocating to improve access to public home care services and supports to assist seniors to live at home, in their communities, longer and to delay or prevent premature admissions to public long-term care facilities;

And whereas finances can become an impediment to access the required home care services such as housekeeping, more frequent bathing and meal preparation necessary to age in place, and community programs that have been designed to try and meet seniors' needs are unable to fulfil the increasing demand:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to eliminate financial and accessibility barriers by investing in more publicly owned and operated and not-for-profit home care services and social supports required to age in place, and by further investing in publicly owned and operated and not-for-profit long-term care to ensure seniors are well supported in the continuum of care.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking social supports for seniors in their communities including:

- adequate funding for home care, home support and assisted living, through to and including critical care (2023-NR5, 2009-B52, 2007-B191, 2006-B155, 2005-B48, 2004-B129);
- enhanced coordinated health and social support programs for seniors across BC (2022-EB12, 2018-B53, 2017-B51, 2012-B41, 2011-A4, 2011-B63, 2007-B152, 2006-B162); and
- create a new tax credit program to encourage home renovations for, in part, aging in place projects (2016-B46).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS, HHS

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

- This resolution aligns with the findings and directions coming out of the draft *City of Vancouver Seniors Housing Strategy*, anticipated to be considered by City Council in July 2023.
- The cost and availability of home supports can be a barrier to allowing older adults to age in their homes, and the BC Seniors Advocate has called for elimination of the daily rate for home supports. There are not enough subsidized, publicly funded long-term care facilities to keep up with the needs of the aging population.

R5-Housing is Healthcare

City of Vancouver

Whereas every year hundreds of British Columbians are diagnosed with chronic conditions and diseases that necessitate specialized medical treatment requiring long term stays near but not in hospital, there are disparities in health outcomes between rural and urban patients;

And whereas residents of rural and remote communities in British Columbia requiring specialized medical treatment for complex care in urban centres face significant challenges including high travel and accommodation costs, the psychosocial impacts of healthcare away from home and community, the loss of income during treatment period, and increasingly limited availability of affordable accommodations, hotel rooms, or short term rentals;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia, reflected in its 2024 mandate, is committed to both improved health care for British Columbians when they need it, and attainable and affordable housing to deliver more homes for people faster:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the Provincial Government of British Columbia

to alleviate the financial and logistical burdens associated with seeking specialized medical care far from home by developing and implementing comprehensive policies and programs to assist patients needing to travel for healthcare, and ensure that patients have access to affordable, comfortable, and convenient accommodations;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Province consider and implement ways to deliver and dedicate subsidized accommodations in and adjacent to large urban health centres specifically purposed for longer term specialized medical treatment.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has considered resolutions which address the transportation challenges faced by medical patients in rural and remote areas to access health care (2020-EB75, 2018-B16, 2014-B9, 2012-B38).

The membership also endorsed resolution 2015-B69 which asked the provincial government to provide support, either through direct funding, initiatives, or policy, to organizations that are undertaking the development of lands and other hard assets in the establishment of rural outpatient accommodation.

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

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

HOUSING

R6 LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT IMPACTS ON HOUSING CRISIS

District of Squamish

Whereas the Province has acknowledged that there is a housing crisis affecting communities across all of British Columbia and has chosen to take unprecedented action to address this challenge by looking for opportunities and taking action to deliver long-term housing supply; And whereas large infrastructure projects mandated or approved by the Province put immense pressure on available housing rental and ownership stock, and tourism infrastructure by requiring a significant number of temporary workers without appropriate workforce housing plans as a requirement of project approval; Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM request that the Province require robust and detailed workforce housing plans integral to the approval process for large infrastructure projects, to address and minimize the cumulative impacts of temporary workforce housing on communities and deliver a positive housing legacy.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed the same resolution from the same sponsor: 2023-NR19.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed two resolutions addressing the impacts of workforce housing plans or work camps:

- 2014-A4 which asked the provincial government to establish a “single window approval process” for work camps that allows for stakeholder comment to address the location, operation, safety, health and socio-economic impacts associated with a work camp; and
- 2005-B36, which in part expressed concern about the impacts of increased economic activity on housing, medical services, recreation and other aspects of communities and sought consultation (in this specific resolution) with the Oil and Gas Commission in advance so local jurisdictions were aware of their plans that would affect future community and regional development.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS & Long-Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

- Support the importance of considering housing for temporary workers along with major infrastructure projects in all communities so they do not have a negative impact on the local housing needs.

R7-Local Government Funding Through Speculation and Vacancy Tax

City of Burnaby

Whereas encouraging unoccupied residential properties to become available for long-term occupancy represents an opportunity to increase the availability of housing in our communities; And whereas revenue collected from the Speculation and Vacancy Tax is directed into the Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account where BC Housing is the primary recipient of the funds rather than local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to permit local governments to receive a portion of the funds collected through the Housing Priority Initiatives Special Account, with funds to be used by the local government towards affordable housing projects.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2021-NR53 which asked the provincial government to distribute directly back to each municipality a portion of the revenue collected, up to the amount collected from each local government, under the Speculation and Vacancy Tax to further affordable housing initiatives within those jurisdictions. More broadly, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions which asks the Province to empower local governments to collect a levy on vacant residential properties (2023-EB14, 2020-EB33, 2020-NR69, 2019-B19, 2019-B181, 2018-A3, 2017-B91).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS & Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

While CoV endorses the principle of reinvesting tax revenue back into the communities where the funds are generated, staff feel it is more efficient/effective to have the funds flow and be administered by BC Housing.

Whereas local governments are seeing the need for increased housing affordability for vulnerable residents, students, families, and seniors;

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

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM advocates that the Province and federal government work with not-for-profits to further incentivize not-for-profit partnerships and the building of non-market housing, such as below market rentals and co-ops, through financial tools like low interest rate loans, long-term 25 year rates and expanded tax credit eligibility.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions seeking to increase the amount of affordable housing through a variety of actions with non-profit organizations, including:

- 2023-EB13 which asks the Province to expand the exemption from payment of Property Transfer Tax to all not-for-profit societies and co-operatives who are leasing municipal lands for the development of affordable housing;
- 2022-NR14 which asked the Province to develop a provincial acquisition strategy and grant program that would allow non-profit housing providers to purchase and repair aging rental stock for the purposes of maintaining existing affordable housing;
- 2021-NR54 (Executive endorsed) which asked the Province to work with interested local communities, the not-for-profit sector and other partners on a program of land banking purpose-built rental apartment buildings, to preserve and renew this essential component of the affordable rental housing supply.

The Committee notes that the membership has also consistently endorsed resolutions seeking ways to encourage investment in older and new rental housing stock (2018-B56, 2017-B53, 2016-OF1).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-EB26, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS / ACCS / Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

With challenging market conditions, additional low-cost financing and other supports to promote the viability of non-market housing developments are important. In addition, further capital grants to support non-market developments that are stuck in the development process due to increased costs should be considered.

R9-Expansion of Homeless Response and Shelter Support (Heart and Hearth)

City of Langley

Whereas the BC 2023 Homeless Point-in-Time count recorded the largest measured increase of individuals experiencing homelessness since 2005 (Metro Vancouver Regional District and Fraser Valley Regional District); with individuals experiencing homelessness for longer periods of time, and with more individuals in unsheltered environments due to insufficient permanent, temporary shelter or emergency beds throughout the regions;

And whereas the provincial government, having outlined the strategic plan “Belonging in BC: A collaborative plan to prevent and reduce homelessness”, has invested over 2 billion dollars since 2022 outlining commitments to “prioritized” communities, based on provincial qualifying assessments of local government homeless encampment impacts, to address immediate supports and shelter needs in those selected local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call on the provincial government to accelerate and expand its commitment beyond the qualifying limitations identified in “Belonging in BC” by including access for every community and expanding permanent, temporary shelters and associated program supports in all BC local governments.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to accelerate and expand its commitment beyond the qualifying limitations identified in “Belonging in BC” by including access for every community and expanding permanent, temporary shelters and associated program supports in all BC local governments.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2023-NR26, 2022-NR64).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-EB26, 2021-EB75).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Homelessness is a growing concern in communities across the region and province. While the City of Vancouver has 25% of the overall population of the Metro Vancouver region, we are home to over 75% of the region's operating shelter spaces, over 77% of the region's supportive housing units, and over 50% of the region's social housing. Developing an accelerated and expanded response to homelessness ensures people are able to access shelter, housing and supports in their home communities.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R10-Flood Protection Funding and Management

City of Mission

Whereas the majority of communities, either in whole or in part, within British Columbia are situated on floodplains;

And whereas the cost of mitigating flood risk has increased to levels that are no longer affordable by Local Governments, Regional Districts or Improvement Districts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the province and federal governments commit to allocate adequate funds to mitigate the flood threat to British Columbia communities and that the Province consider assuming control of, and responsibility for, flood protection and mitigation infrastructure including diking and pump stations.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions requesting support and/or funding for flood protection, prevention and mitigation measures (2022-SR3, 2021-EB6, 2020-SR1, 2020-NR16, 2019-B12, 2018-B123, 2018-B94, 2018-

B37, 2016-B56, 2015-B97, 2015-B7, 2014-B76, 2013-A1, 2013-A2, 2012-B3, 2012-B4).

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported multiple resolutions calling on the Province to be established as the diking authority in all local governments (2022-SR3, 2015-B52 and 2014-B75 (in local governments under 20,000 in population)).

The UBCM Executive has consistently called on the provincial government to provide long-term funding and support to local governments to address new and ongoing emergency management responsibilities. This request was also included as part of the August 2021 report by the UBCM Select Committee on Local Government Finance, Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS (Sustainability) / Engineering

CoV Department Recommendation: No recommendation

Staff support calls for long term funding for flood protection. However, staff do not support calls for the Province to take on all control of and responsibilities to provide and maintain flood protection. To revise the recommendation would significantly change the spirit of the recommendation. Further, the recently released BC Flood Strategy made it clear that the Province would not take on flood management authority.

R11-E-Comm Governance Review

City of New Westminster

Whereas E-Comm has struggled to provide service levels that meet established standards or the expectations of the communities they serve, while the cost of E-Comm is increasing at an unsustainable rate, creating budget uncertainty for local Police and Fire services;

And whereas the imminent introduction of next-Gen 911 will represent the single largest change in emergency communications delivery since the introduction of 911, with uncertain cost and operational impacts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to engage local governments in a comprehensive review of the governance structure and delivery model of 911 emergency call taking, related non-emergency call taking, and emergency dispatch services across BC with a goal to assure reliable, affordable, and sustainable services for all communities.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership, as part of endorsed resolution 2023-SR2, requested that the Province of BC work with local governments to modernize the 911 emergency communications system through the creation of a provincial 911 governance model, with local government representation, to address policy and service standard issues, and manage revenue. This resolution also requested:

- Implementation of a 911 levy on cellular devices, to address current and future financial challenges associated with the delivery of 911 services;
- Development of consistent 911 service standards, without increasing service costs for local governments; and
- Integration of mental health call options within the 911 framework including culturally safe options for Indigenous and other racialized peoples.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership also endorsed resolution 2022-EB42, which asked the Province to work with UBCM to develop a new provincial mandate and structure for 911 service delivery, with a focus on improving the governance, funding and operations.

Additionally, the UBCM Executive, in 2022, delivered correspondence calling for a governance model, consistent service standards, and a provincial strategy to modernize 911 services, in addition to emphasizing the need for a call answer levy on cellular devices.

Recommendation: Endorse**Conference Decision:**

CoV Department Contact: VDP

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

VDP notes the following:

1. *E-Comm fails to meet some agreed upon service levels.*
 - E-Comm service levels with respect to 911 service have not been an issue.
 - E-Comm service with respect to non-emergency call taking and/or the abandoned call rate within the non-emergency queue have been troubling for the past few years, however there are signs that this service area is improving and a more robust comparable data set should be available by Q3-Q4 of 2024.
 - VPD is pleased with the Q1 (2024) service level improvements for Non-emergency (NER) calls and feel that E-Comm has implemented significant changes that will hopefully lead to further

improvements. Worth noting is that the Q1 (2024) data set comes on the heels of consecutive troubling years of data sets with unacceptable abandonment rates not previously seen. It now appears that levels are on par with, and/or slightly better than 2019 service levels.

2. *E-Comm costs are increasing at an unsustainable rate creating budget uncertainty for VPD and VFRS.*
 - The VPD has experienced an increase in E-Comm levy's over the past few years. This levy increase has not been predictable and the VPD would ask that E-Comm produce a 3-5 year business plan outlining their proposed levy structure so that our organization can proactively plan.
3. *Next-Gen 911 will come with uncertain costs.*
 - The VPD is aware of additional Next-Gen 911 funding sources available to E-Comm; however, it remains uncertain whether there will be additional financial and/or delivery impact on the City of Vancouver.

R12-Management of Fireworks

City of Mission

Whereas the misuse and abuse of fireworks causes property damage, personal injury, community disturbance and is a threat to first responders;

And whereas a province-wide approach is needed for the safe manufacturing, transportation, retail, wholesale and use of fireworks:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to regulate the use and sale of fireworks in British Columbia, including public education, enforcement, and transportation.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed two resolutions that make similar requests:

- 2010-B3 which asked the Province to regulate the use of fireworks in British Columbia by a permit system that also addresses public education, enforcement, international and local government cross-border transportation, and cost recovery where loss can be directly attributed to the use and abuse of fireworks; and
- 2005-B74 which asked the Province to regulate the use of fireworks in British Columbia, through a framework that addresses public education, enforcement, international and municipal cross border transportation, and cost recovery where loss can be directly attributed to the use or abuse of fireworks.

The Committee advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2005-B75 which sought a province-wide ban on the general sale and use of fireworks.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Vancouver Fire supports a ban on Fireworks due to the enormous costs associated with the misuse of these products, the damage and impact on the environment, and the costs associated with enforcement and suppression services. In the absence of a ban, VFRS would support a resolution previously brought to the UBCM in 2005 (B74) calling for Provincial regulation of fireworks. ([Fireworks | Union of BC Municipalities \(ubcm.ca\)](#)). Further, Vancouver Fire has seen a significant amount of sales of Fireworks both through internet on-line sales, and jurisdictions outside of the City of Vancouver. VFRS would further support Resolution R40 (see below) as this would appear to be trying to address these issues.

ENVIRONMENT

R13-Improved Local Government Capacity for Environmental Assessment Participation

District of Squamish

Whereas the provincial and federal environmental assessment processes are not the direct jurisdiction of local governments and therefore not subject to associated service cost recovery fees;

And whereas environmental assessment processes, while of critical importance to communities, are very time-consuming, expensive, and onerous for local government staff, community, and council:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to establish proponent fees to support the participation of local governments in environmental assessment processes, including compensation associated with the research and review of applications, participation in technical and working groups, augmented community engagement, and post-decision regulatory processes should a project Certificate be issued.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a nearly identical resolution from the same sponsor, 2017-B113 that asked the Province to set up a funding system to allow for local governments to be compensated for the staff time spent including research, review, technical and working group participation, and to augment and support community engagement during the entire process; and that the provincial government's

Environmental Assessment Office fee schedule be revised to include a fee for local governments throughout the certification process.

The Province's response to 2017-B113 stated in part, "The Environmental Assessment Office does not currently have budget available to provide capacity funding for local governments participating in the Environmental Assessment (EA) process. We acknowledge the time and expense that local governments invest in the EA process, and recognize that funding from the provincial government would be helpful. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy has a mandate to revitalize the EA process. We are working to identify the scope and process for EA revitalization and have noted this issue for consideration."

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed other resolutions addressing environmental assessment and impact, including:

- 2017-B65 which asked the Province to consider projects in their entirety when evaluating them through the Environmental Assessment Office;
- 2015-B61 which asked the Province to conduct a complete health impact assessment as part of the environmental assessment for all projects; and work with the Health Officers Council to develop guidance documents to support such health impact assessments; and
- 2015-B96 which asked the Province to ensure that the scope of environmental impact assessments for major infrastructure projects includes the wider community and environmental impacts associated with increased road, rail and marine traffic so that a range of mitigation options can be assessed, including the development of inland port facilities.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Environmental Services

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Participation of local governments in EIA processes is crucial to ensure that local knowledge and community assets are considered in assessments, that risks and potential impacts are not being transferred onto local communities, and that decisions being made are being done so with the best interests of local communities and the environment in mind.

In many cases, EIA processes require a significant level of time and resources from local governments who do not have the resources to support them. A fee from project proponents to finance local government participation would address these capacity constraints and support fiscal responsibility by rightly acknowledging and right placing these costs as part of the project.

R14-Urgent Protection of Urban Waterways

City of Burnaby

Whereas the Province of British Columbia provides powers to local governments to regulate protection of the environment and levy maximum fines for offences:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to provide urgent protection to watercourses from dumping and discharge, including by providing authority to local governments to impose higher fines.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide urgent protection to watercourses from dumping and discharge, including by providing authority to local governments to impose higher fines.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds (2023-EB37, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122). In particular, resolution 2023-EB37 asked the Ministry of Forests to allocate more staffing, funding and enforcement tools, prioritize enforcement to ensure watershed security is maintained and work collaboratively with local governments.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that aim to protect groundwater (2019-B157, 2018-B34, 2011-B43, 2008-B78).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Environmental Services

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Empowering local governments to impose higher fines for illegal discharges to watercourses would hopefully serve to better demonstrate the seriousness of the issue and strengthen the deterrent effect.

Because of these reasons, staff are recommending this resolution be supported. However, staff would like to note that the Province has much stronger fines that it can already impose and that over the years, the Province has significantly reduced its role in watercourse protection. Caution should be taken that, in the absence of adequate effort by the Province, local governments do not over-extend their role given local government resource constraints but rather, work to ensure that the Province meets its responsibilities.

FINANCE

R15-Funding for Community Infrastructure

City of Maple Ridge

Whereas the Lower Mainland is seeing unprecedented levels of immigration and increasing pressures to build more housing, roads, employment lands and associated community infrastructure:

And whereas there is a need for local governments to meet a variety of servicing demands in rapidly growing communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocates for the Province to invest in long term infrastructure programming for communities including for roads, bridges, schools, hospitals and community buildings;

And be it further resolved that UBCM advocates to the federal government to renew Infrastructure Canada funding.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to invest in long term infrastructure programming for communities including for roads, bridges, schools, hospitals and community buildings; and for the federal government to renew Infrastructure Canada funding.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB50 which asked the Government of Canada to create a sustainable and reliable local government asset management fund, like the permanent Building Canada's Public Transit Future Fund, to increase investments in infrastructure renewal, which is essential to enhance public safety, reduce health risks, ensure economic sustainability, and lessen the financial burden on future generations to pay for the infrastructure deficit.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed several more resolutions that request

improvements and/or enhancements to both federal and provincial funding programs (2023-EB49, 2020-B36, 2020-B40, 2018-B111, 2016-B18, 2014-B19, 2012-B13).

As part of information received from the sponsor, it is understood that “employment lands”, referenced in the first whereas clause, means industrial lands or job generating activities on such lands.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

As cities prioritize delivery of rental and social/co-op housing over condos, coupled with escalation in land and construction costs, the “growth pays for growth” principle to fund infrastructure and amenities is increasingly challenging. As part of FCM advocacy, a sustainable Municipal Growth Framework is needed to enable the delivery of at aivable housing with supporting infrastructure and amenities is required to accommodate increased population growth.

LAND USE

R16-Registration of Notice of Latecomer Charges on Property Title

District of Squamish

Whereas if a local government pays all or part of the costs of excess or extended services (road, water, sanitary or storm drainage systems) it may, under Local Government Act (LGA) s. 508(3), recover its costs through latecomer charges against owners of land that is to be subdivided or developed;

And whereas the Land Title and Survey Authority (L TSA) does not currently have authority to register Notices of Excess or Extended Services Agreements against property title and does not accept such notices, creating risk for property developers or purchasers and for local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province amend the Local Government Act to give the Land Title and Survey Authority statutory authority to accept Notices of Excessive or Extended Services Agreements (also known as Latecomer Agreements) for registration on property title.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR63

which asked the Province to provide local governments the ability to register latecomer fees and local area service on certificates of titles.

In its response to 2023-NR63, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs responded as follows: “The Province has no intention of examining this issue. Latecomer agreements are provided for in the Local Government Act (LGA), which is administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. Currently the Act does not provide for the registration of latecomer agreements in the land title register. The public policy implications of registering such agreements against title are significant. A primary concern is that no other development-related charges are registered on Title.”

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Legal Services

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Sections 561A and 561B of the Vancouver Charter also authorize latecomer agreements. In order for this resolution to affect Vancouver, the Vancouver Charter would need to be amended as well as the Local Government Act.

TRANSPORTATION

R17-Provincial Funding for Electric Vehicle Charger Deployment

Metro Vancouver

Whereas Metro Vancouver has identified that by 2035 up to 350,000 existing parking spots in multi-unit residential buildings in the region will be retrofitted to be electric vehicle (EV) charging ready, and 2,200 to 2,900 public direct current fast charging (DCFC) ports and 32,000 to 47,000 public Level 2 ports will be needed to support anticipated demand for EV charging, requiring significant capital investment in both public charging and multi-unit residential buildings retrofits totalling approximately \$1.2 billion in Metro Vancouver alone by 2035; And whereas the Government of BC has provided funding for the purchase and installation of EV chargers for home and public charging through the Go Electric EV Charger Rebate Program to complement the rapid increase of EV sales required through the BC Zero-Emissions Vehicle Act reaching 100% by 2035;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of BC to expand and enhance the

funding available through the CleanBC Go Electric Rebate Program to offer sufficient rebates for charging in multi-unit residential buildings and public charging to support the expected rapid uptake of EVs in BC.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to expand and enhance the funding available through the CleanBC Go Electric Rebate Program to offer sufficient rebates for charging in multi-unit residential buildings and public charging to support the expected rapid uptake of EVs in BC. However, the Committee notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions that support the use of electric vehicles by expanding charging infrastructure (2022-EB74, 2020-EB28, 2019-B144, 2017-B116, 2017-B132).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Sustainability (PDS)

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

This resolution is consistent with Vancouver’s Climate Emergency Action Plan, Metro Vancouver’s Climate 2050 Transportation Roadmap, and CleanBC.

R18-Increasing Reliable Transit Funding to Support Growing Communities *District of Squamish*

Whereas access to reliable, frequent public transit is critical to achieving shared local and provincial objectives of supporting community growth in an equitable, healthy, connected, low carbon way:

And whereas communities serviced by BC Transit haven’t been able to realize public transit expansion plans due to lack of matching funds from the Province since 2021:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC and BC Transit to commit to funding transit service expansions where requested and to move from annual funding agreements to 3-year funding agreements to allow for more certainty.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2017-B9,

which asked the Province to provide a rolling 3-year funding commitment to BC Transit; and resolution 2023-EB60, which asked the Province to provide a rolling 5-year funding commitment to BC Transit, to support local government budgeting and planning for transit expansion beyond the current year.

In response to resolution 2023-EB60, the provincial government stated that it provided a 3-year non-rolling commitment of \$512 million for BC Transit in Budget 2023.

The Committee further notes that UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provision of and funding for public transit throughout BC (2023-EB61, 2022-NR56, 2022-NR57, 2020-EB17, 2018-SR2, 2018-B63, 2017-B8, 2017-LR3, 2015-B9, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2012-C37).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering / Finance

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

The Province has been supporting transit expansion through funding provided to TransLink. The City supports other BC municipalities served by BC Transit to receive similar support from the Province, particularly for inter-regional services connecting to Metro Vancouver.

LEGISLATIVE

R19-Enhanced Provincial Government Engagement Practices

City of Coquitlam

Whereas the provincial government establishes the legislative framework under which all local governments derive their operational authority;

And whereas the provincial government has recently enacted significant new, or amended, laws, regulations and/or policies which have had a profound effect on local governments across the province;

And whereas the provincial government has signaled its intent to undertake a significant review of all provincial statutes over the coming years:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the provincial government commit to review its consultation processes with/involving local governments, especially as they relate to legislative or regulatory changes that impact local governments, in order to facilitate better

engagement practices, increase transparency amongst all interest holders, and, as a result, enable the richer, more timely exchange of information in order to benefit all parties involved in such processes.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions requesting greater consultation and engagement with the Province on policy, programs and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments. In 2019 members endorsed special resolution SR1 which asked that the Province ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter be adhered to and implemented as it moves forward with future initiatives. And in 2022, EB75 was endorsed which asked the Province to consult with local governments that will be impacted by provincial policy.

The membership has also endorsed several resolutions seeking more and improved consultation and communication between the Province and local governments on a variety of specific topics including:

- 2023-EB8 which asked the Province to improve the communication between the Ministry of Health and local levels of government to ensure the health care system meets the needs of all residents of BC;
- 2023-EB62 which asked the Province to require the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to engage in meaningful consultation with local governments throughout the planning stages, prior to undertaking works on highways;
- 2021-SR2 which asked the Province to engage and consult with local governments and Indigenous communities as it moves forward to implement recommendations within the Modernizing Forest Policy in BC Intentions Paper;
- 2021-EB5 which asked the Province to find ways/means to have accurate and more timely community-based information that can be shared with local governments and their residents during declared local and provincial states of emergency;
- 2021-EB43 which sought improved government to government collaboration with local governments regarding land use planning initiatives on crown land; and

- 2021-EB72 which asked the Province to consult with local governments when planning new housing and facilities to support homeless people.

The membership has endorsed additional resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Intergovernmental Relations (CMO)

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

CoV has found the increased use of NDAs for provincial consultations challenging and is supportive of UBCM pursuing a more open consultation approach with the provincial government.

ELECTIONS

R20-Local Government Online Voting

District of North Vancouver

Whereas the Local Government Act does not support online voting for local government elections;

And whereas local government elections historically have low turnouts, and being that online voting provides a broader audience the ability to vote:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to initiative legislative changes to allow online voting for local government elections.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province for legislative changes to allow local governments to use/implement online voting for local government elections (2019-B14, 2015-B8, 2011-A2).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: City Clerk's Dept

CoV Department Recommendation: No recommendation

The lack of technical expertise within local government election administrations makes it difficult to properly assess, verify and test the security of online voting systems. Local governments should

collaborate with each other and the Province to establish a technical committee that can conduct a thorough review and establish a common framework for implementation. Staff recommend a province-wide coordinated approach before online voting is implemented for a general election.

SELECTED ISSUES

R21-Improved Assessment of Cumulative Effects of Major Projects on Communities

District of Squamish

Whereas major projects cause compounding impacts that are obscured when assessed in isolation from existing and planned projects in a given region;

And whereas current legislation creates significant demands on local governments by allowing for the isolated planning, assessment, and permitting considerations of wholly interdependent projects with interconnected timelines and demands on local services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the Province of BC require the assessment and mitigation of cumulative effects, whether temporary or residual, as part of major project assessments and subsequent permitting processes where impacts arise within regions;

And be it further resolved that interdependent projects are required to undergo combined assessment and permitting processes.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province **to strengthen requirements for** require the assessment and mitigation of cumulative effects,

whether temporary or residual, as part of major project assessments and subsequent permitting processes where impacts arise within regions; and that interdependent projects are required to undergo combined assessment and permitting processes.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed past resolutions from the same sponsor that call for the examination of the impact of major projects/large infrastructure projects on housing, safety and the environment:

- 2023-NR19 which addressed large infrastructure project impacts on the housing crisis;
- 2023-NR37 which addressed large infrastructure project impacts on public safety; and
- 2017-B65 which asked for projects to be considered in their entirety when evaluating

them through the Environmental Assessment Office.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Environmental Services

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse with amendments (see red text above)

Under existing legislation, cumulative effects must be considered in environmental assessments for major projects that are required by the Province. However, concerns exist with respect to the adequacy by which cumulative impacts are considered in practice and the degree by which mitigation measures are considered to be sufficient. Staff recommend supporting the intent behind this resolution which is to strengthen cumulative impact assessment. Wording amendments are suggested to more accurately reflect that while legislative requirements do exist, practices need to be improved.

Part 3 Section B - This section contains resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R22-Routine Mammogram Screening Program

Village of Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas access to regular routine mammogram screening is inadequate within the Province of BC;

And whereas an increasing number of women are being diagnosed with more aggressive breast cancer between the ages of thirty to forty;

And whereas early detection of breast cancer is paramount to diagnosis and treatment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to increase the number of mobile mammogram screening units available to rural and remote communities;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon the provincial government to lower the age of MSP coverage for routine mammogram screening to the age of thirty.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to increase the number of mobile mammogram screening units available to rural and remote communities, nor to lower the age of MSP coverage for routine mammogram screening to the age of thirty.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions that seek to improve health care equity for rural and remote communities, the most recent being 2023-SR1.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

HOUSING

R23-Consultation and Review of Recent BC 2023 Fall Housing Legislation *City of Maple Ridge*

Whereas the provincial government recently introduced a suite of new housing legislation, Bill

44 – Residential Development, Bill 46 – Development Financing and Bill 47 – Transit Oriented Areas;

And whereas there is a need for more municipal consultation to reflect on the impacts of legislative implementation and identify policy gaps:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate the Province review the new housing legislation after 2 years from introduction; immediately allow exemption zones for single detached greenfield areas within the containment boundary that are more isolated; and increase the Official Community Plan review requirement to every 7 years.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to review the new housing legislation after 2 years from introduction; immediately allow exemption zones for single detached greenfield areas within the containment boundary that are more isolated; and increase the Official Community Plan review requirement to every 7 years.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions requesting greater consultation and engagement with the Province on policy, programs and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments. In 2019 members endorsed SR1 which asked that the Province ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter be adhered to and implemented as it

moves forward with future initiatives. And in 2022, EB75 was endorsed which asked the Province to consult with local governments that will be impacted by provincial policy.

The membership has also endorsed several resolutions seeking more and improved consultation and communication between the Province and local governments on a variety of specific topics including:

- 2023-EB8 which asked the Province to improve the communication between the Ministry of Health and local levels of government to ensure the health care system meets the needs of all residents of BC;
- 2023-EB62 which asked the Province to require the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to engage in meaningful consultation with local governments throughout the planning stages, prior to undertaking works on highways;
- 2021-SR2 which asked the Province to engage and consult with local governments and Indigenous communities as it moves forward to implement recommendations within the Modernizing Forest Policy in BC Intentions Paper;
- 2021-EB5 which asked the Province to find ways/means to have accurate and more timely community-based information that can be shared with local governments and their residents during declared local and provincial states of emergency;
- 2021-EB43 which sought improved government to government collaboration with local governments regarding land use planning initiatives on crown land; and
- 2021-EB72 which asked the Province to consult with local governments when planning new housing and facilities to support homeless people.

The membership has endorsed additional resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

As part of information received from the sponsor, it is understood that “immediately allow exemption zones for single detached greenfield areas within the containment boundary that are more isolated”, as referenced in the enactment clause, refers to exemptions for such isolated sites where upfront rezoning for increased density may make less sense in part due to less servicing and infrastructure available.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS

CoV Department Recommendation: No Recommendation

Staff could support a 2 year review of the implementation. CoV defers on the rest.

R24-Bill 44, Bill 46, and Bill 47-Financial Assistance for Local Governments

City of Langley

Whereas local governments allocated the Building Community Funding to various community needs prior to the introduction of Bill 44, Bill 46, and Bill 47 and the Province has provided some limited funding support to assist local governments in implementing the housing initiatives;

And whereas local governments have limited staffing, resources, and budget capacity to undertake the required updates to their Official Community Plans (OCP), updates to their Engineering Servicing Plans (ESP), as well as review and analyze the impacts on all local government infrastructure with the implementation of Bill 44, Bill 46, and Bill 47 on communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM demand the provincial government expand the scope and provide local governments additional financial support for the hiring of additional staff and or consultants to complete the required updates to Official Community Plans, Environmental Servicing Plans as well as to review the impacts on all community infrastructure, including but not limited to public amenities, recreation centres, hospitals, schools, first responders and aging infrastructure in order to comply with provincial mandates as stipulated in the legislation.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide local governments additional financial support for the hiring of additional staff and or consultants to complete the required updates to Official Community Plans, Environmental Servicing Plans as well as to review the impacts on all community infrastructure, in order to comply with provincial mandates as stipulated in the legislation.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

R25-Funding to Offset the Cost of Waiving Development Fees for Attainable Housing

Village of Pemberton

Whereas local governments are increasingly expected to contribute financially to the development of at ainable housing by waiving development application fees, development cost charges, and amenity contributions;

And whereas local governments rely on revenues from development application fees, development cost charges, and amenity contributions to provide the infrastructure, amenities, and services that support housing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province, as part of their housing initiatives, to provide funding to local governments to offset the revenue losses resulting from the waiving of development application fees, development cost charges, and amenity contributions associated with the development of at ainable housing.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to, as part of their housing initiatives, provide funding to local governments to offset the revenue losses resulting from the waiving of development application fees, development cost charges, and amenity contributions associated with the development of at ainable housing.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS and Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

Under current legislation (Vancouver Charter), social housing that meets certain criteria (ownership, tenure and affordability) are exempt from DCLs. Under the new legislation (Bill 46), certain at ainable housing (to be defined) will be exempt from ACCs. To support delivery of affordable/at ainable housing,

funding is needed to provide the necessary infrastructure and amenities to support growth. As part of FCM advocacy, a sustainable Municipal Growth Framework is needed.

R26-Provincial Support for Services Associated with Housing Development

Village of Pemberton

Whereas implementation of the Province's Homes for People plan, designed to accelerate housing development and population growth, will increase pressures on local governments to provide the services necessary to develop and support new housing;

And whereas local government service deficits will pose barriers to the development of at ainable housing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province, as part of their housing funding initiatives, to provide funding to local governments for services, including transit, daycare, recreation, garbage collection, and protective services including police, fire, and emergency management, that will contribute to the development of at ainable housing.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to, as part of their housing funding initiatives, provide funding to local governments for services that will contribute to the development of at ainable housing.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-EB26, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128, 2003-B40).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS, Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: No Recommendation

Staff support this request for capital and low-cost financing to deliver at ainable housing, as well as funding to deliver the much-needed infrastructure and amenities to support growth. The motion, however, goes above and beyond and includes ongoing municipal services that are typically funded from

property taxes and utility fees (e.g. public safety, garbage collection). The CoV would welcome more provincial funding but note that the intent of this resolution is not clear.

R27-Integration of Shelter for People Experiencing Homelessness into Mandated Housing

City of Port Moody

Whereas on November 8, 2023, the Province introduced legislation it estimates could provide up to 100,000 new homes near designated transit areas over the next decade, which was intended to ease the housing crisis;

And whereas the Province has committed to addressing the housing and support needs of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and make homelessness a rare and brief occurrence, but the 2023 Homeless Count showed a drastic increase in the number of our neighbours facing homelessness, many for years:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC government to amend their legislation, and develop a partnership framework and policy in collaboration with local government and non profit housing such that across all communities, new constructions near designated transit will incorporate at least enough dedicated supported housing units and associated services to house the unprecedented number of our unhoused neighbours captured in the most recent homeless count.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to ensure that new constructions near designated transit will incorporate dedicated supported housing units and associated services to house the homeless.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2023-NR26, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81, 2004-B2, 2004-B30).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed

resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-EB26, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS, HHS

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

New, purpose-built supportive housing is critical to addressing homelessness. Consideration should be given to the size of the building/number of social housing units in a building to ensure that the building can be well managed, and tenants adequately supported.

R28-Incorporating Tree Canopy and Climate Goals into Housing Action *City of Port Moody*

Whereas the Province of BC, along with the rest of the world, is experiencing increasing

incidents of extreme weather, including deadly heat waves which are intensified by the urban heat island effect and lack of neighbourhood greenness;

And whereas the Province has committed to addressing climate risk mitigation and adaptation at the same time as providing needed housing but may not be foreseeing potential negative consequences that can be ameliorated:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to revise Bill 44 and Bill 47 to embed tree protection, tree canopy expansion, and climate resilience into the policy and ensure local governments retain clear authority to:

- protect mature trees and tree canopy in residential neighbourhoods; and
- ~~implement locally developed Climate Action Plans.~~

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to revise housing Bill 44 and Bill 47 to embed tree protection, tree canopy expansion, and climate resilience into the policy or ensure local governments retain clear authority to: protect mature trees and tree canopy in residential neighbourhoods; and implement locally developed Climate Action Plans.

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

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS (Sustainability)

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse with amendment

This recommendation enhances flexibility with respect to planning and delivery of land use decision making and development. The recommendation does not restrict form of development, strengthens local government climate action with land use, and aims to broaden local government powers under Bills 44 and 47. Staff recommend striking the 2nd bullet point regarding implementing locally developed climate plans (see red text above) because Bills 44 and 47 do not remove the expectation that local governments have climate targets and plan.

R29-Updating the Provincial Minimum Standards of Maintenance

City of Port Moody

Whereas climate change is worsening conditions and increasing vulnerabilities in the built environment, especially for low-income renters, and the majority of 2021 heat dome deaths were in low-income and multi-unit residential buildings that lacked access to cooling, and poor building maintenance contributes to poor occupant health;

And whereas the Residential Tenancy Act (RTA) states in general terms that landlords must comply with health, safety, and housing standards required by law, including heat but not cooling;

And whereas the Province of BC enables local government to enact standards of maintenance to enforce basic levels of maintenance for rental accommodation, but many local governments either do not have bylaws or bylaws that are inadequate in a changing climate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to make the necessary changes to the

Standards of Maintenance Guide to align the BC Building Code regulations for maximum and minimum temperature standards and ensure that considerations of health and climate hazards such as mould, precipitation, extreme heat and cold conditions, are included;

And be it further resolved that the guidance be converted to regulation, with associated regional and/or provincial supports for investigation and enforcement such that communities of every size have protection for renters.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to make the necessary changes to the Standards of Maintenance Guide to align the BC Building Code regulations for maximum and minimum temperature standards and ensure that considerations of health and climate hazards such as mould, precipitation, extreme heat and cold conditions, are included. Nor has the membership considered the request that the guidance be converted to regulation, with associated regional and/or provincial supports for investigation and enforcement such that communities of every size have protection for renters.

The Committee also advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2022-NR12 from the same sponsor, which sought to strengthen protection of renters' health through a number of steps including: 1) maximum and minimum safe temperatures and definitions of serious mold concerns, such that health concerns that are likely to increase for renters in the face of a changing climate; 2) mechanism for enforcement for jurisdictions without standards of maintenance bylaws; 3) provide resources for local governments to enforce Residential Tenancy Branch (RTB) rulings; 4) provide all local governments the authority to undertake health and hazard related repairs, which would be recovered from offending landlords; and 5) provide the RTB with additional resources to ensure timely support for adjudication, as well as tracking of health related concerns.

The Committee further advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2020-NEB14 which sought to amend the Residential Tenancy Act to strengthen standards of property maintenance that set out a breadth of health, safety, and security standards, and establishes enforcement mechanisms that ensure adherence to these standards.

However the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing standards of maintenance, including:

- 2022-EB27 which asked the Province to ensure they are funding clients to live in safe and clean affordable housing;
- 2019-B189 (Executive endorsed) which called for the creation of a policy and an inspection process to ensure the integrity of the rooming houses;
- 2017-B44 which asked the province to undertake licensing and more stringent regulation of supportive recovery homes;
- 2007-B197 which asked the Province to ensure that low income housing meets basic habitat requirements through regular inspection as a condition to supplying rental payments to landlords; and
- 2002-B72 which asked the province to include minimum heating standards for tenants in the Residential Tenancy Act. (The Committee acknowledges this is a dated reference)

However the Committee advises that local choice is a foundational tenet of general policy adopted by UBCM members. As currently worded, the resolution proposes legislative amendments that would constrain local choice with regards to standards of maintenance.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: DBL

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Staff are currently reviewing the CoV Standards of Maintenance By-Law and plan to come to Council in Q2 with a discussion on maximum heat level. Currently, the Vancouver Charter does not allow the CoV to set such a max.

R30-Increased Fine for Short Term Rentals

City of Burnaby

Whereas short-term rentals (STRs) are taking away from long-term rental housing stock and in turn contributing to the housing crisis in Burnaby;

And whereas the Province intends to increase the maximum fine a local government may issue to any bylaw non-compliant operator from \$1,000 to \$3,000 per day utilizing the Municipal Ticket Information (MTI) system;

And whereas under the Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act (LGBNEA), the current mechanism to enforce bylaws in Burnaby, a maximum fine of \$500 per day is permitted, with no increase proposed by the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to permit the Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act maximum bylaw violation penalty per day to be increased to \$3,000;

And be it further resolved that local governments have the ability to add unpaid bylaw violation penalties to property taxes, to better allow local governments to regulate short-term rentals.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions addressing regulation of short-term rentals, including (2023-EB15, 2022-NR11, 2018-A4).

As well, the Joint UBCM-Province Advisory Group on Short Term Rentals prepared a series of recommendations based in part on these policies, that informed many elements of the Province's recent legislation on short-term rentals. The recommendations can be found via this link:

https://www.ubcm.ca/sites/default/files/2021-11/Policy%20Areas_Housing_Priorities%20for%20Short-Term%20Rentals%20Report_2021-10.pdf

However the Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution which asks the Province to permit the Local Government Bylaw Notice Enforcement Act maximum bylaw violation penalty per day to be increased to \$3,000, and allow local governments to have the ability to add unpaid bylaw violation penalties to property taxes, to better allow local governments to regulate short-term rentals.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: DBL

CoV Department Recommendation: [No recommendation](#)

CoV does not use MTI or tickets issued under the local government act because of the requirement to serve those tickets in person to the offender.

R31-Provincial Funding for Energy Efficient and Zero Emissions Equipment for Existing Buildings
Metro Vancouver

Whereas energy efficient and zero emissions building equipment provide benefits such as lower annual energy costs and improved resilience to extreme heat events;

And whereas the CleanBC Better Homes and Better Buildings programs provide incentives and rebates to reduce the significant cost barriers to implementing energy efficiency and zero emissions retrofits for existing buildings, yet multi-unit residential buildings including affordable housing have limited access to these incentive programs;

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM urge the Government of BC to significantly increase funding for provincial incentive programs to support energy efficient and zero emissions equipment for existing buildings, to ensure that incentives can leverage pre-2030 replacement cycles for residential and commercial building equipment;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the Government of BC to ensure that existing and future incentives and support programs are available for all building types, prioritizing multi-unit rental, affordable and non-market housing, and building types that are not covered in current incentives and rebates.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to increase funding for provincial incentive programs to support energy efficient and zero emissions equipment for existing buildings, to ensure that incentives can leverage pre-2030 replacement cycles for residential and commercial building equipment; and to ensure that existing and future incentives and support programs are available for all building types, prioritizing multi-unit rental, affordable and non-market housing, and building types that are not covered in current incentives and rebates.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in part, help lower GHG emissions (2023-EB20, 2023-EB21, 2022-EB31, 2022-NR18, 2021-EB40, 2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25) and calling for federal and provincial

programs to provide incentives for residential energy efficiency (2020-NR52, 2014-B28, 2014-B93, 2012-B25, 2010-B86, 2009-B166, 2007-B33, 2007-B177, 2006-B111).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS (Sustainability)

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

This resolution aligns with and supports the City's Climate Emergency Action Plan and CleanBC objectives. Increased provincial incentives and support programs for zero emissions equipment in existing buildings is critical, particularly prioritizing for multi-unit rental, affordable and non-market housing.

R32-Achieving Complete Streets through Building Permit

City of Burnaby

Whereas the Local Government Act permits municipalities, as part of rezoning and subdivision, to secure land dedication for highway purposes, and the registration of Covenants and Statutory Rights-of-way for works and services, and public access;

And whereas there is a desire on behalf of the Province to reduce rezoning applications by having municipalities permit higher density developments as-of-right as per recent provincial legislation to expedite housing delivery;

And whereas the Local Government Act does not currently permit a municipality to obtain dedications for highway purposes, or the registration of Covenants and Statutory Rights-of-way for works and services and public access as conditions of Building Permit issuance

And whereas, Bill 16 (Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2024) was introduced to the legislature on April 3, 2024, which among other things, proposed to grant municipalities the authority to require certain road dedications, off-site services and infrastructure and transportation demand management measures at development permit stage, though the Bill does not include authorities for Statutory Rights-of-way:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to amend the Local Government Act and Vancouver Charter to allow municipalities to obtain ~~highway dedications, and~~ the registration of Covenants and Statutory Rights-of-way for **highways, roads**, works and services, and public access through Building **or Development** Permit issuance without the approval of subdivision or rezoning.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR15 which made a similar request, asking the Province to expand the tools for local governments to

request road dedications, statutory-rights-of-way and infrastructure servicing upgrades through the development permit and/or building permit process; and to provide a legislative framework for amenity contributions, tenant relocation requirements, and other requirements to be applied at the development permit or building permit phase rather than being tied to rezonings.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2022-EB76 which sought to maintain local government autonomy and authority for development approvals.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: DBL / PDS

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse with Amendments – see red text above

Bill 16 accomplishes much of this and is already progressing through Legislature. Bill 16 did not expand into statutory rights of way. Province has said that wasn't part of their scope but could be part of future charter changes. Suggest support of expanding to include SRWs. We do have concerns with this being tied to BP. Bill 16 ties these requirements to DP, which staff do support. Possible suggested changes above if we want to Endorse with Amendments.

Historically, limited road dedications and transportation demand management measures are delivered at the development permit stage for complex and large developments which are not tied to rezonings. CoV staff support the continuation to request amenity contributions and tenant relocation requirements at the development permit stage.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R33-Intersection Cameras for Safer Streets

City of North Vancouver

Whereas most crashes in British Columbia happen at intersections and speed was the number

one contributing factor in fatal crashes in BC between 2018 and 2022;

And whereas intersection cameras, for both speed and red light infractions, can be implemented quickly and have been proven to be a cost-effective method of improving intersection safety:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the BC government to install speed and red light cameras at all intersections across BC with 20 or more casualty crashes recorded between 2018-2022;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon the BC government to allow local governments to install speed and red light cameras at their own expense and directly collect fines to be

invested in implementing road safety improvements.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to install speed and red light cameras at all intersections across BC with 20 or more casualty crashes recorded between 2018-2022; and to allow local governments to install speed and red light cameras at their own expense and directly collect fines to be invested in implementing road safety improvements.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions (2023-EB25, 2019-B8, 2017-B90) all asking the Province to permit local governments to independently implement traffic enforcement cameras on local roads at the local government's expense. These resolutions did not contemplate how revenue would be managed. As part of its response to resolution 2023-EB25, the Province stated that it does not intend to expand the Intersection Safety Camera program.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed additional resolutions seeking the usage of traffic enforcement cameras, including:

- 2018-B103 which asked the Province to pilot average-speed-over-distance technology at one or more suitable locations in BC, including but not limited to the Sea-to-Sky Highway 99 at Lions Bay, the Malahat Highway 1 or the Coquihalla Highway 5;
- 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; and
- 2011-B84 which asked the Province to allow for intersection safety cameras to be installed at crash-prone locations where marked crosswalks are absent.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

Consistent with Council direction. Automated enforcement could be a great tool to encourage safer driver behaviour.

Whereas the City of New Westminster adopted “Safe Movement of People” as a strategic priority for 2022-2026 and has committed to advance a “Vision Zero” mindset across the city which aims to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries;

And whereas the Government of BC’s Road Safety BC website states that:

1) “Most crashes in British Columbia happen at intersections. To reduce injuries and save lives, BC installs intersection safety cameras – sometimes called red light cameras – at intersections where crashes occur frequently. Warning signs let drivers know the intersection has cameras.”

2) “The cameras are proven to be effective at reducing side-impact, head-on and pedestrian crashes, and are located where red light running and high speed cause serious crashes.”;

And whereas the City of New Westminster has been working towards improving road safety through a variety of initiatives and infrastructure improvements, limited by capital budget funding and staff resources while the use of speed and red light cameras can be quickly implemented;

And whereas secondary benefits would include directing the revenue from these cameras toward road safety initiatives across the community and complementing the work of traditional police enforcement, enabling police officers to focus on other critical and time-sensitive tasks:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM call on the provincial government to expand the implementation of speed and red light intersection safety cameras in local governments across BC, prioritizing intersections near schools and those with a high rate of crashes that result in injuries or fatalities as identified by ICBC, and that the provincial government provide all revenue from additional speed and red light cameras to local governments as grants to be invested in implementing local and safety improvements;

And be it further resolved that the LMLGA and UBCM request that the provincial government allow BC local governments to install speed and red light cameras at their own cost and set and collect fees directly to be earmarked for road safety improvements.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to expand the implementation of speed and red light intersection safety cameras in local governments across BC, prioritizing intersections near schools and those with a high rate of crashes that result in injuries or fatalities as identified by ICBC, and that the provincial government provide all revenue from additional speed and red light cameras to local governments as grants to be invested in implementing local and safety improvements; and to allow local governments to install speed and red light cameras at their own expense and directly collect fines to be invested in road safety improvements.

However, the membership endorsed resolutions (2023-EB25, 2019-B8, 2017-B90) asking the Province to permit local governments to independently implement traffic enforcement cameras on local roads at the local government's expense. These resolutions did not contemplate how revenue would be managed. As part of its response to resolution 2023-EB25, the Province stated that it does not intend to expand the Intersection Safety Camera program.

The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed additional resolutions seeking the usage of traffic enforcement cameras, including:

- 2018-B103 which asked the Province to pilot average-speed-over-distance technology at one or more suitable locations in BC, including but not limited to the Sea-to-Sky Highway 99 at Lions Bay, the Malahat Highway 1 or the Coquihalla Highway 5;
- 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; and
- 2011-B84 which asked the Province to allow for intersection safety cameras to be installed at crash-prone locations where marked crosswalks are absent.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

This resolution is consistent with Vancouver City Council direction. Automated enforcement could be a great tool to encourage safer driver behaviour.

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 2023 Peter German report Policing our Ports;

And whereas the provincial and federal governments have statutory authorities in respect of taxation and fees related to the port and the transportation of shipping containers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to work with the Canadian government and port municipalities to develop a shipping container levy as a funding mechanism 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.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution seeking to establish a shipping container levy, as a funding mechanism for dedicated resources to police ports and waterfronts, in order to address the issue of organized crime.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse a somewhat similar resolution 2019-B90, which asked the federal government and port municipalities to develop a strategic plan to re-establish dedicated resources to police ports and waterfronts in order to address the issue of organized crime operating through Canada's ports. As part of its response to this resolution, the Province noted that port policing is a federal responsibility.

This resolution and the 2023 report, Policing our Ports, commissioned by the City of Delta, highlight decisions made by the Government of Canada to download federal responsibilities (e.g. border integrity, national security, serious and organized crime) onto local governments. It is a UBCM general policy that "access to additional revenue should be provided when local government is assigned new responsibilities."

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Vancouver Police Department

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

The VPD is supportive of the spirit of the resolution, however, we suggest that any funds obtained as a result of container levy be directed towards an integrated JFO policing model as the VPD would not be supportive of a stand-alone police agency model.

R36-Funding of RCMP Services for Small Municipalities

Village of Pemberton

Whereas the current funding model for municipal RCMP police services imposes an immense financial burden on small municipalities when their census population reaches 5,000;

And whereas implementation of the Province's Homes for People plan, accelerating housing development and population growth, will push many small municipalities to the 5,000 census population trigger point sooner than previously anticipated:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to immediately increase the population threshold for RCMP contract policing costs payable by local governments from 5,000 to 10,000 and to develop, in partnership with local governments, a more fair and equitable shared funding model between all policing partners in British Columbia.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously endorsed a resolution asking the Province to shift only one RCMP population threshold, from 5,000 to 10,000, while leaving the 15,000 person threshold unchanged; and that a more fair and equitable shared funding model be developed between all policing partners in BC.

However, the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions with the same general request, to ease the financial burden associated with moving to a new RCMP policing population tier.

Relevant resolutions include:

- 2023-NR34 which asked for the introduction of additional RCMP policing population tiers;
- 2022-NR33 which requested incremental RCMP cost-sharing adjustments as communities grow beyond 5,000, 10,000 and 15,000 residents;
- 2020-EB5 which asked the Province to review the current RCMP funding model with

consideration towards a gradual annual cost increase from the Police Tax to responsibility for 70% of the cost-base over a five-year period for municipalities that have reached the 5,000 person threshold;

- 2020-NR7 which asked the Province to review the current model of funding RCMP police services, with the intent to make policing more affordable for contract partners; and
- 2016-B75 which asked that the current RCMP funding model be reviewed with consideration towards an incremental cost increase based on population growth.

The Resolutions Committee also notes that the UBCM membership considered but did not endorse several other resolutions related to the RCMP cost-share for local governments, including:

- 2022-NR32 which asked provincial and federal governments to consider increasing the RCMP population thresholds (5,000 and 15,000) to recognize the increased burden on emerging municipalities;
- 2021-NR7 which asked the Province to review the current model of funding RCMP police services with consideration given to equitable funding of police services through a provincial police tax based on the assessed value of improvements for the areas served by the detachments; and, that any provincial contribution towards policing be shared equally with all police taxpayers;
- 2021-NR6 which asked the Province to implement a police funding formula that fairly and equitably distributes RCMP expenses to all governments throughout the province;
- 2020-NR8 which asked the Province to develop a funding model whereby provincial RCMP resources are increased and allocated to various regions of BC based on tourism, industrial activity growth, and/or rural population increase in the specified region; and
- 2016-B81 which asked the Province to develop an equitable police funding program for all municipalities and regional districts.

The cost-sharing models for municipalities over 5,000 in population are outlined in the 20-year Municipal Police Unit Agreement (MPUA) that these municipalities have signed with the Province, and which do not expire until March 31, 2032. The provisions in these Agreements, including the cost-sharing model, may be reviewed through the Five Year Review process (see

article 21.0 of the MPPA). During each of the first two Five Year Reviews (2017 and 2022), UBCM has sought input from the membership through The Compass and other forums. In 2020, the Province announced its intent to review the Police Act, subsequently creating the all-party Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (SCRPA). In its final report, the SCRPA recommended that the Province create a fair and equitable funding model for local governments that includes "exploring options to phase in or incrementally increase the municipal share of policing costs." UBCM continues to work with the Province, through the Local Government Policing Modernization Roundtable, to address these and other policing modernization priorities.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

R37-Equitable Court Access

City of Langley

Whereas gaps in service within the Provincial Courts continues to deny timely and equitable access to justice services for all British Columbians and will only be exacerbated by rapid population growth; thus, resulting in harms by prolonging closure for individuals awaiting court judgements, inefficient use of police time for travel, and greater challenges for those with limited access to public transit or transportation;

And whereas although recent investments made by the Ministry of Justice and Attorney General (JAG) have increased capacity at specific courthouses, the investments have not facilitated equitable access for all British Columbians or met service level requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM direct the Province of BC to identify and address current gaps in service in the Provincial Courts; and further, release an updated Courthouse Capital Asset Management Plan (CAMP) which reflects new growth projections and future service level needs.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to identify and address current gaps in service in the Provincial

Courts; and to release an updated Courthouse Capital Asset Management Plan that reflects new growth projections and future service level needs.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking increased funding and judicial resources, including specialized courts and other alternatives to the traditional court system (2023-EB30, 2021-EB11, 2019-B207, 2018-B89, 2018-B9, 2016-B8, 2014-B5, 2013-B10, 2012-B2, 2011-B9).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to improve efficiencies in disclosure and information management (2021-NR2) and to lower the charge approval threshold (2019-B5, 2018-B91), in order to address the perceived high volume of court delays.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

R38-Disaster Financial Assistance for Victims of Climate Related Events

Fraser Valley Regional District

Whereas the Province of British Columbia does not have a robust policy to assist victims of climate related events whose losses are not covered by insurance or Disaster Financial Assistance;

And whereas the time of decision making on claims to the Province of British Columbia is a significant and life changing hardship to British Columbians and Indigenous communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to take urgent steps to develop a policy to assist victims of climate events with their claims in a timely manner, not exceeding 12-months post-disaster.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to take urgent steps to develop a policy to assist victims of climate events with their claims in a timely manner, not exceeding 12-months post-disaster.

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

- 2023-LR2 which asked the provincial and federal governments to administer immediate assistance and financial aid to the commercial and industrial business sectors within the province that have been impacted by disasters, and that government programs, such as Disaster Financial Assistance be expanded to incorporate the direct and indirect impacts of natural disasters in order to support affected businesses;
- 2022-NR29 which asked the Province and Emergency Management BC to increase the Disaster Financial Assistance Funding (DFA) limit on homeowner applications and consider implementing a framework that ties DFA compensation to BC Assessment values;
- 2019-B97 which asked 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 that they may address their legislative responsibilities;
- 2019-B103 which asked the Province to review insurance practices to identify ways to better serve property owners and small businesses affected by disaster;
- 2019-B104 which asked the Province to change the Disaster Financial Assistance program criteria relating to income requirements, eligibility, and insurance availability to better address the needs of rural British Columbia small business owners;
- 2017-B86 which asked the Province to increase its share of emergency recovery costs, so that the Province is responsible for 90% and local governments are responsible for 10% of emergency recovery costs;
- 2015-B78 which asked the Province to expand the disaster relief fund, making it available to all property owners when such disaster is a result of natural and/or nonhuman causes; and
- 2013-B90 which asked the Province to expand the Disaster Financial Assistance fund to cover vacation properties.

In October 2023, the Province began a review of its financial assistance regulation by releasing a discussion paper and series of questions for stakeholders to consider.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Emergency Management

CoV Department Recommendation: No recommendation

R39-Managing Fire Risk on Crown Land

Fraser Valley Regional District

Whereas the Province of British Columbia needs to review its policy for backcountry closures during periods of extreme wildfire risk;

And whereas Regional Districts have no ability to mitigate the considerable risks associated with Crown land hazards nor respond to emergencies on Crown land under the Regional District service area model;

And whereas Regional District electoral area lands have the largest Crown to community exposure to these hazard areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to aggressively pursue strategic proactive messaging strategies about restricting access to vulnerable areas during periods of extreme wildfire risk to mitigate human-caused wildfires on Crown land;

And be it further resolved that UBCM request the Province to update their policy for backcountry closures to ensure proactive closures are a priority during periods of wildfire risk and in advance of conditions reaching unacceptable risk levels and include a process that ensures access by First Nations who use forest service roads to travel to and from their residences and territorial areas, as well as businesses who require access to Crown land.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to mitigate human-caused wildfires on Crown land by undertaking strategic and proactive messaging strategies about restricting access to vulnerable areas during periods of extreme wildfire risk; and, that the Province update its policy for backcountry closures to reflect the following:

- Prioritize proactive closures during periods of wildfire risk and in advance of conditions reaching unacceptable levels of risk;
- Ensure backcountry access by First Nations who use forest service roads to travel to and from their residences and territorial areas; and

- Ensure backcountry access by businesses who require access to Crown land.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership previously endorsed a number of resolutions relevant to this request, including:

- 2020-NR14, which requested that the Province be required by legislation to undertake disaster mitigation work on all lands and facilities under the care and control of the Province where emergency events could negatively impact adjacent communities;
- 2019-B51, which requested that there be no closures of backcountry areas in BC until and unless local governments and other stakeholders are consulted regarding social and economic impacts, and a sustainable solution for both be considered; and
- 2018-B107, which requested that the provincial and federal governments stop downloading wildfire mitigation costs and responsibilities onto local governments and First Nations, and take responsibility for wildfire mitigation costs on Crown land and areas surrounding local governments.

In 2019, the provincial government initiated a multi-year review of its emergency management legislation. Local governments, in response to a provincial discussion paper and through other forums, consistently requested that the Province assume responsibility for managing hazards on Crown land. The new Emergency and Disaster Management Act includes clarification that local authority jurisdiction for hazard management will include Crown land, reflecting the Province's unwillingness to assume these responsibilities.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

R40-Provincial Regulation of Fireworks

City of Delta

Whereas local governments have the ability to regulate the sale and use of fireworks within their local government boundaries;

And whereas there exists discrepancies among local bylaws regulating the sale and use of fireworks across the province and fireworks are also readily available from sources outside of British Columbia and Canada through online purchase;

And whereas fireworks are often obtained and used by individuals in an irresponsible manner leading to personal injuries, damage to property, harm to the environment and risk to pets and wildlife;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to work with local governments to amend the BC Fireworks Act and concurrently work with the federal government to address the online sale of fireworks, to establish a consistent approach with respect to the sales and permitting of fireworks with an objective to reduce the unauthorized and unsafe use of fireworks within the province.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial government to work with local governments to amend the Fireworks Act, while concurrently working with the federal government to establish a consistent approach to the to the online sale and permitting of fireworks, with an objective to reduce the unauthorized and unsafe use of fireworks within the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership previously endorsed resolution 2010-B3 which asked the Province to regulate the use of fireworks in British Columbia by a permit system that also includes public education, enforcement, international and local government crossborder transportation, and cost recovery where loss can be directly attributed to the use and abuse of fireworks. As part of its response, the Province noted that "the proposed regulatory change would require significant local government involvement and support, which has not been evident in previous efforts to amend existing fireworks regulations."

The Committee also notes that in 2005 the membership endorsed a resolution (2005-B74) similar to 2010-B3, but did not endorse a resolution (2005-B75) seeking a province-wide ban on the general sale and use of fireworks.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

Vancouver Fire supports a ban on Fireworks due to the enormous costs associated with the misuse of these products, the damage and impact on the environment, and the costs associated with enforcement and suppression services. Further Vancouver Fire has seen a significant amount of sales of Fireworks both through internet on-line sales, and jurisdictions outside of the City of Vancouver.

R41-Metal Theft

City of Mission

Whereas the theft of copper wire costs the local taxpayers of British Columbia thousands of dollars each year to repair and can create a danger to public safety through the loss of electricity, lighting and communications;

And whereas the Metal Dealers and Recyclers Act is more than 10 years old and metal thefts are an ongoing problem:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province, in collaboration with police agencies in BC, to complete a review of the Metal Dealers and Recyclers Act to address metal theft.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province, in collaboration with police agencies in BC, to complete a review of the Metal Dealers and Recyclers Act to address metal theft.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions related to this issue, including:

- 2011-B7 which requested that the Province implement a system to licence and regulate the scrap metal economy in British Columbia;
- 2011-B77 which requested that the Province create a provincial regulation governing pawnshops, second-hand dealers and recyclers to deal with metal theft;
- 2007-SR1 which requested an amendment to the Community Charter to enable local government to regulate pawnshops and second hand dealers;
- 2007-B92 which requested that the Province establish legislation regulating scrap metal recycling;
- 2007-LR10 which requested that local government be given the power to require scrap dealers to provide information to police; and
- 2006-B5 which requested that the Province amend Section 59 of the Community Charter to more clearly articulate local government's authority to impose requirements on

businesses selling goods that might endanger health or public safety. The ability to impose requirements on scrap metal dealers would be one example of the expected range of this proposed authority.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: VPD

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

The VPD endorses the resolution to review the *Metal Dealers Act* in hopes of leveraging any recommendation that may impact metal theft throughout the Province.

R42-Provincial Funding Program for Radon Mitigation

Fraser Valley Regional District

Whereas radon exposure is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking amongst Canadians and many British Columbians are exposed to unsafe levels of radon within their own homes every day;

And whereas professionally-installed radon mitigation systems are effective at reducing radon exposure levels in homes but are financially prohibitive for many British Columbians to pursue:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish a funding program to help residents with the costs of installing radon mitigation measures in their homes to increase the health and safety of British Columbians from the harmful effects of radon.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a funding program to help residents with the costs of installing radon mitigation systems and other measures in their homes to address the harmful effects of radon.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

ENVIRONMENT

R43- Youth Climate Corps

City of Port Moody

Whereas local governments recognize the urgent need to address climate change and the impact that climate change is having on communities through extreme weather such as wildfires, floods, extreme heat, which is causing major infrastructure damage and loss of life to residents;

And whereas there is a need to engage young people by local governments, and train the next generation of low carbon sector workers and leaders:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia for an expanded Youth Climate Corps that will provide green living wage jobs and training to young adults to support important work on climate adaptation and mitigation projects in their own communities, such as wildfire mitigation, building retrofits, ecosystem restoration and community engagement;

And be it further resolved that the Province work with local governments, Indigenous communities and nations, youth groups, industry, union associations and environmental organizations to scaleup, design programming and provide resources for a BC-wide Youth Climate Corps.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to expand a Youth Climate Corps that will provide green living wage jobs and training to young adults to support important work on climate adaptation and mitigation projects in their own communities, such as wildfire mitigation, building retrofits, ecosystem restoration and community engagement. Nor has the membership considered the request for the Province to work with local governments, Indigenous communities and nations, youth groups, industry, union associations and environmental organizations to scale up, design programming and provide resources for a BC-wide Youth Climate Corps.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2013-B81 which asked the Province to create and support a Green Jobs Plan for BC.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions proposing

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

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS (Sustainability)

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Staff research indicates that youth in particular are very anxious about climate change and one of the best ways to deal with that is identifying clear opportunities/roles for them to contribute to solutions. The resolution is also aligned with CleanBC based on the \$3M commitment in BC Budget 2024 to help the BC Youth Climate Corps to expand their programing.

R44-Black Bear Cub Conflict Response

District of North Vancouver

Whereas the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service currently can independently decide how to handle black bears and cubs in conflict situations, without the oversight of an independent external public board;

And whereas there is no mandate for orphaned black bear cubs to be taken to a Wildlife Sanctuary for health assessment and treatment by a qualified wildlife veterinarian, and be the sole authority to perform a humane euthanasia of black bear cubs if needed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to initiate changes to the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service, Human-Black Bear (Single) Conflict Response Guideline, to include a review of actions through an independent civilian-led oversight board, orphaned bear cubs to be transported to a wildlife sanctuary for health assessment of cubs by qualified wildlife veterinarian, for treatment or euthanasia, and an audit done by the Solicitor General of British Columbia Conservation Officer Service actions, policies and procedures.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to initiate changes to the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service, Human-Black Bear (Single) Conflict Response Guideline, to include a review of actions through an independent civilian-led oversight board, orphaned bear cubs to be transported to a wildlife sanctuary for health assessment of cubs by qualified wildlife veterinarian, for treatment or euthanasia, and an audit done by the Solicitor General of British Columbia Conservation Officer Service actions, policies and procedures.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions addressing Bear Smart programs, including:

- 2013-B73 which asked for more funds for the Bear Aware/Wild Safe program to ensure that interested communities can participate without having to compete against other jurisdictions for funding;
- 2012-B21 which asked for adequate funding and staffing be provided in order for the BC Conservation Service to be more active and proactive in effectively managing bear-human conflict in communities across BC; and
- 2004-B81 which asked the Province to maintain the Bear Aware program and provide the required funding through the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund for communities pursuing the “Bear Smart” program.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to increase numbers of conservation officers and resources to support wildlife management and to reduce human-wildlife conflict (2021-NR38, 2016-B30, 2015-B26, 2012-B72, 2013-B27, 2012-B21, 2010-B25). In particular, resolution 2021-NR38 sought to support the work and informed decision-making by Conservation Officers to consider (not require) orphaned and /or injured juvenile wildlife for rehabilitation, by providing up-to-date information on licensed rehabilitation facilities located in the Province; and to develop a standardized procedure for the assessment of suitability for rehabilitation, capture, emergency treatment, and transfer to a wildlife rehabilitation facility for orphaned and injured wildlife.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

LAND USE

R45-Farming Event Rules

Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Whereas events can support the feasibility of farming in BC;

And whereas current Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) Use Regulations are permitting events that hinder farming, and further local regulation is hindered by large geographic areas and limited resources, especially in Regional Districts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) to work with local governments to update event rules to ensure that farming is the primary use of ALR Lands, and that events avoid disruption of farming activities on nearby parcels, considering changes including (but not limited to):

- number of permitted events aligned to parcel size;
- stronger criteria for confirming farming is the primary use of a parcel; and
- ability of local governments to restrict events on a parcel in response to complaints from neighbouring properties.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the ALC to work with local governments to update event rules to ensure that farming is the primary use of ALR Lands, and that events avoid disruption of farming activities on nearby parcels, considering changes including (but not limited to):

- number of permitted events aligned to parcel size;
- stronger criteria for confirming farming is the primary use of a parcel; and
- ability of local governments to restrict events on a parcel in response to complaints from neighbouring properties.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2023-NR60 which asked the Agricultural Land Commission to allow for expanded non-farm usage on farmlands through a Temporary Use Permit (TUP) system.

The Committee is aware that farm retail sales, non-farm use home occupation and gatherings

for non-farm use events (i.e. weddings) are currently permitted in the ALR under certain circumstances. As well under the regulation, seasonal, harvest activities, corn mazes, heritage exhibits, tours, tractor rides, etc. are all permitted. Additionally, present provincial policy allows a winery to establish a restaurant or lounge to promote the products that it produces and sells.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

TAXATION

R46-Unfarmed Land Tax

City of Pitt Meadows

Whereas the purpose of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) is to preserve much-needed land for farming to ensure local food security, and not real estate speculation;

And whereas speculation in the ALR can lead to increased land values and the underutilization of ALR land for farming:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to establish a targeted unfarmed land tax, to discourage speculation and encourage farming in the ALR.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a targeted unfarmed land tax, to discourage speculation and encourage farming in the ALR.

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

- 2023-NR71 which asked the Province to extend the tax exemptions and assessed value methodology provided to rural area farms to farms located within municipal boundaries to help promote fairness among farmers and reduce barriers to agricultural activity within urbanized areas;
- 2018-B105 which asked for taxation reform measures to prioritize and promote the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for primary 'farm uses';
- 2014-A3 which asked the provincial government to work with the agricultural

community, UBCM and local governments to identify and implement additional measures that will increase the viability of farming and food production in British Columbia; and

- 2013-B111 which asked for strengthened powers for the Agricultural Land Commission and taking measures to protect the agricultural land base from price speculation.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

R47-School Tax Exemption

City of Pitt Meadows

Whereas the School Act exempts 50% of the assessed value of a parcel of land in the

Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) from school taxation if the land is vacant and unused, or used only for a residential purpose;

And whereas to encourage farming in the ALR to ensure local food security, school tax exemptions should only apply to ALR land that is being used for a farm purpose:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to amend the School Act to remove the 50% school tax exemption for vacant and unused land, and residential purpose land in the ALR.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the School Act to remove the 50% school tax exemption for vacant and unused land, and residential purpose land in the ALR.

However, the Committee notes the membership endorsed resolution 2018-B105 which asked the provincial government to direct BC Assessment, and any other appropriate bodies, to promptly investigate and propose possible taxation reform measures to prioritize and promote the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for primary farm uses.

The Committee also advises that the UBCM Executive considered, but did not endorse, referred resolution 2008-B101 which urged the provincial government to increase the tax benefit for those who are using their land for agriculture.

The Committee further notes members endorsed resolutions:

- 2003-B20 on Farm Classification that questioned the extent of exemptions provided and the eligibility of some properties for tax exemptions citing the strain this can put on other property classes.
- 2002-B48 which asked that section 130(2)(b) of the School Act be amended by deleting the reference to “residential purposes”, thus ensuring that every parcel of land used for a residential purpose pay equitably for school, hospital and local service purposes.

The Committee acknowledges that these are dated references.

The Committee further advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, two resolutions seeking the 50% school tax exemption for Class 6 properties (2012-B129, 2009-B80).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Finance

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

As the purpose of tax relief for land in the ALR is to encourage/enable farming, no exemption should be granted to vacant or unused land or land used for residential purposes in the ALR. Providing tax relief to land in ALR used for residential purposes creates inequity with other residential properties outside of ALR. Any tax relief provided will result in other properties having to pay more to compensate for the lost property tax revenue.

R48-Allowing Local Governments to Governments to Apply Commercial Rent Controls

City of New Westminster

Whereas the Province of British Columbia regulates annual allowable residential rent increases through the Residential Tenancy Regulation, BC Reg. 477/2003, to protect lower income renters from housing insecurity;

And whereas there is currently no similar provincial policy to protect small businesses or community-serving commercial tenants from unsustainable, unpredictable, and increasingly significant rent increases:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to provide local governments with the legislative authority to enable special economic zones where commercial

rent control and demo/renoviction policies could be applied to ensure predictability in commercial lease costs, so local small businesses and community-serving commercial tenants can continue to serve their communities.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide local governments with the legislative authority to enable special economic zones where commercial rent control and demo/renoviction policies could be applied to ensure predictability in commercial lease costs, so local small businesses and community-serving commercial tenants can continue to serve their communities.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2023-NR70 which called on the Province to establish a rental limit increase on commercially zoned properties operated by small businesses similar to the rental increase limitation(s) that govern residential rental properties.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking to assist commercial property owners with their assessments and property taxes or rents:

- 2019-B78 which asked the Province to create new assessment sub-classes for small businesses to allow local governments to apply differentiated non-residential property tax rates to smaller businesses and cultural hubs;
- 2018-B160 which sought a Legacy Business Registry and Grant program to provide relief from prohibitive increases in rent or property tax for independently-owned local businesses; and
- 2018-B115 which sought relief for independent small businesses through Provincial assessment and taxation reform.

The Committee notes that there would be operational and budget impacts for local governments to take on the job of monitoring and enforcing rent control policies and demo/renoviction policies.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS / Finance

CoV Department Recommendation: Abstain/Do not endorse

1. Staff in PDS have done considerable research on the commercial leasing process in BC (See Commercial Tenant Assistance Program fact sheets: No 1 [here](#) and No 2 [here](#)).
2. Staff have found that commercial leasing is very different from residential. Terms are subject to a high degree of negotiation and rental agreements may include incentives such as free rent periods or landlord contributions towards tenant improvements. Given the variation in individual agreements, published data on rental rates and change over time can be difficult to rely upon when considering policy interventions such as Commercial Rent control. The recent market report available [here](#) indicates that asking rents have held steady in many of Vancouver’s sub-areas and have increased in some areas (see page 2).
3. Based on conversations staff have had with key stakeholders such as the Vancouver BIAs, it is not clear whether municipal interventions in the commercial real estate market would be supported in the community. See media articles [here](#) and [here](#) relating to recent proposals to implement a vacant storefront tax.
4. The City has put in place 3 key programs to assist Commercial Tenants:
 - a. The [Commercial Tenant Assistance Program](#) provides a series of comprehensive guides to support small business navigation of the commercial real estate market in Vancouver. The guides are available in six languages.
 - b. The [Development Potential Relief Program](#) helps to decrease the property taxes payable on eligible properties who are occupying space in properties that are not built out to the full density permitted.
 - c. The [Permit Improvement Program](#) is making it easier for commercial tenants to get into commercial spaces quickly, reducing costs.

TRANSPORTATION

R49-Support for Transit Services Related to Housing Growth Acceleration *Village of Pemberton*

Whereas implementation of the Province’s Homes for People plan, designed to accelerate housing development and population growth, will increase pressures on local governments to provide transit services necessary to develop and support new housing;

And whereas local government transit service deficits may pose barriers to the development of at ainable housing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urges the Province, as part of their housing funding initiatives, to provide funding to local governments for transit services integral to the development of at ainable housing.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution urging the Province to, as part of their housing funding initiatives, provide funding to local governments for transit services integral to the development of affordable housing.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-EB17, which connected the need for rental housing and transit, asking the Province, in part, to enable a rapid and significant increase in the approvals, construction and supply of rental housing in areas near transit, active transportation infrastructure, and community destinations (workplaces, schools, shopping).

The Committee further notes that members have consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provision of and funding for public transit throughout BC (including 2023-EB60, 2023-EB61, 2022-NR56, 2022-NR57, 2020-EB17, 2018-SR2, 2018-B63, 2017-B8, 2017-B9, 2017-LR3, 2015-B9, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2012-C37).

The Committee recognizes that the necessity of transit services to support new housing is a significant issue, raised by the TransLink Mayors Council (Metro Vancouver), and separately, discussed extensively at the 2024 UBCM Housing Summit in a session focused on Bill 47 (transit oriented development).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering / PDS / Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Transit is a critical part of supporting sustainable/equitable transportation across the province. Further funding for transit where housing goals are being met could support both housing and transit.

R50-Better Support for Public Transit

City of Maple Ridge

Whereas TransLink relies on gasoline taxes to fund their services and those revenues can be expected to decline as the provincial and federal government move towards requiring all new passenger vehicles to be electric by 2035;

And whereas there is a need for more predictable funding and increased investments in transit services; to address traffic congestion and equitable access to transportation in our rapidly

growing and increasingly densifying communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocates to the Province to devise a new formula for funding transit services, that does not rely on gasoline taxes and supports the continued improvement of transit services across BC;

And be it further resolved that UBCM advocates to the federal government for earlier and increased permanent transit funding, including for infrastructure projects.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to design a new formula for funding transit services, with less emphasis on revenues from fuel tax; nor have members considered a resolution requesting that the federal government provide earlier and increased permanent transit funding, including for infrastructure projects.

While the sponsor is focusing on gasoline taxes as a funding source for transit, the Committee advises that the membership has not previously considered the impact of gasoline taxes on transit funding. However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking provision of and funding for public transit throughout BC (2023-EB60, 2023-EB61, 2022-NR56, 2022-NR57, 2020-EB17, 2018-SR2, 2018-B63, 2017-B8, 2017-B9, 2017-LR3, 2015-B9, 2013-B15, 2012-B115, 2012-C37).

The Committee also notes, in regard to the second enactment, that the federal government announced in February 2024, that it is investing \$14.9 billion over the next eight years in reliable, fast, affordable, and clean public transit. This funding includes \$3 billion per year in permanent, predictable federal public transit funding which will be available to support transit solutions beginning in 2026-27.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering / Long Term Financial Strategy

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Given reduction in gas tax revenue and future electrification of all vehicle sales by 2035, new funding mechanisms for transit will be required. When determining replacement funding, a key is to ensure

regional equity as certain funding sources (property taxes, parking taxes, development contributions) will impact City of Vancouver much more than other municipalities. CoV staff strongly support increasing the amount of the PTF and beginning the program earlier than the planned 2026 start. Need more tools that also incent use of sustainable transportation (road pricing, vehicle levy, etc.)

R51-Provincial Funding for Active Transportation Infrastructure

Metro Vancouver

Whereas BC local governments face significant capital funding challenges in delivering new active transportation infrastructure, which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions, provide lower-cost transportation options to BC residents, bring economic and health benefits to BC communities, and increase resilience of transportation networks, as demonstrated by similar investments in other jurisdictions;

And whereas the Government of BC has invested over \$40 million since 2014 to fund new active transportation infrastructure, has committed an additional \$30 million to fund active transportation infrastructure in Budget 2022, and has introduced rebates to support BC residents in choosing e-bikes which were quickly over-subscribed, demonstrating that there is significant latent demand by residents across BC for active transportation options, and Transport 2050: 10-Year Priorities for TransLink calls for \$1.5 billion over the next ten years for capital investments for active transportation infrastructure in the Metro Vancouver region:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of BC to expand funding for active transportation infrastructure to at least \$300 million annually over the next ten years to support the development of protected, connected, and accessible local cycling and walking infrastructure networks across BC, that are integrated into larger regional active transportation and public transit networks.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution that specifically asked the Province to expand funding for active transportation infrastructure to at least \$300 million annually over the next ten years.

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

- development of active transportation infrastructure (2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16,

2018-B15, 2013-B99);

- tax exemption or financial incentive for purchase of electric bicycles (2020-EB29, 2019-B44, 2016-B130); and
- improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57, 2012-B63, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B110, 2006-B140).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Sustainability

CoV Department Recommendation: Endorse

Aligned with the Climate Emergency Action Plan and City of Vancouver’s advocacy to the BC government for increased investment in active transportation. Funding should also be more easily accessible.

R52-Road Usage Charge-Zero Emission Vehicles

District of Kent

Whereas the provincial government continues to advocate for drivers to switch to zero emission vehicles from internal combustion engine vehicles;

And whereas the British Columbia Transportation Financing Authority (BCTFA) receives dedicated funds through the sale of fuel products for transportation infrastructure;

And whereas zero-emission vehicles use the same transportation highways and impacts infrastructure as internal combustion engine vehicles but do not contribute to funding of the BCTFA:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the provincial government consider implementing a road usage fee per kilometre driven by zero-emission vehicles to maintain funding levels for the British Columbia Transportation Financing Authority.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to consider implementing a road usage fee per kilometre driven by zero-emission vehicles to maintain funding levels for the British Columbia Transportation Financing Authority.

However, the Committee would note that members considered, but did not endorse, resolution

2022-NR54, which called on the Province to shift taxation for road infrastructure to a more equitable, user-pay model through alternative funding mechanisms such as tolling, vehicle taxes, or other means that are not reliant on fuel sales.

However, the Committee notes that membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the use of electric vehicles by expanding charging infrastructure (2022-EB74, 2020-EB28, 2019-B144, 2017-B116, 2017-B132) and increasing sales of electric vehicles (2023-NR80.1, 2020-EB28, 2020-EB27, 2018-B130, 2019-B142, 2019-B143, 2018-B131).

In a scan of other jurisdictions, the Committee is aware that in March 2024, Alberta announced that it will implement a \$200 registration tax on electric vehicles starting January 2025, in an attempt to make up for reduced fuel tax revenue. Saskatchewan introduced a \$150 registration fee on zero-emission vehicles in 2021.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: PDS (Sustainability)

CoV Department Recommendation: Do not endorse

While there is a need to raise revenue for highway and road maintenance, the proposed recommendation would have the unintended consequence of discouraging the adoption and use of electric vehicles, which is a key solution in CleanBC and Vancouver's Climate Emergency Action Plan. Any road usage charge should be designed to be consistent with climate change and affordability objectives and include ICE vehicles. Any delay in reducing climate impacts will increase costs to BC.

R53-Trucking Penalties

City of Delta

Whereas over 30 overpasses have been struck by a commercial vehicle in British Columbia since December 2021;

And whereas overpass strikes by commercial vehicles have resulted in significant damage, inconvenience to commuters, and damage to the local economy;

And whereas existing fines are not sufficiently punitive to deter the transportation of oversized loads on routes that are not designated for oversized loads:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to introduce legislative amendments to allow for stricter penalties to trucking companies that are deemed responsible for damage to

critical provincial infrastructure.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to introduce legislative amendments to allow for stricter penalties to trucking companies that are deemed responsible for damage to critical provincial infrastructure.

The Committee notes that members endorsed a related resolution, 2009-B20, which observed that at the time, the burden of penalties was placed on individual drivers of commercial vehicles rather than the companies that owned or contracted those vehicles. Resolution 2009-B20 called on the provincial government in part to:

- implement an accredited educational training program for companies to complete prior to obtaining a National Safety Code number; and
- establish specific accountability to the owners and shippers who contract, employ or otherwise tender service from truck operators.

The Committee is aware that in December 2023, the Province announced amendments to the Commercial Transport Regulations and Motor Vehicle Act Regulations to bring in new offences and higher fines to address over-height vehicles and loads, as well as require dump-style vehicles to have in-cab warning devices by June 1, 2024. The Province also set out a progressive enforcement framework with escalating consequences for carriers involved in infrastructure crashes. In March 2024, the Province proposed changes to the Commercial Transport Act (CTA) to bring in stiffer penalties for drivers found responsible for striking an overpass. Drivers could be ordered to pay fines up to \$100,000 and spend up to 18 months in jail.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Engineering

CoV Department Recommendation: [No recommendation](#)

CoV Department Comments: No comments

ASSESSMENT

R54-Minimum Income Requirements for Farm Classification

City of Pitt Meadows

Whereas the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation establishes minimum gross income requirements for farm operations to be classified as Farm under the Assessment Act, that were last increased in 1993;

And whereas farm property tax reform that confers tax benefits to farm operations would help to encourage farming and support local food security:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to amend the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation to increase the income thresholds to achieve Farm classification, to a single minimum gross farm income of \$7,000;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of BC to review the income thresholds at least every five years.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to amend the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation to increase the income thresholds to achieve Farm classification, to a single minimum gross farm income of \$7,000; and to review the income thresholds at least every five years.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2018-B105 that encourages the provincial government to direct BC Assessment, and any other appropriate bodies, to promptly investigate and propose possible taxation reform measures to prioritize and promote the use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands for primary farm uses, as laid out in the Homes for BC companion document to the 2018 Provincial Budget. The response from the provincial government to this resolution noted that the Minister of Agriculture had set up an Advisory Committee for Revitalizing the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC). The Committee submitted its Final Report in December 2018 which included Recommendation 23 calling for a review and increase to the income threshold for farm properties qualifying for the BC Assessment Farm Class.

The Province's response to the 2018 resolution further advised that the Ministry of Municipal Affairs administers the BC Assessment Act and has authority for seeking amendments to income

thresholds for farm property tax status. Ministry of Agriculture staff were working with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and the Ministry of Finance to explore potential options to better ensure farm property tax benefits support the intended recipients. However, the thresholds in the Classification of Land as a Farm Regulation has not been revised since the Committee's report.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Finance

CoV Department Recommendation: [No recommendation](#)

As the resolution is not limited to land in the ALR, need to exercise caution to mitigate unintended consequences, including potential tax avoidance schemes for land outside the ALR.

R55-BC Assessment Property Value Accuracy

District of Squamish

Whereas assessing and appraising real estate is primarily an information business and the Assessment Act requires BC Assessment to value similar properties consistently and equitably recognizing that similar unsold properties are consistently under-assessed, sometimes for consecutive years;

And whereas the Assessment Act has no meaningful consequences for withholding information vital to BC Assessment to obtain critical information necessary to properly assess properties and this results in taxation rates based on flawed assessment/valuation data:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to update the Assessment Act to significantly reduce the number of drastically under-assessed properties year over year.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to update the Assessment Act to significantly reduce the number of drastically under-assessed properties year over year.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR86 which addressed the assessed valuation of major industrial and electrical properties, advocating for greater transparency in major industrial and electrical property assessments and the lessening

of closure allowances available to major industrial and electrical proponents when they cease operations in communities.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2014-B111 which noted that limited and infrequent property sales may not accurately reflect market values in many rural areas of British Columbia, and asked the provincial government to provide the BC Assessment Authority with more flexibility when assessing properties in rural British Columbia.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: Finance

CoV Department Recommendation: No recommendation

While more accurate assessment is welcomed, the resolutions is not clear what specific changes would be made to compel property owners to provide accurate and timely information.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R56-Creating A Ministry of Hospitality

City of New Westminster

Whereas British Columbia is home to over 15,000 restaurants and foodservice vendors that employ over 185,000 workers across the province, generate \$18 billion in annual sales and play a key role in supporting BC workers, families, and vital industries such as agriculture, transportation, and tourism and are at the heart of every community in this province; And whereas the costs of food, supplies and transportation have substantially increased, commercial property owners are passing commercial property taxes onto restaurant and food service tenants, many of whom continue to experience long-term impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to create a Ministry of Hospitality to support and engage restaurants, food service vendors and the hospitality sector generally by acting as advocates within government for policy development and reform.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to create a Ministry of Hospitality to support and engage restaurants, food service vendors and the hospitality sector generally by acting as advocates

within government for policy development and reform.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: DBL

CoV Department Recommendation: No recommendation

SELECTED ISSUES

R57-Provincial Service Level Expectations to Prioritize Customer Service

Fraser Valley Regional District

Whereas the Province of British Columbia does not have reliable modernized call for service systems or channels for the Ministry of Environment (Report All Poacher and Polluters (RAPP) Line), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Agricultural Land Commission, or the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure;

And whereas the lack of a reliable call for service system or channels creates public confusion, frustration, and safety concerns over service level expectations due to a lack of communication regarding queue status, outcome of reporting feedback, or additional follow-up:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to modernize call for service systems by implementing a variety of contact channels, including digital interfaces, and establish service level expectations amongst the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Agricultural Land Commission, and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to support customer service.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to modernize call for service systems by implementing a variety of contact channels, including digital interfaces, and establish service level expectations amongst the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Agricultural Land Commission, and the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to support customer service. However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed two resolutions addressing minimum staffing levels to address illegal dumping, 2021-EB30 and 2017-B64, both of which

asked the Province, in part, to provide adequate funding to the designated Ministry to ensure minimum staffing levels can be maintained in all areas of the Province to address the issue of illegal dumping.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

NOT RELEVANT TO COV. NO STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

R58-BC Arts Council Funding

City of North Vancouver

Whereas investing in arts, culture, and heritage has proven social, economic, and educational benefits for communities small and large across the province;

And whereas the arts, culture, and heritage sector has been chronically underfunded in BC compared to other regions in Canada:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC increase the BC Arts Councils' annual budget to a minimum of \$55 million in the 2025/26 budget.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to increase the BC Arts Council's annual budget to a minimum of \$55 million in the 2025/26 budget.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported past resolutions addressing arts funding:

- 2010-B48 which asked the provincial government to restore funds to community arts and cultural organizations to earlier levels; and
- 2009-B24 which asked the provincial and federal governments to reinstate full funding to the creative sector and related programs and further consider additional investment as part of the economic stimulus programs.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS

CoV Department Recommendation: [Endorse](#)

Part 3 Section C - This section contains resolutions that are regional in nature and if endorsed, will not be forwarded to UBCM.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R59-Additional Rapid Access to Detox Beds for Fraser Health Region

City of Abbotsford

Whereas the Province of BC, through their 2023 Pathway to Hope progress report committed to “eliminating gaps in the mental health care and substance use treatment system,” and to “building an integrated system of care that includes access to a full spectrum of treatment and recovery options” so that “no one falls through the cracks”;

And whereas the Fraser Health Region which covers nearly two million people in 20 diverse communities from Burnaby to Fraser Canyon has only one publicly funded facility that offers rapid access to detox with a total of 24 beds for both youth and adults which results in wait times for persons wishing to enter detox;

And whereas wait times for detox beds are a known barrier for those seeking the option of treatment for addiction when they are ready:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government in order to provide more funding to open detox centres in the Fraser Health Region where they are needed and where accessing existing ones would be difficult for individuals needing the service.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide more funding to open detox centres in the Fraser Health Region.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking care beds for those suffering with substance use disorder, including:

- 2020-SR8 which asked, in part, to introduce additional long-term care beds to deal specifically with mental illness cases;
- 2019-B61 which asked to 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;

- 2010-B145 which asked, in part, for more harm reduction services, including detox and treatment beds; and
- 2007-B51 which asked for more funding for detox centres in more areas of the Province; and
- 2006-B8 which asked for more regional detox centres.

More generally, the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2023-SR3, 2022-EB9, 2022-NR4, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB59, 2021-EB60, 2020-SR8, 2020-EB79, 2020-NR62, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2014-B70, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

The Committee would suggest that this resolution is too regional in nature, and advocacy would best be undertaken by the Area Association, if endorsed.

Recommendation:

Conference Decision:

CoV Department Contact: ACCS

CoV Department Recommendation: No Recommendation

Requires Executive Planning from Fraser Health Authority and Ministry of Health.