



# LOWER MAINLAND

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### 2023 RESOLUTIONS DISPOSITION

#### LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS

##### ABBREVIATION KEY:

**ER** = EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION – RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY THE LOWER MAINLAND LGA EXECUTIVE

**RR** = REFERRED RESOLUTION – RESOLUTION REFERRED BACK FROM UBCM FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR

**R** = RESOLUTION – RESOLUTION RECEIVED FROM THE MEMBERSHIP BY THE DEADLINE

**OF** = RESOLUTION OFF THE FLOOR OF THE CONVENTION

#### PART 1 – EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

None received.

#### PART 2 – REFERRED RESOLUTIONS

None received.

#### PART 3 – RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE

##### HOUSING

**R1 Expanding Property Transfer Tax Exemptions**

**City of Burnaby**

Whereas the high cost of land is one of the greatest barriers to non-market housing development in British Columbia;

And whereas municipalities have been asked by the Province to support the development of new non-market housing developments, including by forgoing market value of their own lands to provide to not-for-profit organizations at a nominal rate and for extended periods of time to facilitate the development of affordable housing;

And whereas municipalities view not-for-profit organizations as partners in non-market housing development, regardless of their registration status as a society or charity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to review the Property Transfer Tax and other provincial legislation to expand the exemption from payment of Property Transfer Tax to all not-for-profit societies, co-operatives or corporations incorporated and in good standing under the *BC Societies Act*, *Cooperative Association Act*, or the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* who are leasing municipal lands for the development of affordable housing from payment of Property Transfer Tax to eliminate this financial burden on the creation of non-market housing.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R2 Municipal Authority for Empty Homes 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 the authority to adopt an Empty Homes Tax is not currently available to municipalities operating outside of the *Vancouver Charter*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Community Charter* to enable municipalities to administer a specific property tax on unoccupied Class 1 Residential properties, with net revenues to be used by the municipality towards affordable housing projects.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R3 Incentives for Heat Pumps and Other Climate Resilient Retrofits  
In Multi-Residential Buildings**

**City of Port Moody**

Whereas climate change is worsening conditions and increasing vulnerabilities in the built environment, and existing multi-unit residential buildings (MURBs) are some of the most vulnerable and housing the most vulnerable populations;

And whereas the CleanBC Better Homes program provides incentives and rebates for some, but not all, dwelling types, excluding MURBs (such as high-rises and apartment buildings) yet over 30% of British Columbians reside in these dwellings:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province make the necessary changes to the CleanBC Better Homes program to ensure that all dwelling types are eligible for incentives and rebates for retrofits to ensure the health and safety of all British Columbians, particularly the most vulnerable, while working towards the Province's GHG reduction targets.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

### **R4 Provincial Government Re-Established as Diking Authority**

**City of Abbotsford**

Whereas the Province has designated municipalities as diking authorities and established a wide range of authoritative powers over them including requirements to fully administer and resource ongoing dike maintenance, flood protection planning, monitoring, inspection, as well as to substantively fund disaster prevention and relief initiatives;

And whereas the Province of BC completed a Preliminary Strategic Climate Risk Assessment for BC in 2019 that found that extreme weather events will continue to worsen across the province in coming years including heat waves and severe river flooding with extreme precipitation events continuing to increase toward 1 in 20 year events becoming 1 in 10 year events or lower;

And whereas the administrative and financial resources required for local governments to undertake the responsibilities as diking authorities are an increasingly unsustainable burden on local communities with no dedicated funding sources from senior government:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to be re-established as the diking authority in local governments.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **R5 Illegal Dumping on Agricultural Lands**

**Fraser Valley Regional District**

Whereas the Province of British Columbia amended the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* in 2018 under Bill 52;

And whereas these changes included new prohibitions for dumping waste and other damaging substances on farmland, with significant penalties and new tools for enforcement:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to follow through on these changes and invest more resources in prosecuting offenders who unlawfully deposit waste on agricultural lands.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R6 Ban on the Sale of Invasive Species**

**District of West Vancouver**

Whereas invasive plants can cause significant economic harm by damaging crops, fisheries, forests, and infrastructure, and impose costs on industry and taxpayers for control and eradication efforts;

And whereas regulating the sale and distribution of invasive plants is a key strategy for preventing their introduction and spread, and for protecting native ecosystems and economies:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province ban the sale and distribution of invasive plants within the jurisdiction of the Province of British Columbia, except for plants that have been determined to be non-invasive.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**FINANCE**

**R7 Sustainable Canadian Local Governments Asset Management Fund City of Langley**

Whereas Canada's infrastructure deficit is estimated to be as high as \$570 billion with almost 60% of the deficit within local government jurisdictions;

And whereas the costs to replace and repair local government infrastructure for critical services such as roads, arenas, bridges, drinking water and wastewater systems are estimated to be \$141 billion, which is well beyond the financial capacity of municipalities across the country due to limited revenue generation options, and all while costs for infrastructure renewal continue to escalate at an exponential rate:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge 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.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **LEGISLATIVE**

### **R8 Creation of Independent Municipal Ethics Commissioner Village of Harrison Hot Springs**

Whereas the UBCM Working Group on Responsible Conduct has worked to support British Columbia local governments in addressing misconduct by elected officials and providing local governments with a set of fundamental principles which can be utilized to enact codes of conduct;

And whereas smaller local governments in British Columbia do not have the financial resources to establish an independent and autonomous Ethics Commissioner to investigate and resolve allegations of misconduct;

And whereas the current legislative framework available to small local governments in British Columbia regarding alleged breaches of code of conduct can result in expensive legal processes which may produce limited conclusions:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM call upon the provincial government to immediately create an Independent Municipal Ethics Commissioner within the Ministry of Municipal Affairs to serve the public, elected officials and officers in an advisory, instructive and investigative role in the application and enforcement of codes of conduct.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **SELECTED ISSUES**

### **R9 Equitable Communities**

**City of Burnaby, City of New Westminster,  
City of North Vancouver, City of Port Coquitlam**

Whereas systemic inequities are present in all municipalities and prevent all citizens from fully participating in civic life, but numerous municipalities across British Columbia and Canada have made progress towards becoming more equitable by committing to embed equity in all government action through the use of analytical processes for the assessment of systemic inequities (e.g. Gender-Based Analysis Plus);

And whereas the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada have adopted Gender-Based Analysis Plus to assess how diverse Canadians experience policies, programs, and government initiatives:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada to provide resources and policy direction to enable local governments

to implement analytical process for the assessment of systemic inequalities (i.e. Gender-Based Analysis Plus) across local government capital investments, operations and strategic initiatives to ensure all citizens can participate fully in civic life and to make measurable progress towards dismantling systemic inequality in our communities.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

**R10 Exception to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act*  
Exemption to Address Illicit Drug Use in Spaces for Children  
and Youth**

**City of New  
Westminster**

Whereas the BC Government has been granted an exemption by Health Canada from the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to decriminalize the possession of certain illegal drugs;

And whereas an omission to the exceptions for this exemption could result in nuisance illicit drug use in public park spaces designed for and used by children and youth:

Therefore be it resolved that the LMLGA and UBCM request that the BC Government request Health Canada add “public park-spaces designed for and used by children and youth” to the list of exceptions to the *Controlled Drug and Substances Act* exemption.

**ON MOTION, as amended was ENDORSED**

**R11 Provincial Funding for Municipal Medic Trucks**

**City of Mission**

Whereas the provincial investments in the BC Ambulance Service have not kept pace with growth and inflation in BC municipalities;

And whereas municipal fire and rescue services are often the first responders to calls for medical service causing elevated wear and tear on fire apparatus and are unable to leave the scene until an ambulance arrives thus putting the community fire protection services at risk:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to consider funding the capital and operating costs of medic trucks in municipalities to ensure that an adequate level of fire protection is maintained in the community and the cost of providing purely medical services, a provincial responsibility, are not unfairly burdening municipalities.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **R12 Agri-Industrial Activities**

**City of Abbotsford**

Whereas the BC Food Security Task Force recommended in 2019 that the Province allocate up to a quarter of a percent (0.25%) of the ALR be made available for agri-industrial activities and establish a commissioner for agri-industrial lands;

And whereas creating a dedicated area for agri-industrial activity will give businesses in food and agritech a strategic opportunity to support the modernization of agriculture and enhance food security;

And whereas local governments are unable to consider pilot projects that align with this concept:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province of BC to provide an opportunity for communities to pilot agritech opportunities in alignment with the BC Food Security Task Force Findings and Recommendations report.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **R13 Review of Benefits for People with Disabilities**

**City of Mission**

Whereas a single person with a disability receives \$1,358 per month in disability assistance from the provincial government;

And whereas the cost of living has increased substantially making it very challenging for a person with a disability to make ends meet:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask that the provincial government review the current assistance rates and increase the assistance amount to no less than \$1,800 per month for a single person and that the rate be reviewed annually to keep pace with cost of living increases.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **HOUSING**

### **R14 Rights of Tenants Facing Displacement Through Redevelopment**

**District of North Vancouver**

Whereas vulnerable tenants are evicted from low-costs rental homes for redevelopment purposes;

And whereas there are insufficient protections within the *Residential Tenancy Act* for tenants to be re-homed in the redeveloped properties they were evicted from:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Government of British Columbia enable legislative changes to require developers who evict residents from low-cost rental homes to allow tenants right of first refusal to return to the developed property at either their rental rate at time of eviction or a discounted rental rate, ~~and, should no rental units be part of the redeveloped site, with an option for right of first refusal with a purchase discount option;~~

And be it further resolved that the *Residential Tenancy Act* and any other applicable legislative change be enacted to allow enhanced rights of tenants in British Columbia and that a Municipal Guide for Tenant Relocation Policies be provided to local governments.

**ON MOTION, as amended was ENDORSED**

**R15 Supporting Non-Profit Ownership of Non-Market Housing  
In Air Space Parcels**

**City of Burnaby**

Whereas municipalities have been asked by the Province to support the development of new non-market housing developments;

And whereas municipalities have adopted policies to encourage the inclusion of non-market housing owned and operated by a non-profit organization as part of market housing developments;

And whereas non-profit organizations are being denied mortgage financing to acquire non-market dwelling units due to lack of title or lease while the building is under construction:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to amend the *Land Title Act* to enable lot line adjustments for air space parcels, to allow non-profit organizations to obtain title and financing on a provisional air space parcel which may then be further subdivided prior to occupancy to align with the building's elevations as constructed.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R16 Vacant Property Tax on Commercial Properties**

**City of New Westminster**

Whereas the Province has adopted vacancy taxes on vacant residential properties as one tool to assure land speculation does not result in property standing fallow to the detriment of community livability and other goals;



And whereas commercial property values are inflating province-wide, and increasingly face investment speculation resulting in similar underutilization of commercial property in many municipalities across British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to provide local governments with an option to introduce a vacant property tax applicable to commercial **and industrial** properties.

**ON MOTION, as amended was ENDORSED**

**R17 Advocacy for Pet Friendly Housing**

**City of Port Moody**

Whereas companion animals have been proven to enhance physical, emotional and mental wellbeing, particularly for vulnerable British Columbians such as women, young people, households with lower incomes, renters and those experiencing homelessness who identify greater reliance on their companion animals for support and greater difficulty finding affordable, pet-friendly housing;

And whereas the lack of pet-friendly housing continues to be the primary reason for the surrender of healthy, loved, adult companion animals to the BC SPCA, despite the provincial government's work to increase housing affordability and supply:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and LMLGA ask the Province of British Columbia to direct BC Housing to develop strategies and guidance that support pet-friendly housing in the non-profit sector;

And be it further resolved that UBCM and LMLGA ask the Province of British Columbia to consider pet friendly housing in the BC Housing Strategy update and to work with stakeholders (including but not limited to landlord's and tenant's associations, animal welfare organizations, public health, mental health and seniors organizations, and poverty reduction and homelessness advocates) to find cooperative solutions to increase the availability and affordability of pet-friendly housing for all British Columbians while providing appropriate protections and mechanisms of compensation for landlords.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R18 Updating the *Strata Property Act* to Include Allowances for Heat Pumps and Other Mechanical Cooling Systems**

**City of Port Moody**

Whereas climate change is worsening conditions, increasing daytime and nighttime temperatures and other vulnerabilities for low-income residents of multi-unit residential buildings;

And whereas the current *Strata Property Act* permits Strata Councils to enact bylaws that permit or restrict the addition of mechanical cooling to an individual unit within a strata property, and therefore this restriction creates an unsafe interior environment in the case of heat domes and other high temperatures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to amend the *Strata Property Act* to allow the addition of heat pumps or other efficient mechanical cooling systems without the need to amend individual Strata corporation bylaws.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R19 Requirement for Cooling in Rental Units**

**City of Port Moody**

Whereas climate change is worsening conditions and increasing vulnerabilities in the built environment, and the majority of heat dome deaths were in low-income and multi-unit residential buildings that lacked access to cooling;

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

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to make the necessary changes to the *Residential Tenancy Act* to require cooling in rental units and buildings to ensure the health and safety of all British Columbians.

**ON MOTION, was DEFEATED**

**R20 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.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**R21 Provincial Cannabis Tax Sharing with Local Governments**

**City of Port Moody**

Whereas the Canadian federal government has clearly stated its expectation that provincial cannabis tax revenue be shared with local governments and such revenues are currently being shared between the provinces and local governments in Ontario, Quebec, and Alberta, but not in British Columbia;

And whereas the sharing of cannabis tax revenue will provide much needed funding for local governments:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to share up to 50% of provincial revenues generated from the production and sale of cannabis products with BC local governments.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R22 Large Infrastructure Project Impacts on Public Safety**

**District of Squamish**

Whereas in 2019 BC enacted the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls found that Indigenous women and girls experienced violence as a result of industrial work camps in proximity to their communities;

And whereas large infrastructure projects mandated or approved by the Province are in the planning, construction, operation and closure phases across BC;

And whereas significant numbers of temporary workers are required to reside in or near communities to execute these projects, and the provincial government has committed to addressing the public safety concerns of British Columbians:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM request that provincial regulation of temporary workforce accommodation be expanded beyond basic servicing and environmental requirements, and that monitoring, evaluation and accountability be expanded for specific recommended mitigation measures to minimize impacts on local communities including but not limited to gender-based violence.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R23 Working Committee for Flood Disasters**

**Village of Harrison Hot Springs,  
District of Kent**

Whereas flooding is one of the most common natural disasters in British Columbia that impacts communities, flood plains, agriculture, and prominent First Nations lands;

And whereas flood risks continue to substantially grow due to climate change and the lack of pro-active flood management and protection such as regional flood risk assessment and flood protection program by the Province of British Columbia and the federal government:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA request UBCM to establish a working committee consisting of local government, provincial, federal and First Nation members to address the future flooding disaster and to restore flood protection by completing and implementing a flood risk assessment to develop strategic flood protection for critical infrastructure and to build back resilient communities.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**R24 Understanding BC Hydro's Electrification Capacity**

**District of Squamish**

Whereas BC municipalities are moving quickly to enable electrification through community climate action plans and municipal energy and emissions plans;

And whereas there is currently a lack of funding or incentives to support electrification in existing residential, commercial and institutional building retrofits, and a lack of certainty that the electrical grid has the capacity to accommodate the anticipated electrical demand that will result from future retrofits:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM coordinate with the Province, BC Utilities Commission and BC Hydro regarding the need for communities to understand BC Hydro's readiness to meet electrification requirements and to support electrification in retrofits in order for communities to meet climate action goals.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **FINANCE**

### **R25 eGaming Revenue Distribution**

**City of Burnaby**

Whereas eGaming revenue is increasing as a proportion of overall gaming revenue collected by the Province;

And whereas eGaming revenue is not currently shared with municipalities, unlike casino revenues which are shared with host cities for the purpose of public benefits:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to allocate a portion of BCLC's online revenues based on per capita or eGaming revenue earned from each municipal resident spend.

### **ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

### **R26 Casino Revenue Sharing in Regional Districts**

**City of Port Moody**

Whereas the original intent of solely sharing casino revenue with host communities was to offset the perceived and projected negative impacts of hosting a casino, and according to the Province, most communities have experienced minimal, if any, negative financial consequences as a result of hosting such a facility and are using the revenue they receive for other, locally determined priorities;

And whereas there has been a precedent set with the Town of View Royal for partial regional casino revenue sharing, and residents from all communities throughout a region contribute to the revenue of a casino but do not receive the benefits, and therefore this creates an inequitable distribution of funds which could and should benefit residents of the entire regional district;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to make the necessary legislative changes to ensure equitable distribution of casino revenue within regional districts.

### **ON MOTION, was DEFEATED**

## **TAXATION**

### **R27 Permissive Tax Exemptions for Religious Organizations**

**District of Squamish**

Whereas statutory tax exemptions are automatically granted and applied to recipients, while municipalities are given the choice of whether or not to apply a permissive exemption, as well as set other parameters and limitations around permissive exemptions, such as size, duration,

percentage of budget, and establish application processes and benefits tests to maximize the public benefit derived from permissive tax exemptions;

And whereas municipalities lack the ability to control the size and allocation of statutory tax exemptions, which can constitute a significant portion of municipal budgets, and statutory tax exemptions for places of worship are granted in perpetuity:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to amend the *Community Charter* to move the tax exemption granted to places of public worship under the statutory Section 220(1)(h), to the permissive Section 224(2).

**ON MOTION, was DEFEATED**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **R28 Bringing Equity to Traffic Enforcement**

**City of New Westminster**

Whereas the primary deterrent from exceeding speed limits or violating other road safety regulations on municipal roads in British Columbia are fines administered under the Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation;

And whereas fixed rate fines are inequitable, disproportionately impacting people with lower incomes while applying lower deterrent value to people with higher incomes, creating a structural inequity in the application of justice:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM calls upon the provincial government to implement a means-tested traffic fine system, similar to Finland, Switzerland, Sweden or the UK, where fines may be calculated on the basis of the offender's income.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **LEGISLATIVE**

### **R29 Personal Leaves for Elected Officials**

**City of Coquitlam**

Whereas Section 125(7) of the *Community Charter* only exempts elected officials from disqualification due to absences of 60 consecutive days or 4 consecutive regular scheduled board or council meetings if the absence is due to illness or injury or is with the leave of the council or board, but does not consider diverse realities or lived-experiences such as providing caregiving or compassionate care for loved ones, or parental leave for new parents;

And whereas it is recognized that the current language in the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* do not protect leave rights for elected officials and require local governments to renew leave policies pertaining to elected officials after every new council composition;

And whereas it is recognized that reducing barriers to inclusion in civic governance requires intentional action to recognize diverse lived-experiences:

Therefore be it resolved that the LMLGA and UBCM encourage the provincial government to amend the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* to guarantee caregiver, compassionate care, and parental leave provisions that would grant elected officials, who must provide support to loved ones or are new parents, an exemption from being disqualified from office for absences of 60 consecutive days or 4 consecutive regular scheduled council or board meetings.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **ASSESSMENT**

### **R30 Varied Taxation Rate for Residential (Class 1) Properties**

**City of Langley**

Whereas the Province of British Columbia specifies that there is one assessment class for all types of residential properties even though the assessed value of attached and detached residential properties change values at different rates and other jurisdictions, such as Ontario, allow different tax rates for attached and detached residential properties;

And whereas in Langley City, a 4.94% property tax increase in 2018 resulted in a 0.4% decrease for detached residential properties and a 14.31% increase for attached residential property, and in 2022, a 4.35% property tax increase resulted in a 12.49% increase for detached residential properties and 3.37% decrease for attached residential properties:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to amend the BC *Assessment Act* and the *Community Charter* to allow the residential class to be split into two distinct residential classes so that a different rate may be applied to each type to account for the difference in the rate at which attached and detached residential properties change their value and to allow local government to more accurately charge for the cost of providing services to attached and detached residential properties.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **R31 Review of Stumpage Rate for Community Managed Forest Tenures**

**City of Mission**

Whereas the Province assesses the same stumpage rates against small Tree Farm Licences as it does for large industrial forest tenures;

And whereas smaller tenures near urban centres must manage for multiple resource users at higher costs and typically invest surplus funds within the community for the benefit of the general public and province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to consider a new approach to calculating stumpage rates that accounts for the higher management costs required to effectively manage forest resources for any tenure that operates in the rural interface areas.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **ELECTIONS**

### **R32 Exemptions for Elections Workers**

**City of Burnaby**

Whereas there is no exemption under the *Employment Standards Act* for temporary municipal election workers hired to work on advance and general voting days;

And whereas the provincial government has an exemption from Part 4 of the *Employment Standards Act* relating to hours of work and overtime, and is therefore not required to meet these legislative requirements for temporary election workers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to provide to local governments an exemption from Part 4 (Hours of Work and Overtime) of the *Employment Standards Act*, except section 39 which refers to excessive hours of work, as it would relate to temporary election workers during the local government elections and by-elections.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

### **R33 Extending Election Nomination Period**

**City of Burnaby**

Whereas the manner in which election work is undertaken has evolved and can vary based on the size of the local government, current issues, and voter concerns;

And whereas processing nominations for local government general elections within a compressed period of nine days can be challenging for those local governments with large numbers of candidates choosing to run for office:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* to begin the nomination period for local government elections at least three weeks earlier than currently legislated, and allow for a three week nomination period.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**



**MOTION to split the two enactment clauses into two separate clauses, was ENDORSED**

**R34a**

Whereas Elections BC made changes to donation rules for municipal candidates to reduce perceived influence of corporations and unions, and while this has helped to increase participation in democracy, participation in municipal elections is still limited by the ability to participate financially through access to personal wealth and connections, rather than ideas and candidate skill set;

And whereas there has been increased scrutiny of endorsements and donations, and this has further divided communities and highlighted inequities in the electoral system:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to consider public funding of municipal election campaigns that includes ensuring equitable access and participation in municipal electoral campaigns for a more diverse range of candidates;

~~And be it further resolved that the Province investigate election measures such that all candidates have equitable access to endorsements.~~

**ON MOTION, was DEFEATED**

**R34b**

Whereas Elections BC made changes to donation rules for municipal candidates to reduce perceived influence of corporations and unions, and while this has helped to increase participation in democracy, participation in municipal elections is still limited by the ability to participate financially through access to personal wealth and connections, rather than ideas and candidate skill set;

And whereas there has been increased scrutiny of endorsements and donations, and this has further divided communities and highlighted inequities in the electoral system:

~~Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to consider public funding of municipal election campaigns that includes ensuring equitable access and participation in municipal electoral campaigns for a more diverse range of candidates;~~

~~And be it further resolved that the Province investigate election measures such that all candidates have equitable access to endorsements.~~

**ON MOTION, was DEFEATED**

**R35 Moving Away from Fossil Fuel Sponsorships****District of Squamish**

Whereas LMLGA member municipalities have supported many resolutions asking for urgent action on climate change, and in particular a transition away from fossil fuels including: asking the Municipal Finance Authority to divest from fossil fuels, requesting that the province support a transition off of fossil fuels, asking that Clean BC be updated to “make every new building constructed in BC "zero emissions" and "net-zero energy ready" by 2032 , and the endorsement of a “Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty”;

And whereas current LMLGA Executive Policy on Sponsorship states that a, “... sponsor’s public image, mandate, products, and services must be consistent with the goals and values of the Lower Mainland LGA”, and the most recent (6th) International Panel on Climate Change Report identifies lobbying and advertising by fossil fuel companies as an obstacle to climate action.

Therefore be it resolved that the Lower Mainland Local Government Association directs its board to take meaningful, prudent steps to move away from fossil fuel sponsorships.

**ON MOTION, was DEFEATED**

**PART 4 – RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED OFF THE FLOOR OF THE CONVENTION**

None received.