



# **LOWER MAINLAND**

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

# **ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS**

**TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 2024  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024**

# **2023 LOWER MAINLAND LGA ANNUAL REPORT & 2024 RESOLUTIONS BOOK**

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# **LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL TO LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MEMBERS**

We are pleased to convey the eighteenth Annual Report and Resolutions Book of the Lower Mainland LGA. Included in this report is a record of the year's activities and items for consideration at the Annual Meeting to be held on May 2, 2024, in Whistler, BC at the Westin Whistler Resort.

This publication has been divided into two parts:

- 1. Annual Report**
- 2. Nominations and Resolutions**

## **1. ANNUAL REPORT**

In the first part of this publication, you will find the:

- President's Report
- 2023 Financial Statements
- 2024 Budget

## **2. NOMINATIONS AND RESOLUTIONS**

The second part of this publication contains materials to be considered at the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

**Nominations:**

Under this process, the Nominating Committee issues a Call for Nominations and manages that process but does not make recommendations. Information on those nominated for the 2024/2025 Lower Mainland LGA Executive is included in this report and can be found in the conference newsletter.

**Resolutions:**

This section contains resolutions to be considered at the 2024 AGM. Included in the package are:

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

**PART 1**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2023 was a milestone year where our organization finally fully recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic. Our financial standing is in its strongest position in years(perhaps ever), and we had the highest number of attendees and sponsors ever attend our 2023 Conference held in Harrison Hot Springs. We also had a record number of first-time members after the 2022 fall election, and it was fantastic to see so many new faces at our conference. As a Municipal Councillor for 30 years, my heart is full to see so many women, minorities and younger adults step up and run for Council in our member communities.

The Lower Mainland LGA continued through 2023 to bring local governments together, from Hope to Bowen Island, from Pemberton to White Rock, and to advocate on the critical issues facing all our communities. We held advocacy meetings with several provincial Ministries during 2023 with a focus on topics that came out of our resolution's session. We also held a valuable strategic planning session where we set a plan for the association for the next two years which included a bigger focus on advocacy and member outreach.

This will be my last President's Report for the Lower Mainland LGA and I wanted to thank all the committed, enthusiastic and forward-thinking board and staff that I have had the privilege of working with over my six years on the board. It's been a great honour to work with and represent all of our member municipalities and regional districts. You all care so deeply about the communities that you represent that you've made me very proud to serve as your President.

I look forward to seeing you at our conference in Whistler from May 1-3, 2024.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patricia Ross', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Patricia Ross, President

# 2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN BRIEF

## EXECUTIVE/COMMITTEES

- Nine meetings of the Executive were held.

## MEMBERSHIP/FINANCIAL

- Membership remains strong with representation from 32 member municipalities and regional districts.

## CONVENTION & EVENTS

- The 2023 Convention was held from May 3-5<sup>th</sup> in Harrison Hot Springs, BC. The theme of the conference was “Commitment to Excellence & Innovation in Local Government.”
- The 2023 CivX Event was held online on November 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. The theme was “Showcases of Post Secondary Partnerships and Successes”.

## ADVOCACY

- The Lower Mainland LGA Executive met with four provincial ministers during the UBCM Convention on the following topics important to our membership:

### - Minister of Agriculture and Food

- Illegal Dumping on Agricultural Land
- Ban on Sale in Invasive Species
- Agri-Industrial Activities

### -Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

- Incentives for Heat Pumps and other Climate Resilient Retrofits in Multi-Residential Buildings
- Understanding BC Hydro’s Electrification Capacity

### -Minister of Finance

- Expanding Property Transfer Tax Exemptions
- Varied Taxation Rate for Residential (Class 1) Properties
- Vacant Property Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties

### -Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

- Provincial Cannabis Tax Sharing with Local Governments
- eGaming Revenue Distribution

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

- Two member newsletters were emailed to members and posted to the Association's web site.
- 11 emails were sent to the membership.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

- A strategic planning session was held on September 27, 2023, and facilitated by Tracey Lorenson.



# LOWER MAINLAND

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, May 4, 2023  
Forum Ballroom, Harrison Hot Springs Resort  
100 Esplanade Avenue, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

#### MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING

The Business Meeting was called to order at 1:41 p.m. on May 4, 2023

1. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes dated May 5, 2022

THAT the Minutes of the May 5, 2022, AGM be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT-PATRICIA ROSS**

THAT the President's report be received.

CARRIED

4. **ELECTION RESULTS**

After calling for nominations from the floor and receiving none, Past President Jack Crompton announced that the following positions were elected by acclamation:

President  
First Vice-President

Councillor Patricia Ross, City of Abbotsford  
*Councillor Paul Albrecht, Langley City*



Second Vice-President  
Third Vice-President

Councillor Michie Vidal, Harrison Hot Springs  
Director Jen McCutcheon, the Metro Vancouver RD

The following people submitted nomination documents for the three Director at Large Positions before the AGM:

Elaine Cheung, City of White Rock  
Chris Pettingill, District of Squamish  
Sylvia Pranger, District of Kent  
Tim Wake, Bowen Island Municipality

Past President Jack Crompton called for nominations from the floor for Director at Large and no nominations were made.

Jack Crompton declared an election for the three positions of Director at Large. Elections will take place following the resolutions session and the results will be announced at the Gala Dinner and Friday morning.

**5. 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

THAT the 2022 financial statements be received as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**6. 2023 BUDGET**

THAT 2023 Budget be approved as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**7. APPOINTMENT OF THE COMPANY TO CONDUCT FINANCIAL REVIEW ENGAGEMENT**

THAT KPMG be appointed to conduct the financial review engagement for the 2023 year.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Certified Correct

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Story', written over a horizontal line.

Shannon Story  
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. Ross', written over a horizontal line.

Patricia Ross  
President

Financial Statements of

**LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**

And Independent Practitioner's Review Engagement Report  
thereon

Year ended December 31, 2023



**KPMG LLP**

PO Box 10426 777 Dunsmuir Street  
Vancouver, BC V7Y 1K3  
Canada  
Telephone 604 691 3000  
Fax 604 691 3031

**INDEPENDENT PRACTITIONER'S REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT**

To the Members of Lower Mainland Local Government Association

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of Lower Mainland Local Government Association, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2023, the statement of operations, statement of changes in net assets and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

*Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Practitioner's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the accompanying financial statements based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements, which require us to comply with relevant ethical requirements.

A review of financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements is a limited assurance engagement. The practitioner performs procedures, primarily consisting of making inquiries of management and others within the entity, as appropriate, and applying analytical procedures, and evaluates the evidence obtained.

The procedures performed in a review are substantially less in extent than, and vary in nature from, those performed in an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.



Page 2

*Conclusion*

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Lower Mainland Local Government Association as at December 31, 2023, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

*KPMG LLP*

Chartered Professional Accountants

Vancouver, Canada

April 8, 2024

# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 225,054	\$ 164,032
Investments (note 3)	84,759	80,680
Prepaid expenses	55,140	26,524
	<u>364,953</u>	<u>271,236</u>
Restricted investment (note 4)	10,431	10,431
	<u>\$ 375,384</u>	<u>\$ 281,667</u>

## Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 5)	\$ 14,497	\$ 11,067
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	304,922	214,635
Internally restricted (note 6)	55,965	55,965
	<u>360,887</u>	<u>270,600</u>
	<u>\$ 375,384</u>	<u>\$ 281,667</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

Approved on behalf of the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_

# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Statement of Earnings

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Revenue:		
Membership	\$ 79,416	\$ 77,133
Conference registration fees	127,000	93,309
Sponsorships	114,900	86,500
Interest income	16,515	5,988
	<u>337,831</u>	<u>262,930</u>
Expenses:		
Annual general meeting and conference	122,267	122,023
Office and general	125,277	106,704
	<u>247,544</u>	<u>228,727</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	<u>\$ 90,287</u>	<u>\$ 34,203</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	Unrestricted	Internally restricted (note 7)	Total
Balance, December 31, 2021	\$ 180,432	\$ 55,965	\$ 236,397
Excess of revenue over expenses	34,203	-	34,203
Balance, December 31, 2022	214,635	55,965	270,600
Excess of revenue over expenses	90,287	-	90,287
Balance, December 31, 2023	\$ 304,922	\$ 55,965	\$ 360,887

See accompanying notes to financial statements.



# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2023, with comparative information for 2022

	2023	2022
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 90,287	\$ 34,203
Items not involving cash:		
Accrued interest on investments	(4,079)	(1,532)
Accrued interest on restricted short-term investment	-	(73)
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Prepaid expenses	(28,616)	23,877
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	3,430	4,691
Deferred revenue	-	(2,500)
Increase in cash	61,022	58,666
Cash, beginning of year	164,032	105,366
Cash, end of year	\$ 225,054	\$ 164,032

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2023

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## 1. Nature of operations:

Lower Mainland Local Government Association ("Lower Mainland LGA" or "Association") is incorporated under the Societies Act (British Columbia) and its principal activity is to promote the welfare and the well-being of taxpayers and residents of the members of the Lower Mainland LGA. The Lower Mainland LGA is a not-for-profit organization and is exempt from income taxes.

## 2. Significant accounting policies:

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO") in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting. The Association's significant accounting policies are as follows:

### (a) Revenue recognition:

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Annual membership dues, registrations, and sponsorships are recognized as revenue in the year when services are provided.

Amounts received in advance of services provided are recorded as deferred revenue.

### (b) Contributed materials and services:

Due to the difficulty in determining fair value, contributed materials and services are not recognized in the financial statements.

### (c) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Freestanding derivative instruments that are not in a qualifying hedging relationship and equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The Association has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the straight-line method.

# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

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## 2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (c) Financial instruments (continued):

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, the Association determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount the Association expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

### (d) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## 3. Investments:

Investments are comprised of money market investments held with the Municipal Finance Authority. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the average annualised yield was 5.07% (2022 - 1.93%).

## 4. Restricted investment:

Restricted investment is comprised of a guaranteed investment certificate ("GIC") held as security for the Company's credit card account and not available for general use. The GIC earns interest at 3.65% (2022 - 0.95%) per annum and matures on May 6, 2024 .

## 5. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are \$3,105 (2022 - \$96) for Goods and Services Taxes.

# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2023

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## **6. Internally restricted:**

Internally restricted net assets are comprised of reserves restricted by the Executive Committee of the Lower Mainland LGA for future expenditures related to specific purposes. The Executive Committee approved a contingency reserve of \$55,965 during fiscal 2018 that is restricted for providing funding in the case of an emergency event such as cancellation of a convention.

## **7. Financial instrument risks:**

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. Lower Mainland LGA is exposed to a concentration of credit risk in its cash and investments. Cash is entirely held at one federal credit union located primarily in BC. Investments are entirely held with the Municipal Finance Authority (note 3).

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Lower Mainland LGA invests in money market funds, and derived revenue in part, from the income earned on money market funds. As a result, the Lower Mainland LGA is exposed to fluctuations in the market value of these investments.

The Lower Mainland LGA believes that it is not exposed to significant currency, interest rate, or liquidity risk arising from financial instruments.

There have been no changes to the risk exposure from 2022.

## **8. Employee and contractor remuneration:**

For the year ended December 31, 2023, one contractor for services received total annual remuneration of \$94,840 (2022 - \$93,273). No remuneration was paid to any directors of the Lower Mainland LGA during the year.

## 2024 DRAFT BUDGET

REVENUE	Actual 2022	Actual 2023	Budget 2024
<b>Operating Fund Revenue</b>			
Annual Dues	77,133	79,416	80,777
Investment Income	5,988	16,515	17,000
Other Events/Recoveries	0	8,500	0
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>83,121</b>	<b>104,431</b>	<b>97,777</b>
<b>CONFERENCE/AGM Fund Revenue</b>			
Registration Fees	93,309	127,000	133,000
Sponsorship & Exhibitors	86,500	106,400	109,200
<b>Total CONFERENCE/AGM Revenue</b>	<b>179,809</b>	<b>233,400</b>	<b>242,200</b>
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$262,930</b>	<b>\$337,831</b>	<b>\$339,977</b>

### EXPENSES

<b>Operating Fund Expenses</b>			
Meeting Expenses	429	214	6,300
Office Expenses & Misc.	739	1,165	1,200
Executive Director Contract	93,273	94,840	124,051
Staff Travel & Expenses	562	691	2,000
Communications	190	105	120
Bank Charges	109	121	150
Website Development/Maintenance	755	759	1,000
Contingency	0	0	30,551
Strategic Planning/Communications Plan	0	7,446	0
Policy & Research	0	494	0
Outreach & Advocacy	1,552	3,556	25,000
Insurance	2,650	2,900	3,350
Financial Review/Accountant	6,446	8,284	9,000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>106,705</b>	<b>120,575</b>	<b>202,722</b>
<b>EVENT Expenses</b>			
Conference/Annual General Meeting	122,023	122,267	137,255
CivX Event	0	4,703	0
<b>Total EVENT Expenses</b>	<b>122,023</b>	<b>127,806</b>	<b>137,255</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$228,727</b>	<b>\$247,545</b>	<b>\$339,977</b>
<b>NET PROFIT/LOSS</b>	<b>\$34,203</b>	<b>\$90,286</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**PART 2**

**NOMINATIONS**

**&**

**RESOLUTIONS**



# LOWER MAINLAND

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

**TO: Mayor/Chair; Council/Board**

**FROM: Mayor Jack Crompton, Lower Mainland LGA Past President**

**DATE: January 9, 2024**

**RE: 2024 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR LOWER MAINLAND LGA EXECUTIVE**

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**Please include the following information on your next meeting Council/Board agenda.**

This circular is notice of the Lower Mainland LGA Executive positions open for nomination and the process and procedures for nomination.

The deadline for receipt of your nomination is **Friday, March 22, 2024**. The election will take place at the Lower Mainland LGA AGM which will be held in person during the annual conference to be held from May 1-3, 2024, at the Whistler Westin Resort.

The Lower Mainland LGA is the collective voice for local government in the Lower Mainland, including local governments in the Metro Vancouver Regional District, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District and the Fraser Valley Regional District. The membership elects' directors to the Executive during the Convention, and the Executive is charged with ensuring that the policy set by the general membership is carried forward. The Executive also provides operational and policy direction to the Lower Mainland LGA between Conventions.

---

### **1. POSITIONS OPEN TO NOMINATIONS**

The following positions are open for nomination:

- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President
- Third Vice-President
- Directors at Large (3 positions)

## **2. NOMINATION PROCESS AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE**

The candidate must be an elected official of a Lower Mainland LGA member. The candidate must also be nominated by two elected officials of a Lower Mainland LGA member.

Background information regarding the primary responsibilities and commitments of a Lower Mainland LGA Executive member is available upon request.

A nomination and consent form are attached and should be used for all nominations.

The Chair of the 2024 Nominating Committee is Mayor Jack Crompton, Lower Mainland LGA Past President.

## **3. NEXT STEPS**

It is part of the duties of the Nominating Committee to review the credentials of each candidate. A Report on Nominations including, at the candidate's option, a photo and 200-word biography will be prepared under the direction of the Nominating Committee and distributed in the Lower Mainland LGA Convention Newsletter, which is distributed via email before the conference. It is not the responsibility of the Lower Mainland LGA to edit applicant materials to make them suitable for print. If materials are not provided on time and print ready, the Lower Mainland LGA reserves the right not to include them in the newsletter.

**To be included in the Convention Newsletter, send your current photo, biography and completed nomination form to:**

**[sstory@lmlga.ca](mailto:sstory@lmlga.ca)**

**With subject line: Lower Mainland LGA Nomination Package – “applicant name”  
Deadline: March 22, 2024**

## **5. FURTHER INFORMATION**

All other inquiries should be directed to:

Shannon Story, Executive Director of the Lower Mainland LGA  
at [sstory@lmlga.ca](mailto:sstory@lmlga.ca)  
PO Box 729  
Pemberton, BC V0N 2L0  
604 698-5753



# NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2024 LOWER MAINLAND LGA EXECUTIVE

We are qualified under the Lower Mainland LGA Constitution to nominate<sup>1</sup> a candidate and we nominate:

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Local government position (Mayor/Councillor/Director): \_\_\_\_\_

Local government represented: \_\_\_\_\_

Lower Mainland LGA Executive office nominated for: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name of nominator: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Gov't: \_\_\_\_\_ Local Gov't: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>CONSENT FORM</b>
---------------------

I consent to this nomination and attest that I am qualified to be a candidate for the office I have been nominated to pursuant to the Lower Mainland LGA Constitution<sup>2</sup>. I also agree to provide the following information to the Executive Director by March 22, 2024:

- 2"x3" Photo (high resolution)
- Biographical information. No more than 200 words in length.

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Running for (position): \_\_\_\_\_

Local Government: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

---

<sup>1</sup> Nominations require two elected officials of members of the Association.

<sup>2</sup> All nominees for the Executive shall be elected representatives of a member of the Association.

**Return to: [ssstory@lmlga.ca](mailto:ssstory@lmlga.ca)  
c/o Lower Mainland LGA, PO Box 729, Pemberton, BC V0N 2L0**

# 2024 EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS

As a result of the Call for Nominations, the Committee has received the following nominations:

**PRESIDENT:**

- Councillor Paul Albrecht, Langley City

**FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT:**

- Councillor Michie Vidal, Village of Harrison Hot Springs

**SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT:**

- Director Jen McCutcheon, Metro Vancouver Regional District

**THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT:**

- Councillor Chris Pettingill, District of Squamish

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE (three to be elected):**

- Councillor Ruby Campbell, City of New Westminster
- Councillor Jessica McIlroy, City of North Vancouver
- Councillor, Jeff Murl, Resort Municipality of Whistler
- Mayor Sylvia Pranger, District of Kent

For further information on the nomination and election process contact:

Mayor Jack Crompton, Past President  
c/o Lower Mainland LGA  
PO Box 729  
Pemberton BC V0N 2L0  
Phone: (604) 698-5753  
sstory@lmlga.ca



# LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 24  
MARCH 2024

Lower Mainland LGA Newsletter is published by the Lower Mainland Local Government Association

PO Box 729, Pemberton, BC, V0N 2L0  
Tel: (604) 698-5753 | www.lmlga.ca

# TACKLING THE BIG ISSUES

LOWER MAINLAND LGA CONFERENCE & AGM, MAY 1-3, 2024, WHISTLER

## Presidents Message



The Lower Mainland LGA is looking forward to seeing you soon in Whistler for our 2024 Conference & AGM. The theme of this year's conference is "Tackling the Big Issues".

We have a great pre-conference walking tour planned of Whistler's Tourism Facilities including

Whistler/Blackcomb, the Fairmont Chateau Whistler, the Audain Art Museum and the Gibbons Group.

We are so excited to have Khelsilem, Council Chairperson of Squamish Nation as our opening keynote speaker on Wednesday evening. We will be closing off the conference on Friday with the dynamic duo of all things BC politics: Keith Baldrey and Vaughn Palmer.

Other sessions are on topics such as "Public Safety Challenges in Public Spaces", "The Future of Transportation in the Lower Mainland", "UNDRIP Implementation from the Indigenous Perspective" and a Q & A session with our BC political leaders.

We have received a record number of 61 resolutions from our membership that will be debated at our resolution's session on a variety of topics that are timely and relevant to our region.

As usual, we will have several opportunities for networking and socializing including two receptions and our banquet dinner.

I look forward to seeing you soon!

President Patricia Ross

## Closing Keynote Speakers:



**Vaughn Palmer:  
Hard-Hitting Provincial  
Political Columnist**

Vaughn Palmer's hard-hitting columns have seen him cover the feats and follies of B.C.'s premiers for almost 40 years. An award-winning journalist, Palmer is the Vancouver Sun's

provincial political columnist, based in Victoria. Palmer is a regular commentator on radio station CKNW in Vancouver.

Palmer is the recipient of the Bruce Hutchison Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jack Webster foundation, a co-winner of the Jack Webster award for reporting, and a recipient of the Hyman Solomon award for excellence in public policy journalism from the Canadian Public Policy Forum. Since 1984, Palmer has examined an extensive range of issues, personalities and scandals that have come to define B.C.'s political scene.



**Keith Baldrey:  
Global BC's Chief  
Political Correspondent  
& Legislature Bureau  
Chief**

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. In 2021, Baldrey was named Broadcast Performer of the Year by the BC Association of Broadcasters for his coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Baldrey's work is also seen in his weekly syndicated column on B.C. politics for a variety of Lower Mainland papers, including the North Shore News and the Now newspapers, and appears regularly on News Talk 980 CKNW.

He has a long history of understanding and commenting on BC politics – Baldrey joined The Vancouver Sun in 1984 and moved to the The Sun's legislature bureau in 1986, eventually becoming its bureau chief in 1989. In 1995, he joined Global BC where over the course of his career, has covered 10 premiers, 10 provincial elections, and 12 federal elections.

He has covered nine premiers and the 2017 election was the ninth B.C. election campaign he has covered (along with numerous federal campaigns and party leadership races).

## 2024 CONFERENCE CHARITY: United Way British Columbia (UWBC)



Working with communities in BC's North, Interior, Lower Mainland, Central & Northern Vancouver Island

United Way British Columbia supports the development of healthy, caring and inclusive communities by strengthening vital connections that support people in need. In the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley in 2022-2023, UWBC served over 6,000 children and youth, 21,948 seniors and 63,849 individuals experiencing food insecurity, coordinated a network of community partners with 13 food hubs and over 12,000 volunteers, and invested over \$13 million back into the community. Further, UWBC collaborates with key agencies to deliver a variety of programs across the Lower Mainland. We partner with 79 agencies to deliver senior's programming, 60 agencies acting as stewards/spokes for our Regional Community Food Hubs, and 66 agencies for various youth programs. Lastly, our BC211 helpline service is available throughout BC, but in the LM/FV during 2022-2023 UWBC responded to 31,200 calls, providing 87,988 referrals – with the top issues being housing & homelessness, health, income & financial assistance, mental health, basic needs, legal & public safety, and abuse.



## Banquet Dinner Entertainment

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.

## Candidates For 2024/2025



### Candidate for President: Paul Albrecht

A three-term councillor in Langley City, Paul has been the LMLGA First Vice President for the

past two years and served previously in various other positions on the LMLGA Board. He has also served on the UBCM Executive and is currently a Metro Vancouver Director.

While serving on these various boards Paul has been able to develop very strong connections and relationships with members of the Provincial government as well as other peers in Local Government across the province. As a Civil Engineering Technologist, Paul brings over thirty years of municipal experience in all areas of infrastructure, servicing, planning, land use, land development and economic development that has been valuable in representing and serving his community and the Metro Region.

We in Local Government are facing very uncertain and challenging times in each of our communities. The value of an experienced executive board with strong relationships with senior orders of government cannot be overstated. Good governance requires the ability to develop strong relationships with many, listen to all our member communities, and find solutions. Paul will continue to help develop the kind of strong and supportive team needed for the LMLGA to make a difference in providing actionable solutions to meet all the challenges our communities face.

Together we can strategically amplify our collective voices and build productive relationships with other orders of Government when dealing with housing, homelessness, mental health, childcare, transit, tax relief, revenue loss, economic recovery, climate change, reconciliation and so many other complex issues that we all face daily. Paul is always available for further conversations with anyone at anytime.

It would be an honour and privilege to continue serving the LMLGA as President with the strong LMLGA Executive Team that we have developed. Thank you for your consideration and support!



### Candidate for First Vice President: Michie Vidal

Throughout her life, Michie has demonstrated a history of community commitment,

leadership and organizational expertise. Her 25 year career as an Emergency Services 911 dispatcher provided extensive knowledge in local government structure and systems. Following retirement to the Village of Harrison Hot Springs, Michie continued her dedication to her community. She united local residents, businesses and all levels of government towards a common goal related to a significant environmental and economic concern.

Michie has a deep passion for the role of Local Governments and the impact it has on our daily lives. She is especially interested in promoting the principles of reconciliation with First Nations and is actively involved in achieving those goals.

Michie is currently serving her second term as Councillor with the Village of Harrison Hot Springs and Second Vice President with the Lower Mainland Local Government Association. Her Council liaison appointments include Lets'emot Community to Community Forum, Council to Council Committee with Sts'ailes, Community Futures North Fraser, Joint Emergency Planning Committee and Corrections Canada Citizens Advisory Committee.

During her spare time, Michie enjoys, hiking and golfing in the beautiful Fraser Valley.

## Lower Mainland LGA Executive Positions:

An eleven-person Executive Board that is elected at the AGM during the Annual Conference governs the ongoing operations and policy direction of the Lower Mainland LGA.

### Seven Elected Positions

- President
- First Vice President
- Second Vice President
- Third Vice President
- Director at Large (3 positions)

### Non-Elected Positions

Appointed representatives from:

- Fraser Valley Regional District
- Metro Vancouver Regional District
- Squamish Lillooet Regional District

### Eleventh Position

- Past President

## The Nominations and Elections Process

THURSDAY, MAY 2nd (DURING AGM)

- Nomination Committee Chair, Jack Crompton presents the nominations received
- Nominations from the floor can be received for elected positions
- Candidates speeches, will follow

## Nominations Received for the 2024/2025 Lower Mainland LGA Executive

As a result of the call for nominations, the Nominating Committee had received and will be placing the following names forward for consideration:

### President:

Councillor Paul Albrecht, Langley City

### First Vice President:

Councillor Michie Vidal, Harrison Hot Springs

### Second Vice President:

Director Jen McCutcheon, Metro Vancouver Regional District

### Third Vice President:

Councillor Chris Pettingill, District of Squamish

### Director At Large (three to be elected)

Councillor Ruby Campbell, City of New Westminster

Councillor Jessica McIlroy, City of North Vancouver

Councillor Jeff Murl, Resort Municipality of Whistler

Mayor Sylvia Pranger, District of Kent

## 2024 Sponsors

BC Assessment

BC Council of Forest Industries

BC General Employees' Union(BCGEU)

BC Hydro

BCLC

CN

CUPE BC

CUPE 8911 Emergency Communications Professionals of BC

Disability Alliance BC

E-Comm 9-1-1

Enbridge

Fortis BC

Gambling Support BC

ICBC

Lidstone & Company Law Corporation

Municipal Finance Authority of BC

Municipal Insurance Association of BC

National Police Federation

Pattison Outdoor

Advertising

Rogers Communications

TELUS

Trans Mountain

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority

Young Anderson

YMCA BC



### Candidate for Second Vice President: Jen McCutcheon

Jen serves as the Director for Metro Vancouver's (MV) only electoral area, which includes

approximately 18,000 people on the UBC peninsula and in a number of rural communities and islands across the MV region. She is in her second term of office, and serves on a number of committees as well as the Board of the Metro Vancouver Regional District and Translink's Mayor's Council. Jen brings a unique perspective to the LMLGA executive as a representative of both urban and rural communities.

Prior to entering politics, Jen utilized her doctoral degree in public health to help manage complex health projects in various countries across Africa for ten years, and still consults in public health.

In her spare time, Jen volunteers in her community, stays physically active, and spends as much time as she can out in nature with her husband and two children.



### Candidate for Third Vice President: Chris Pettingill

Chris Pettingill is a Councillor with the District of Squamish on the traditional and unceded

Skwxwú7mesh territory. Chris also serves as a Director for the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Board, and as an active member of the Climate Caucus. Everyone deserves a bright future so Chris brings thoughtful consideration of equity and climate change to these roles.

Chris has served on the boards for Tourism Squamish and the Squamish Arts Council, and as the chair of the BC Green Party Provincial Council and Squamish Chamber of Commerce respectively.

Chris' professional career has focused on software development, and he is a senior technical lead and founding member of an exciting Squamish tech startup.

Chris also stays busy as a long-standing volunteer for Squamish's "Amped in the Park" music program. Through this involvement, Chris is able to enjoy his passion for music while supporting others as they learn to be performers and leaders.



### Candidate for Director at Large: Ruby Campbell

Ruby is serving her first term as New Westminster City Councillor. Prior to being elected, Ruby

spent the majority of her career managing fundraising and community engagement programs to create and improve public amenities, community spaces, social programs and strengthen community partnerships between various sectors.

Ruby was employed in the civic sector in a leadership position managing intergovernmental relations and worked with project teams to develop and implement complex funding strategies for projects resulting in awards of up to \$24 million. She has also worked in leadership positions for a variety of not for profit organizations such as the BC Lung Association, Royal Columbian Hospital Foundation, Simon Fraser University and provided fundraising and governance consultation services for various other organizations.

Ruby has also served on the boards of Arts Council of New Westminster, Massey Theatre Society, Fraserside Community Service, New Westminster Chamber and the New Westminster Police Board.

She currently serves on the following City of New Westminster Committees:

- Arts Culture Economic Development Advisory Committee (Chair)
- Massey Theatre Working Group (Chair)
- Community Heritage Commission (Council Representative)
- Downtown Business Improvement Association (Council Representative)
- Land Use Planning Committee (Alternate Council Representative)



### Candidate for Director at Large: Jessica McIlroy

Jessica is currently in her second term on Council in the City of North Vancouver,

being first elected in 2018, and currently sits on the City's Integrated Transportation Committee and as the Council representative on the Lonsdale Energy Corporation Board of Directors. Jessica previously sat on the LMLGA Executive as a Director-at-Large from 2022 to 2023.

Over the past twenty years, Jessica McIlroy has provided leadership on clean energy development and climate action policy with for-purpose organizations, and currently works with a clean energy think tank focusing on the decarbonizing and climate resiliency of our built environment.

Jessica also works with Climate Caucus, a non-profit network of local government elected officials leading the transformation needed for communities to thrive within planetary boundaries. She is passionate about advancing climate policy and action within local governments and currently sits on the B.C. Municipal Climate Leaders Council Steering Committee and the Climate Caucus Board of Directors.

When not working or in the community, Jessica takes every opportunity to be in the forest and mountains with her family and two dogs.



### Candidate for Director at Large: Jeff Murl

Jeff's professional career started in with degree in Finance from UBC, leading to work in

the investment industry. That evolved to owning restaurants in North Vancouver, and after receiving his Chartered Professional Accountant designation (CPA), into opening his own accounting practice. Throughout that time, he also worked as a ski instructor, first at Cypress, and for the last 20 years at Whistler.

Jeff is serving his first term as a Councillor in Whistler, where he's bringing his skillset and perspective as a CPA to various committees: Audit and Finance, Smart Tourism, Transportation Management, and the Advisory Design Panel. He also currently sits on the boards of the Whistler Development Corp., the Whistler Institute, and the Whistler Museum.

Prior to joining council, Jeff volunteered on boards across a wide spectrum of activities: The Beaumont, Vancouver Urban Farming Society, Arts Whistler, Whistler Public Library and the Whistler Board of Variance. His first experience with local politics was sitting on a Citizens committee of North Shore residents.

Jeff's spare time is spent with his wife and two young boys, who are always entertained by his stories of council meetings, policy work and advocacy to other levels of government.



### Candidate for Director at Large: Sylvia Pranger

Hello everyone, my name is Sylvia Pranger, and I am pleased to have my name stand as

Director at Large for LMLGA. I have lived in the District of Kent in the beautiful Fraser Valley for 62 years and consider myself a long-term resident!

I bring a wealth of experience in providing service at both, local and provincial government levels. In 1990, I was first elected as Councillor for the District of Kent and then elected as Mayor in 2000 until 2006. During this time, I was on the Board of the Fraser Valley Regional District, and elected Chair of the Union Board of Health, which was the governing body for Public Health and Vice-Chair of the Provincial Union Board of Health. When I was not on Kent Council, I served as Chair of the South Coast Panel of the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) for several years. I was re-elected to the Kent Council in 2014 and became Mayor by acclamation for the past two terms. I also serve as a Director for the Fraser Valley Regional District (FVRD) and Chair of the Fraser Valley Regional Hospital District Board.

The LMLGA provides a valuable avenue to voice our regional concerns with our colleagues at the UBCM as well as the provincial and federal governments. Over my years of service as an elected official, I continually see the benefit of learning from one another to serve our main purpose of better serving our communities. I believe that my experiences can bring value to the Executive as we work together to be an effective local government association.





# LOWER MAINLAND

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### 2024 RESOLUTIONS

April 4, 2024

RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE

#### LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS

##### 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 yet 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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**R3-Additional Funding for Overdose Prevention Sites City of New Westminster  
Across Local Governments**

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:**

**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:**

**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 out-patient 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:**

## **HOUSING**

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:**

**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:**

**R8-Incentivizing Non-Market Housing**

**City of Maple Ridge**

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:**

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

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:**

## **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:**

**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:**



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:**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

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:**

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:**

## **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:**

## 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 (LTSA) 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:**

## 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:**

**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:**

## 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:**

## 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:**

## 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 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:**

**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:**

## 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:**

**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:**

**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 attainable 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 attainable 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 attainable housing.*

**Recommendation: No Recommendation**

**Conference Decision:**

**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 attainable 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 attainable 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 attainable 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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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](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:**

**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:**

**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:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to amend the *Local Government Act* to allow municipalities to obtain highway dedications, and the registration of Covenants and Statutory Rights-of-way for works and services, and public access through Building 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:**

**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:**

**R34-Creating Safer Streets for Everyone with Intersection Safety Cameras City of New Westminster**

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:**

### **R35-Port Policing**

**City of Delta**

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

And whereas this loss of police resources has weakened the security of Canada's ports and allowed organized crime elements to proliferate, as evidenced by the 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:**

**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 MPUA). 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:**

### **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:**

**R38-Disaster Financial Assistance for Victims of Climate Fraser Valley Regional District  
Related Events**

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 non-human 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:**

**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:**

**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 cross-border 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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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:**

## 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:**

## 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:**

### 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:**

**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:**

**TRANSPORTATION**

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 attainable 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 attainable 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 attainable 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:**

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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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:**

**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:**

## 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:**

## SELECTED ISSUES

### **R57-Provincial Service Level Expectations to Prioritize Fraser Valley Regional District Customer Service**

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:**

**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:**

**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:**



# **APPENDICIES**



# LOWER MAINLAND

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### CONSTITUTION

1. The name of the society is **LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**. (the “Association”)
  
2. The purposes of the Association shall be:
  - (a) To represent, in one organization, the various regional districts and local governments of the Membership Area, as defined in the Bylaws;
  - (b) to secure all possible united action in dealing with local government matters of interest to our members;
  - (c) to co-operate with other organizations dealing with matters under Provincial or Federal jurisdiction;
  - (d) to co-operate with the Union of BC Municipalities and other associations of municipalities in British Columbia for the advancement of the principles of local government;
  - (e) to secure united action among its members and to promote greater autonomy within local government;
  - (f) to acquire and distribute amongst the members, municipal information that may be deemed to be of value to members; and
  - (g) to hold meetings for promoting the aforesaid purposes.

## **BYLAWS**

### **Part 1 - Interpretation**

1. (1) In these bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires,
  - (a) "directors" means the directors of the Association for the time being;
  - (b) "Executive" has the meaning ascribed thereto in paragraph 25(2);
  - (c) "Non-Voting Members" has the meaning ascribed thereto in paragraph 5(1);
  - (d) "registered address" of a member means the members address as recorded in the register of members;
  - (e) "*Societies Act*" means the *Societies Act* of the Province of British Columbia from time to time in force and all amendments to it;
  - (f) "Voting Members" has the meaning ascribed thereto in paragraph 5(2).
- (2) The definitions in the *Societies Act* shall apply to these bylaws.
2. Words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa; and words importing a male person include a female person and a corporation.

### **Part 2 - Membership**

3. The members of the Association are:
  - (1) the applicants for incorporation who have not ceased to be members;
  - (2) those municipalities and regional districts within the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, the Greater Vancouver Regional District (Metro Vancouver) and the Fraser Valley Regional District (collectively, the "Membership Area"), who subsequently become members in accordance with these bylaws and that have not ceased to be members; and
  - (3) a person who holds the office of mayor or councillor of a member municipality or chair or director of a member regional district and who has not ceased to be a member.
4. All past Presidents of the Association shall be members of the Association for their

lifetimes, but they shall only be entitled to vote at all meetings of the members if they are also Voting Members.

5. (1) Non-Voting Members - A municipality or regional district within the Membership Area, may apply to the directors for membership in the Association and on acceptance by the directors shall be a member. Those member municipalities and regional districts accepted for membership under this paragraph shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the members of the Association (such members being hereinafter collectively called the "Non-Voting Members").
  - (2) Voting Members – Upon acceptance for membership of a municipality or regional district in accordance with paragraph 5(1), then the mayor and all councillors of such municipality and then the chair or directors of such regional district and all future elected mayors and councillors of such member municipalities and chairs and directors of such member regional districts shall automatically become members of the Association without application. The aforesaid memberships shall continue until the earlier of:
    - (a) the date such municipality or regional district ceases to be a member;
    - (b) the date such mayor, councillor, chair or director ceases to hold such office; and
    - (c) the date such person otherwise ceases to be a member in accordance with these bylaws.

Those members accepted for membership under paragraph 5(2) shall be entitled to vote at all meetings of the members of the Association (such members being hereinafter collectively called the "Voting Members").
  - (3) Each Non-Voting Member shall be responsible for keeping an accurate list of the names, addresses for delivery, email addresses and telephone numbers of the Voting Members representing its municipality or regional district, and shall provide this list to the executive coordinator or administrative support staff within 30 days upon request.
6. Every member shall uphold the constitution and comply with these bylaws.
  7. (1) The amount of the first annual membership dues shall be determined by the directors and after that the annual membership dues shall be determined at the annual general meeting of the Association.
  - (2) Any outstanding dues or fees must be paid before the annual general meeting and before members will be permitted to vote at the annual general meeting. The annual membership dues must be paid upon receipt of the dues invoice, which will be sent out following each AGM.

- (3) Only the Non-Voting Members are required to pay any annual membership dues.
8. A person shall cease to be a member of the Association:
- (a) by delivering his/her resignation in writing to the Executive or by mailing or delivering it to the address of the Association;
  - (b) on his/her death;
  - (c) on being expelled;
  - (d) on having been a member not in good standing, as described in paragraph 10 hereafter, for 12 consecutive months;
  - (e) on ceasing to hold the office of mayor or councillor of a member municipality or of chair or director of a member regional district;
9. (1) A member may be expelled by a special resolution of the members passed at a general meeting.
- (2) The notice of special resolution for expulsion shall be accompanied by a brief statement of the reason or reasons for the proposed expulsion.
- (3) The member who is the subject of the proposed resolution for expulsion shall be given an opportunity to be heard at the general meeting before the special resolution is put to a vote.
10. All members are in good standing except a Non-Voting Member who has failed to pay its current or previous annual membership fees or any other subscription or debt due and owing by it to the Association. It is not in good standing, so long as the debt remains unpaid.

### **Part 3 - Meetings of Members**

11. General meetings of the Association shall be held at the time and place, in accordance with the Societies Act, that the directors decide. All members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the members of the Association. The senior staff of a Non-Voting Member shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the members of the Association, but shall not be entitled to vote or to address matters placed before the Association, unless requested by the Executive to do so.
12. Every general meeting, other than an annual general meeting, is an extraordinary general

meeting.

13. (1) The directors may, when they think fit, convene an extraordinary general meeting.
- (2) A minimum of 10% of members of the Association may request, in writing, an extraordinary general meeting. The written notice shall specify in detail the nature of the business intended to be conducted at the general meeting. The Executive, notice will be provided to all members and the meeting will be held within 60 days of the distribution of the notice. The only business conducted at such extraordinary general meeting shall be business referred to in the said written notice.
14. (1) Notice of a general meeting shall specify the place, day and hour of meeting, and, in case of special business, the general nature of that business.
- (2) The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice by, any of the members entitled to receive notice does not invalidate proceedings at that meeting.
15. An annual general meeting shall be held at least once in every calendar year.

#### **Part 4 - Proceedings at General Meeting**

16. Special business at a general shall be:
  - (a) all business at an extraordinary general meeting, except the adoption of rules of order; and
  - (b) all business transacted at an annual general meeting, except:
    - (i) the adoption of rules of order;
    - (ii) the consideration of the financial statements;
    - (iii) the report of the directors;
    - (iv) the report of the auditor, if any;
    - (v) the election of directors;
    - (vi) the appointment of the auditor, if required; and
    - (vii) the other business that, under these bylaws, ought to be transacted at an annual general meeting, or business which is brought under

consideration by the report of the directors issued with the notice convening the meeting.

17. (1) No business, other than the election of a chair and the adjournment or termination of the meeting, shall be conducted at a general meeting at a time when a quorum is not present.
  - (2) If at any time during a general meeting there ceases to be a quorum present, business then in progress shall be suspended until there is quorum present or until the meeting is adjourned or terminated.
  - (3) A quorum is 15 Voting Members, representing at least 5 Non-Voting Members present or a greater number that the members may determine at a general meeting.
18. If, within 30 minutes from the time appointed for a general meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting, if convened on the requisition of members, shall be terminated but in any other case, it shall stand adjourned. If at the continuation of the adjourned meeting, a quorum is not present, the voting members present shall constitute a quorum for the purposes of that meeting.
19. Subject to paragraph 20, the President, or the Vice-President or in the absence of both, one of the other directors present, shall preside as chairperson of a general meeting.
20. If at a general meeting:
- (a) there is no President, Vice-Presidents or other director present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting; or
  - (b) the President and all the other directors present are unwilling to act as chair, then the members present shall choose one of their number to be chair.
21. (1) A general meeting may be adjourned from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at the continuation of an adjourned meeting other than the business left unfinished at the meeting from which the adjournment took place.
- (2) When a meeting is adjourned, notice of the continuation of the adjourned meeting shall be given as in the case of the original meeting.
- (3) Except as provided in this bylaw, it is not necessary to give notice of an adjournment or of the business to be transacted at an adjourned general meeting.

22. (1) The chair of a meeting may move or propose a resolution.
  - (2) In case of an equality of votes the chair shall not have a casting or second vote in addition to the vote to which he/she may be entitled as a member and the proposed resolution shall not pass.
  - (3) Unless the *Societies Act*, or these Bylaws otherwise provide, any action to be taken by a resolution of the members of the Association may be taken by ordinary resolution.
  - (4) Resolutions proposed by members will be considered by the Association at the annual general meeting only if they are received by the directors no later than 45 days prior to the annual general meeting.
  - (5) Resolution(s) proposed by a member must be distributed to the members and their representatives at least 14 days prior to the annual general meeting;
  - (6) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the members may submit any resolution, except a resolution to amend the Constitution or these Bylaws, to the annual general meeting for consideration or action at any time if 2/3 of Voting Members in attendance at the annual general meeting approve.
23. (1) Each Voting Member in good standing present at a meeting of members is entitled to one vote.
  - (2) Voting is by show of hands.
  - (3) Voting by proxy is not permitted.

#### **Part 5 - Directors and Officers**

24. (1) The directors may exercise all the powers and do all the acts and things that the Association may exercise and do, but subject to:
  - (a) all laws affecting the Association;
  - (b) these bylaws; and
  - (c) rules, not being inconsistent with these bylaws, which are made from time to time by the Association in general meeting.
- (2) No rule, made by the Association in general meeting, invalidates a prior act of the



directors that would have been valid if that rule had not been made.

25.
  - (1) The first directors are those directors shown on the list of directors filed with the Registrar of Companies;
  - (2) Unless and until changed by ordinary resolution, at the first and at each successive annual general meeting the Voting Members shall elect, from among the Voting Members in good standing:
    - (i) a President, a First Vice-President, a Second Vice-President and a Third Vice-President, who shall also be directors; and
    - (ii) three (3) additional directors from amongst the Voting Members in good standing.
  - (3) At the first and each successive annual general meeting, each Regional District that is a Non-Voting Member in good standing, shall appoint a nominee to act as a director and an alternate director. In the event that the nominee fails or refuses to act or can no longer continue as a director, then the alternate director shall act as director. This bylaw 25(3) may be altered by ordinary resolution provided that such alteration also has the unanimous approval of all Regional Districts that are Non-Voting Member in good standing;
  - (4) A person is eligible to be a director only when they are and while they remain a Voting Member in good standing.
26.
  - (1) The directors shall retire from office at each general meeting when their successors shall be elected.
  - (2) The Past President and all directors shall comprise the executive committee of the Association (the "Executive").
  - (3) An election may be by acclamation, otherwise it shall be by ballot.
  - (4) if no successor is elected, acclaimed or appointed, the person previously elected, acclaimed or appointed to that position continues to hold office.
  - (5) a director may be nominated in advance of the annual general meeting or may be nominated from the floor at the annual general meeting.
27.
  - (1) Subject to bylaw 25(3), the directors may at any time and from time to time appoint a member as a director to fill a vacancy in the directors.
  - (2) A director so appointed holds office only until the conclusion of the next following

annual general meeting of the Association, but is eligible for re-election at the meeting.

28. (1) If a director resigns his/her office or otherwise ceases to hold office, the remaining directors shall appoint a member to take the place of the former director.
  - (2) No act or proceeding of the directors is invalid only by reason of there being less than the prescribed number of directors in office.
  - (3) If a director ceases to be a Voting Member in good standing, the director ceases to hold office as a director of the Association.
29. The Executive may by simple majority remove a director before the expiration of his/her term of office, and, subject to bylaw 25(3), may appoint a successor to complete the term of office.
30. No director shall be remunerated for being or acting as a director but a director may be reimbursed for all expenses necessarily and reasonably incurred by him/her while engaged in the affairs of the Association.

#### **Part 6 - Proceedings of Directors**

31. (1) The directors may meet together at the places they think fit to dispatch business, adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings and proceedings, as they see fit.
  - (2) The directors may from time to time fix the quorum necessary to transact business, and unless so fixed the quorum shall be a majority of the directors then in office.
  - (3) The President shall be chair of all meetings of the directors, but if at a meeting the President is not present within 30 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the Vice-President shall act as chair; but if neither is present the directors present may choose one of their number to be chair at that meeting. If the President is unable to complete his/her term of office then the First Vice-President will assume the office of President and the Second Vice-President shall assume the office of First Vice-President and the Third Vice-President shall assume the office of the Second Vice-President.
  - (4) At any time two directors may, request, and upon the request, the President shall, convene a meeting of the directors.
32. (1) The directors may delegate any, but not all, of their powers to committees consisting of the director or directors as they think fit.

- (2) A committee so formed in the exercise of the powers so delegated shall conform to any rules imposed on it by the directors, and shall report every act or thing done in exercise of those powers to the earliest meeting of the directors to be held next after it has been done.
33. A committee chair shall be appointed from the board of directors, or if at a meeting the chair is not present within 30 minutes after the time appointed for holding the meeting, the directors present who are members of the committee shall choose one of their number to be chair of the meeting.
34. The members of a committee may meet and adjourn as they think proper.
35. For a first meeting of directors held immediately following the appointment or election of a director or directors at an annual or other general meeting of members, or for a meeting of the directors at which a director is appointed to fill a vacancy in the directors, it is not necessary to give notice of the meeting to the newly elected or appointed director or directors for the meeting to be constituted, if a quorum of the directors is present.
36. A director who may be absent temporarily from British Columbia may send or deliver to the address of the Association a waiver of notice, which may be by letter, email or fax, of any meeting of the directors and may at any time withdraw the waiver, and until the waiver is withdrawn,
- (a) no notice of meeting of directors shall be sent to that director; and
  - (b) any and all meetings of the directors of the Association, notice of which has not been given to that director shall, if a quorum of the directors is present, be valid and effective.
37. (1) Questions arising at a meeting of the directors and committee of directors shall be decided by a majority of votes.
- (2) In case of an equality of votes the chair does not have a second or casting vote.
38. No resolution proposed at a meeting of directors or committee of directors need be seconded and the chair of a meeting may move or propose a resolution.
39. A resolution in writing, signed by all the directors and placed with the minutes of the directors is as valid and effective as if regularly passed at a meeting of directors.

#### **Part 7 - Duties of Officers**

40. (1) The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and of the directors.

- (2) The President is the chief executive officer of the Association and shall supervise the other officers in the execution of their duties.
  - (3) The President's local government may provide appropriate administrative support at the request of the Executive and the Association shall pay the reasonable cost of such administrative support. In addition, the Executive may hire an Executive Director.
41. The First Vice-President shall carry out the duties of the President during the President's absence and shall assume such additional duties/responsibilities that may be assigned by the President the Executive or the members.
42. The Second Vice-President shall carry out the duties of the President and/or First Vice-President if one or both the President and the First Vice-President are absent and shall assume such additional duties/responsibilities that may be assigned by the President, the Executive or the members. The Third Vice-President shall carry out the duties of the President, First Vice-President or Second Vice-President if the President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President are absent and shall assume such duties/responsibilities that may be assigned by the President, the Executive or the members.

The Executive Director or administrative support staff shall be responsible for:

- (a) conducting the correspondence of the Association;
- (b) issuing notices of meetings of the Association and directors;
- (c) keeping minutes of all meetings of the Association and directors;
- (d) having custody of all records and documents of the Association;
- (e) having custody of the common seal of the Association;
- (f) maintaining the register of members;
- (g) keeping the financial records, including books of account, necessary to comply with the *Societies Act*; and
- (h) rendering financial statements to the directors, members and others when required.

## **Part 8 – Indemnities to Directors and Officers**

43. Subject to the provisions of the *Societies Act*, the directors must cause the Association to indemnify a director or former director of the Association and the heirs and personal representatives of any such person against all costs, charges and expenses, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment actually and reasonably incurred by him, her or them including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment in a civil or administrative action or proceeding to which he/she are made a party by reason of his/her being or having been a director of the Association, including any action brought by the Association. Each director of the Association on being elected or appointed must be deemed to have contracted with the Association on the terms of the foregoing indemnity.
44. Subject to the provisions of the *Societies Act*, the directors may cause the Association to indemnify any officer of the Association and his/her heirs and personal representatives against all costs and expenses whatsoever incurred by him/her and resulting from acting as an officer of the Association.
45. The directors may cause the Association to purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of any person who is or was serving as a director or officer of the Association and his/her heirs or personal representatives against any liability incurred by him/her as such director or officer.

#### **Part 9 – Execution of Documents**

46. Contracts, documents or any instruments in writing requiring the signature of the Association must be signed by any two officers, and all contracts, documents and instruments in writing so signed must be binding upon the Association without any further authorization or formality. The directors must have the power from time to time by unanimous agreement of the directors to appoint an officer or officers on behalf of the Association to sign specific documents, contracts and instruments in writing.

#### **Part 10 – Borrowing**

47. In order to carry out the purposes of the Association the directors may, on behalf of and in the name of the Association, raise or secure the payment or repayment of money in the manner they decide, and, in particular but without limiting the foregoing, by the issue of debentures.
48. No debenture shall be issued without the sanction of a special resolution.
49. The members may by special resolution restrict the borrowing powers of the directors but a restriction imposed expires at the next annual general meeting.

### **Part 11 - Auditor**

50. This Part applies only where the Association is required or has resolved to have an auditor.
51. The first auditor shall be appointed by the directors who shall also fill all vacancies occurring in the office of auditor.
52. At each annual general meeting the Association shall appoint an auditor to hold office until he/she is re-elected or his/her successor is elected at the next annual general meeting.
53. An auditor may be removed by ordinary resolution.
54. An auditor shall be promptly informed in writing of appointment or removal.
55. No director and no employee of the Association shall be auditor.
56. The auditor may attend general meetings.

### **Part 12 - Notices to Members**

57. A notice may be given to a member via email and by posting on the Association web site.
58. A notice sent by email and/or posted to the Association web site shall be deemed to have been given on the day it was sent and/or posted.
59. (1) At least 14 days notice of a general meeting shall be given to
  - (a) every member shown on the register of members on the day notice is given;  
and
  - (b) the auditor, if Part 10 applies.
- (2) No other person is entitled to receive a notice of general meeting.

### **Part 13 - Bylaws**

60. On being admitted to membership, each member is entitled to and the Association shall give him/her, without charge, a copy of the constitution and bylaws of the Association

61. These bylaws shall not be altered or added to except by special resolution.



# LOWER MAINLAND

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### EXECUTIVE POLICIES

#### 1. MEDIA RELATIONS

(a) The President is the recognized spokesperson for the Lower Mainland LGA. All media inquiries that are seeking the official position or reaction of the Lower Mainland LGA should be referred to the President.

(b) The First Vice President may act in the absence of the President.

(c) Directors will not act as spokespersons for the Lower Mainland LGA unless they have first consulted with the President and been authorized by the President.

(d) Directors may speak externally about Lower Mainland LGA issues and topics discussed provided that confidential requirements are followed and that their statements do not undermine the reputation or the integrity of the Lower Mainland LGA.

#### 2. AGENDA PREPARATION

(a) A monthly schedule of Executive meetings will be placed on the Lower Mainland LGA website.

(b) Agenda material sent to Executive members prior to an Executive meeting shall remain confidential until disposed of by subsequent Executive action and direction.

(c) The agenda and supporting material should be provided to all Executive members so that it arrives at their designated e-mail address for receipt of correspondence on the Friday prior to the Executive meeting.

(d) The President or Executive Director may, prior to the opening of the meeting, place before the Executive:

- additional materials that support agenda items.
- new items of business (as have been received from members or provincial or federal government) that were not known prior to the date on which the agenda was circulated, and which are prudent to be dealt with by the Executive at the meeting.

(e) It shall be prudent for the Executive to refer such items deemed not of an urgent nature to the next Executive meeting.

(f) Other items not appearing on the agenda shall not be placed before the Executive without 2/3 approval of the Executive.



(g) Any member of the Executive wishing to bring forward any new matter or point of information shall do so under "OTHER BUSINESS". Any new matter of major importance, which may require further information that could or would normally be available to the Executive at such a meeting, may be ruled by the President, as a "notice of motion" and be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Executive.

### **3. PUBLIC INFORMATION**

#### **(a) Press Releases**

Press Releases are encouraged to promote Lower Mainland LGA activities, decisions, projects, and services. Press Releases are to be reviewed and approved by the President and Executive Director and to be sent on official Lower Mainland LGA letterhead. Press Releases should be sent to the media, Executive, emailed to our membership and posted on the Lower Mainland LGA website. The contact person for Executive matters is the President and the contact person for operational matters is the Executive Director.

#### **(b) Newsletter**

A pre-Convention Newsletter will be used to keep the members up to date on activities pertaining to the Annual General Meeting and Convention. A post-UBCM Convention newsletter will also be produced in order to inform members of the activities conducted at the UBCM Convention (meetings with Ministers etc.)

#### **(c) Member Communications**

Member Communications will be sent out as needed by the Executive Director. Should the communications be going out under the Presidents' name, the Executive Director will send a draft of the communication to the President for approval before distribution.

### **4. MEMBER SERVICES**

#### **(a) Website**

- i. The Lower Mainland LGA will maintain an updated user-friendly website to provide members with information regarding Executive decisions, minutes, and activities/events.
- ii. All requests for posting information to the website will be coordinated through the Executive Director.
- iii. Information appearing on the Lower Mainland LGA website will not be used to promote an individual business over any other but will always strive to promote the Lower Mainland LGA.
- iv. Information appearing on the Lower Mainland LGA website will not be used to promote an individual political philosophy but will strive to promote Lower Mainland LGA philosophies and goals.

#### **(b) E-mail**

E-mail is to be used for business purposes and should be business like in format and tone. Full sentences, proper grammar, and punctuation are expected. E-mail received during the course of Lower Mainland LGA business becomes part of the Lower Mainland LGA record. Email received by the Lower Mainland LGA will be identifiable through a sign off providing the correspondents full name, address, and phone number. Unsigned email will be treated as anonymous.

(c) Telephone

Telephone callers calling the Lower Mainland LGA for the purpose of statement of opinion or to make complaint will be told their opinions and complaints are to be submitted in writing and must include a return address in order to be considered by staff or the Lower Mainland LGA Executive.

(d) Surveys

From time to time, the Lower Mainland LGA may conduct surveys or polls to garner member opinion regarding association issues, policy direction and member satisfaction.

(e) Social Media

The Lower Mainland LGA embraces the use of social media and other technologies that enable the Executive to communicate and share information in a professional manner. The Lower Mainland LGA shall endeavor to have a social media presence, which shall be managed and updated by the Executive Director. All postings shall be reflective of Lower Mainland LGA policies.

## **5. HANDLING CORRESPONDENCE**

(a) Incoming Correspondence

The Executive Director shall route all correspondence in accordance with the following guidelines:

- i. Correspondence addressed to "President" or a specific "Executive Member", unless of a personal nature, will be placed on the Executive agenda.
- ii. Correspondence that is unsigned, unaddressed, form letters, or journal information will not be actioned.
- iii. All correspondence addressed to the Board will be placed on the agenda.

(b) Outgoing Correspondence

- (i) All official correspondence of the Lower Mainland LGA shall be sent out under the letterhead of the Lower Mainland LGA and shall be used for the purpose of obtaining or giving information or conveying the official position of the Lower Mainland LGA established by resolution adopted at a regularly constituted meeting.
- (ii) All correspondence sent by the Lower Mainland LGA to a federal or provincial minister shall be sent out under the signature of the President.
- (iii) All correspondence written by the Executive Director and going out under the Presidents' name, will be sent to the President for approval before distribution.
- (iv) Correspondence arising from an Executive meeting will be prepared within five business days following the meeting.

## **6. MEMBERSHIP IN OTHER ORGANIZATIONS**

Decisions relating to obtaining memberships in external organizations must be made by the Executive. Membership renewals shall be reviewed on an annual basis. The following questions can be helpful in guiding discussion related to obtaining or retaining external memberships:

- Is membership required?
- How significant is this membership to Lower Mainland LGA local governments?
- Will membership advance the achievement of Lower Mainland LGA policies?
- What are the financial implications for Lower Mainland LGA?
- What are the consequences to Lower Mainland LGA local governments if Lower

Mainland LGA is not a member?

- What is the nature of membership?
- Are there alternate ways of ensuring Lower Mainland LGA interests are protected?
- What other groups are members?
- Is there anything else we should consider regarding membership in this organization?

## **7. COMMITTEES**

(a) Committees may be formed as directed by the executive.

(b) The Executive shall appoint and define the powers and duties of every Committee except the Nominating Committee and the Resolutions Committee.

(c) The Nomination Committee shall consist of the Immediate Past President and be supported by the Lower Mainland LGA Executive Director.

(c) There shall be a Resolutions Committee composed of the members of the Executive.

(d) The Resolutions Committee shall:

- examine all resolutions submitted to the Convention.
- recommend in favour of, against or provide no recommendation to the resolutions respectively.
- may correlate resolutions; and,
- may recommend amendments.

## **8. FINANCES**

(a) Expenses

Expenses shall be reimbursed for Executive members on authorized business of the Association except for attending the Annual UBCM Convention. Authorized attendance is defined as ongoing Executive meetings, Committee meetings and any business endorsed by the Executive. Any exceptions are outlined below:

- i. The Lower Mainland LGA President or authorized delegate shall attend the Annual Convention of other Area Associations (AVICC, AKBLG, SILGA and NCLGA) and represent the Lower Mainland LGA. The President shall attend one each year on a rotating basis.
- ii. The travel expenses, registration fee and hotel accommodation for the President's attendance at the Area Association conventions shall be borne by the Lower Mainland LGA. Receipts for all expenses will be required for reimbursement.
- iii. No travel expenses nor part of any other expenses normally incurred by Executive members in attending the Annual Convention will be borne by the Lower Mainland LGA.

(b) Per diem

A per diem shall be given to Executive Members at a rate of \$150 per meeting beginning after the AGM in May 2024. This shall be paid to the executive twice per year. An exception is that any member of the executive that is paid by their regional district or municipality to attend the meetings will not be paid a further per diem by the Lower Mainland LGA.

(c) Travel Allowance

The mileage allowance for car travel shall be paid at the current year's provincial government rate per kilometer, where authorized business is required.

(d) Signing Authority

The Executive will confirm signing officers annually following the AGM. Cheques written on the Lower Mainland LGA bank account will require two signatures.

Association expenses at or below \$2000 may be handled by the Executive Director without prior approval of the Executive, in keeping with regular business practices. Purchases above \$2000 require the authorization of the Association President or, in the absence of the President, the First Vice-President. Executive approval is required for purchases above \$5000.

(e) Executive Director

The Executive Director will submit an invoice for their contracted services and authorized expenses on a monthly basis. The invoices are to be emailed to the President and First Vice President. The President will approve the invoice in writing via email. In the absence of the President, the First Vice President may approve the invoices. Once approval is received in writing, the Executive Director is then authorized to e-transfer the approved amount from the Lower Mainland LGA bank account to the Executive Director.

## 9. EXECUTIVE

(a) There shall be an Executive, which shall be composed of:

- i. The Officers of the Lower Mainland LGA, consisting of:
  - o President
  - o First Vice President
  - o Second Vice President
  - o Third Vice President
- ii. The Immediate Past President, who shall be the last president to have completed the term of office as President.
- iii. A representative from each of the member Regional Districts – Squamish-Lillooet Regional District, the Greater Vancouver Regional District, and the Fraser Valley Regional District, and who must be a member of the respective Board; and,
- iv. Three Directors at Large.

(b) No person shall hold a position as Officer of the Lower Mainland LGA more than twice, whether consecutively or otherwise.

(c) In the event of a vacancy occurring amongst the Officers, the next ranking Officer willing to serve shall fill the vacancy, provided that if the office of President cannot for any reason be filled as aforesaid, the Executive shall call a special election for the office of President and such election may be held by a mail ballot pursuant to the rules and procedures established and determined by the Executive.

(d) In the event of a vacancy:

- i. The Executive may appoint a First Vice President, Second Vice President and Third Vice President from amongst persons qualified to be elected to the Executive, from the current Directors at Large equal to the number of vacancies.
- ii. Amongst the Directors at Large, the Executive may appoint a person qualified to hold the office to fill the position for the term remaining.

iii. In the position of Regional District Representatives, such vacancies shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.

(e) Members of the Executive must be able and willing to fulfill their duties as described below:

- attend a minimum of eight (8) meetings per year.
- attend the annual conference of the Association.
- perform duties of a board member at the AGM, and any other duties arising as a decision by the Executive.

(f) Past President

All members of the Executive shall hold office only so long as they remain elected representatives of a member of Lower Mainland LGA. If a person holding the office of Immediate Past President ceases to be an elected representative of a member of Lower Mainland LGA while holding the office, they shall only hold the office for the remainder of the then current term. Should the Immediate Past President not be re-elected, and the President be elected for a second term then the most immediate elected Past President assume the duties of Past President.

## **10. LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

(a) Life membership may be granted by the Executive to persons who have made a significant contribution to local government in British Columbia.

(b) All Past Presidents shall be life members.

(c) Life members who are not member delegates shall have the privilege of the floor, but with the exception of the immediate Past President shall not be entitled to vote.

(d) Life Members who no longer hold elected office shall be offered complimentary registration to attend the annual convention.

(e) Life Members will be recognized on the Lower Mainland LGA website.

## **11. CONVENTION**

(a) Registration

- i. A late registration surcharge of 20% of all registration fees will be charged for registrations received six weeks immediately preceding the convention.
- ii. Refunds of prepaid convention fees will be made on the following basis:
  - Cancellations received 21 days before convention starts – 100% refund minus a \$50 administration fee.
  - Cancellation received between 21 days and 14 days before convention starts – 50% refund.
  - Cancellation received 13 days before convention starts – no refund.
- iii. The following individuals shall receive complimentary convention registrations for the business program (tickets must be purchased for meal events):
  - Cabinet Ministers
  - Members of the Legislative Assembly
  - British Columbia Members of Parliament

- UBCM President
- Presidents of other BC Area Associations

(b) Convention Charity

- i. The Executive will consider, on a best effort basis, to allocate one exhibitor space to a charitable non-profit. Applications for this complimentary booth space will be accepted in January of each year.
- ii. The successful applicants for this booth space will be the recipient for the annual “speaker gift” donation process, which includes donations made to a charitable non-profit on behalf of AGM speakers as a thank you to them for their services.

(c) Theme

The Convention Sub-committee will strive to establish the theme by January 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. And, the choice of charitable non-profits should be reflective of this theme.

(d) Convention Media Policy

- i. Complimentary registration (no meals included) is provided to qualified journalists who meet the conference registration criteria on a space-available basis. Applications for media credentials will be accepted from journalists employed or on assignment from recognized print, broadcast, and online general and government news media  
To be accredited, journalists must submit the following
  - Name
  - Complete contact information (office and mobile numbers and email address) and the name of the media outlet that they will be representing
  - Proof of employment by the media outlet (e.g., a copy of the publication’s masthead with the reporter’s name listed) or a letter of assignment from the editor, producer, or news director of the outlet if the reporter is freelance
- ii. Media will receive written confirmation via email confirming their application has been approved or declined. Approval in prior years is not a guarantee for future Lower Mainland LGA Conventions
- iii. The Lower Mainland LGA reserves the right to limit the number of media accreditations issued
- iv. Media agree to conduct themselves in a manner that will not cause offence to or inhibit the enjoyment of all conference attendees, staff, and the convention venue
- v. Media may not record the AGM, Resolutions Session or any networking event nor may interviews take place in the conference sessions or networking spaces
- vi. Media may not ask questions during the convention sessions

**12. SPONSORSHIP**

(a) The purpose of sponsorship is to advance the goals and values of the Lower Mainland LGA which are:

- i. to enhance and provide the format to improve and refine the quality and level of services provided by Local Government to its citizens.
- ii. to promote the welfare and the wellbeing of taxpayers and residents of the members of the Association.
- iii. to promote and support to a satisfactory resolve, the concerns of members that are in keeping with the overall objectives of the Association; and,
- iv. to promote and advance to UBCM on behalf of the membership, proposed changes in

legislation, regulations, or Government policies.

(b) Sponsorship arrangements are an important source of funding for the Lower Mainland LGA Convention and other events allowing the Association to keep the cost of such events affordable for all local governments. Approval is at the prerogative of the Executive and is based on the following criteria:

- i. The sponsor's public image, mandate, products, and services must be consistent with the goals and values of the Lower Mainland LGA.
- ii. The sponsorship must not result in, or be perceived to result in any competitive advantage, benefit, or preferential treatment for the sponsor outside of the identified benefits associated with the sponsorship agreement.

(c) A sponsorship is a mutually beneficial business exchange between the Lower Mainland LGA and an external organization (the sponsor) whereby the sponsor contributes funds or in-kind services to the Association in return for recognition, acknowledgement, speaking opportunities, or other promotional considerations. Sponsorships typically involve a relationship between the sponsor and a specific program, event, service, or activity being sponsored. Tax receipts are not issued for funds, products or in-kind services made to the Lower Mainland LGA. The Lower Mainland LGA considers donations a form of sponsorship. All sponsors will be listed publicly.

(d) The Lower Mainland LGA will consider all sponsorship proposals, however, is under no obligation to accept any of them. Criteria for consideration and process for approving sponsorships is as follows:

- All sponsorship agreements shall be evaluated by the Executive on an annual basis to determine continued benefit.

(e) The Lower Mainland LGA shall retain ownership and control over any sponsored property or activities. Sponsors may not transfer or delegate their sponsorship to another group without written consent from the Lower Mainland LGA.

(f) The Lower Mainland LGA does not endorse the products, services, or ideas of the sponsor. Sponsors are prohibited from implying that their products, services, or ideas are sanctioned by the Lower Mainland LGA.

(g) All sponsorship relationships shall be confirmed in writing. A written offer or invitation to sponsor and a subsequent acceptance must be formalized in the "Sponsorship Commitment Form". The term of such agreement is the completion of the activity or event associated with the sponsorship. Any breach of the Sponsorship Commitment Form by the sponsor allows the Lower Mainland LGA the right to remove the entity as sponsor at any time. Upon signage of the Sponsorship Commitment Form, the sponsor confirms their commitment to the Lower Mainland LGA and waives the right to a refund.

**Returning sponsors** that participated in the previous Lower Mainland LGA Conference & AGM will be given first right of refusal to sponsor the same aspect of the event. Confirmation of sponsorship for returning sponsors is due before January 10<sup>th</sup> of each year.

**Allocation of Booth Spaces:** Returning sponsors will be given first selection on their preferred exhibit location followed by returning exhibitors. Confirmation by returning sponsors and exhibitors is due by January 10<sup>th</sup> of each year after which new exhibitors are welcome to the

remaining spaces on a first come first serve basis. Consideration will also be given to those sponsors/exhibitors with power needs and the location of outlets within the conference building.

**Terms:** Upon receipt of the signed Commitment Form, an invoice for the sponsorship will be issued. Payment is due within 30 days to guarantee sponsorship. Sponsors may not transfer this agreement to another agency in part or in whole.

(h) Benefits to the sponsor are to be commensurate with the size, scope, and prominence of the sponsorship. Executive will review annually the regular sponsorship opportunities and their associated benefits available in relation to the annual Convention. Sponsorship opportunities and associated benefits for other events organized by the Association will be reviewed and approved by the Executive.

### **13. PROCUREMENT PRINCIPLES**

The following principles will be adhered to in the procurement of materials and services:

(a) Fair Competition

The Association will treat all bidders with fairness and ensure that they are given the same level of information when preparing Request for Proposals or tenders.

(b) Cost-effectiveness Request for Proposals and tenders will be evaluated not only on competitiveness in pricing but also factors such as the quality of the products/services, track records of the bidders and alignment with Association values.

(c) Transparency

Request for Proposal and tender documents must provide all the necessary information to facilitate submission of appropriate and competitive tenders.

(d) Ethical Purchasing

The Association is committed to purchasing goods and services from responsible producers that supply quality products at competitive prices and abide by ethical standards and norms. This Policy ensures that purchasing activities are aligned with the Association's values by seeking to ensure that workplaces producing goods and providing services for the Association respect human and workers' rights where human and civil rights conditions are in compliance with the core labour conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO). Association suppliers and their sub-contractors will comply with national and other applicable laws of the country of manufacture of products including those laws relating to labour, worker health and safety, and the environment.

(e) Sustainable Purchasing

The Association wishes to purchase products and services that have positive environmental and social attributes. Where there are significant social/environmental impacts, calls may incorporate SE product/service specifications. Proponents may be asked to provide goods with an eco-label and/or demonstrate how the goods/services being offered address key sustainability issues such as: greenhouse gas reduction, waste and packaging reduction, toxin reduction, socio-economic sustainability.

### **14. PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES**



(a) Request for Proposal

- i. The Association will go to RFP every three years for the following:
  - o procurements of value exceeding \$10,000; and/or
  - o for contracts associated with the following:
    - Audio-Visual
    - Hotels
- ii. A notice of tender invitations should be advertised for response by all interested suppliers or contractors.
- iii. Written quotations should be sought from at least three (3) suppliers, if at all possible, including the successful tenderer in the last procurement exercise (whose goods or services met the requirements).

(b) Tender Documents

The Executive Director should prepare the tender documents/quotation and provide all the required information in the documents to facilitate bidding from tenderers. The information should include tender specifications and requirements, conditions of contract, required quantity of items and service and timing of provision, assessment criteria, tender closing date and time, the place for depositing the tender, the contact person, and the officer to whom enquiries may be made.

(c) Submission of Tenders

Unless in exceptional circumstance of urgency, tenderers should be allowed sufficient time to submit their tenders. Tenderers must submit their tenders before the tender closing date and time specified in the tender documents. Any tenders received after the tender closing time shall not be considered.

(d) Tender/ Quotation Evaluation

- i. In general, tender evaluation should be carried out by the Association Executive as a whole, but may be designated to a committee, should the Executive deem it appropriate.
- ii. The assessment panel should undertake an extensive value for money assessment amongst the eligible tenders and evaluate according to the pre-set assessment criteria.

(e) Acceptance of Tender

- i. After endorsement and approval of the selection result, the successful tenderer should be officially notified and be invited to enter into a contract with the Association.
- ii. Should none of the tenders received fulfill the required specifications and conditions, the tendering exercise should be canceled. The original specifications and conditions should be amended as necessary for purpose of re-tendering.

(f) Procedure of Handling Complaints

The Association is committed to maintaining a fair and open procurement system. Tenderers who consider themselves being treated unfairly may lodge a complaint with the Association.

(g) Approval and Authorization

The Executive Board is the deciding body when considering all RFP's submitted to the Association.

**Last Updated:**

January 16, 2014

February 6, 2014

February 7, 2014

February 19, 2014

March 5, 2014

March 7, 2014

Approved at April 16, 2014 Executive Meeting

February 15, 2017 – updated section 8

June 4, 2018 – updated section 9

June 17, 2020

January 11, 2024-updated section 8 to add executive per diems

## APPENDIX 3

### 2023 LMLGA MEMBERS

#### CITIES

Abbotsford  
Burnaby  
Chilliwack  
Coquitlam  
Delta  
Langley  
Maple Ridge  
New Westminster  
North Vancouver  
Pitt Meadows  
Port Moody  
Richmond  
Surrey  
Vancouver  
White Rock

#### DISTRICTS

Hope  
Kent  
Langley  
Mission  
North Vancouver  
Squamish  
West Vancouver

#### VILLAGES

Anmore  
Belcarra  
Harrison Hot Springs  
Lions Bay  
Pemberton

#### REGIONAL DISTRICTS

Fraser Valley  
Metro Vancouver  
Squamish-Lillooet

#### RESORT MUNICIPALITY

Whistler

#### ISLAND MUNICIPALITY

Bowen Island

## APPENDIX 4

### 2023-2024 Lower Mainland LGA EXECUTIVE

<b>NAME</b>	<b>POSITION</b>	<b>LOCAL GOVERNMENT</b>
Councillor Patricia Ross	President	City of Abbotsford
Councillor Paul Albrecht	First Vice President	Langley City
Councillor Michie Vidal	Second Vice President	Village of Harrison Hot Springs
Director Jen McCutcheon	Third Vice President	Metro Vancouver RD
Mayor Jack Crompton	Past President	Resort Municipality of Whistler
Councillor Elaine Cheung	Director at Large	City of White Rock
Councillor Chris Pettingill	Director at Large	District of Squamish
Mayor Sylvia Pranger	Director at Large	District of Kent
Councillor Chris Kloot	FVRD Representative	City of Chilliwack
Mayor Armand Hurford	SLRD Representative	District of Squamish
Mayor Nathan Pachal	Metro Vancouver Rep	Langley City