



LOWER MAINLAND

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

2026 RESOLUTIONS DISPOSITION

LOWER MAINLAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION RESOLUTIONS

ABBREVIATION KEY:

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

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

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

RF = RESOLUTION – RESOLUTION RECEIVED FROM THE FLOOR

PART 1 – EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

ER1-Agriculture Land Commission Staffing Reductions

Whereas the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is a cornerstone of protecting British Columbia's finite and irreplaceable agricultural land base, yet has been compelled to reduce staffing levels solely as a result of inadequate and insufficient provincial funding;

And whereas these staffing reductions significantly impair the ALC's ability to fulfill its legislated mandate, weaken regulatory oversight, and reflect a serious failure by the Province to prioritize agricultural protection amid escalating pressures on food security, farmland loss, and the long-term viability of the agriculture sector;

Therefore be it resolved that the Union of BC Municipalities formally convey its strong concern to the Government of British Columbia that chronic provincial underfunding has directly resulted in staffing cuts at the ALC and has undermined confidence in the Province's commitment to safeguarding agricultural land;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia be urgently called upon to immediately restore, stabilize, and significantly increase funding to the Agricultural Land Commission, and to unequivocally recognize and act upon the protection of agricultural land and the agriculture sector as a critical and non-negotiable provincial priority.

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

ER2-Restoration of Critical Capital Projects in Healthcare and Housing

Whereas the Government of Province of British Columbia has revised its capital budget, resulting in the pausing, deferral, or cancellation of previously approved capital projects;

And Whereas the cancellation or delay of these projects will worsen pressures on the healthcare system and housing availability across communities in British Columbia;

Therefore be it resolved that the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to reconsider its 2026 budget and restore funding and timelines for healthcare and BC Housing projects that have been paused, deferred, or cancelled;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide a clear and transparent plan, including timelines, for the reinstatement and completion of these projects.

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

Comments:

The two executive resolutions came forward from our membership after the resolution's deadline had passed because of recent announcements from the province. The Lower Mainland Local Government Association Executive considers the subject matter of these two resolutions to be urgent and significant and therefore the executive is bringing them forward to the membership.

PART 2 – REFERRED RESOLUTIONS

UBCM has referred late resolutions from the 2025 resolutions cycle for consideration by Lower Mainland LGA members.

None.

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.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R1 - Policing Costs

City of Mission

Whereas local governments' policing costs are rapidly increasing and their ability to generate revenue remains limited and creates challenges funding other mandated local government responsibilities:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments be requested to arrange a meeting with local government representatives to examine a more sustainable shared policing model.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking various changes related to funding of police services, including:

- *2025-SR2, which seeks for the Province and federal government to directly involve UBCM and BC local governments and consider local priorities as part of the process to negotiate new RCMP police service agreements;*
- *2025-EB28, which calls on the Province to develop a new RCMP funding framework that includes a more gradual cost-share rate increase than currently exists;*
- *2025-EB30 and 2024-NR40, which calls on the Province to develop an equitable police funding model for all BC local governments that considers financial capacity, population size and police service demands in each jurisdiction;*
- *2024-NR41, which seeks for the Province to increase the 5,000 person RCMP cost-share population threshold to 10,000 as part of work to develop a new shared police funding model;*
- *2024-NR42, which calls on the Province to develop a new RCMP funding framework that gradually increases the cost-share rate at various population intervals;*
- *2023-NR34, which calls on FCM and the provincial and federal governments to work together to add new cost-share population thresholds to the RCMP police service agreements;*
- *2022-NR33, which seeks for the Province to unilaterally develop a new RCMP funding model for small communities that includes one additional cost-share population threshold, at 10,000 in population;*
- *2020-EB5, which sought for the Province to establish a gradual cost increase for local governments that surpass the 5,000 person population threshold and choose to contract for the provision of RCMP police services; and*

- 2020-NR7, which requests that the Province review the current RCMP police funding model with the intent to make police services more affordable for local governments.

Through discussion with the sponsor, it is understood that the intent of the proposed resolution is for the Province and federal government to consider a more sustainable shared police funding model for all BC local governments, including those policed by the RCMP and those with independent police agencies. This resolution is unique because it does not pertain only to RCMP-policed communities, and it does not include any parameters for a new cost-sharing model (e.g., financial capacity, population size, policing demands).

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION

R2 - Treaty Negotiations

Village of Harrison Hot Springs

Whereas the recent BC Supreme Court decision in Cowichan Tribes v. Canada, 2025 BCSC 1490 has created significant uncertainty for residents, businesses, and local governments across BC, setting precedents with broad implications while highlighting the absence of modern agreements that clarify and confirm BC's Indigenous Peoples Aboriginal and treaty rights;

And whereas local governments were not involved in the negotiations preceding the court decision, leaving their interests unaddressed;

And whereas modern treaties that clarify and confirm these rights would benefit all communities in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to pursue the completion of modern treaties with BC's Indigenous Peoples that clarify and confirm their treaty and Aboriginal rights;

And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to commit to consulting affected local governments on draft agreements that might impact the delivery of municipal services, the jurisdictions, authorities and/or interests of local governments, prior to the Province of BC considering the ratification of these modern agreements or treaties so that local government interests can be considered and addressed appropriately.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to pursue the completion of modern treaties with BC's

Indigenous Peoples that clarify and confirm their treaty and Aboriginal rights. Nor has the membership considered the second request that local governments be consulted prior to the ratification of modern treaties or agreements.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions addressing local government consultation in relation to treaty negotiations, including:

- *2016-B91 which asked treaty negotiators and the governments of British Columbia and Canada to commit to: a) Increased openness and transparency in all treaty negotiations; and b) Timely, meaningful consultation with all affected third parties;*
- *2007-B60 which asked the Province, in part, to ensure that there is meaningful consultation with affected local governments from the outset of any initiative to transfer provincial lands to First Nations; and*
- *2002-B66 which asked the Province to establish a meaningful and effective process for the sharing of information between local governments, negotiators, and aboriginal communities.*

The Committee acknowledges that some of these references are dated.

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R3 - Creating an Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sector Housing Alliance City of Chilliwack

Whereas the lack of safe, adequate, and affordable housing remains a foundational barrier to progress on persistent health, public safety, and social challenges across British Columbia, and siloed approaches across the health, justice, social, and housing sectors have limited the effectiveness of interventions addressing complex, interrelated social issues, with Indigenous peoples being 13 times more likely than non-Indigenous people to experience homelessness, with 40 to 80% of those experiencing homelessness in municipalities across British Columbia being Indigenous;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia and UBCM renewed a Memorandum of Understanding (2021) committing the Province to communicate with UBCM and local governments on key Indigenous issues as an extension of its unanimous adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2019), which lists 89 actions, 24 of which either impact housing or should be considered in the context of housing:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call on the Province to establish an 'Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sectoral Housing Alliance' composed of senior representatives from the health, justice, social services, and housing sectors, with strong and equitable urban, rural and northern Indigenous representation;

And be it further resolved that the mandate of this alliance includes the development of a provincial framework recognizing safe and adequate housing as essential infrastructure, and to coordinate sector-wide adoption and public endorsement of this position by professional, service, advocacy, academic, and industry associations and their member agencies.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish an ‘Indigenous-Led, Cross-Sectoral Housing Alliance’ composed of senior representatives from the health, justice, social services, and housing sectors, with strong and equitable urban, rural and northern Indigenous representation, and that the mandate of this alliance include the development of a provincial framework recognizing safe and adequate housing as essential infrastructure, and to coordinate sector-wide adoption and public endorsement of this position by professional, service, advocacy, academic, and industry associations and their member agencies.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in all communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2025-EB16, 2025-EB123, 2025-NR17, 2024-SR3, 2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2024-NR27, 2024-NR28, 2023-EB18, 2023-NR26, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed other resolutions that address housing, including Indigenous housing, such as:

- *2025-NR17 which calls on the Province to enshrine housing as a human right in legislation and forthcoming housing and homelessness strategies, ensuring that housing policy in British Columbia is grounded in principles of equity, accessibility, accountability, and the inherent dignity of all people;*
- *2025-NR123 which calls on the Province to establish a provincial housing policy roundtable with representation from local governments, Indigenous housing organizations, non-profit and private housing sectors, academic experts, and both provincial and federal housing ministries; and*
- *2018-B149 which calls on the Province to recognize and treat Indigenous people equitably in provincial policies, programs and funding initiatives that are tied to root causes of inequities and improved social determinants of health including housing, access and connection to culture, education and training, child and family services, and income generation.*

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

TAXATION

R4 - Revisiting Advocacy for “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” City of Port Moody

Whereas in 2019, the Intergovernmental Working Group (made up of CFOs from seven representative Metro Vancouver cities and senior staff from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing) proposed a new taxation scheme titled “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” which was successfully adopted by UBCM at the 2019 Annual Convention as B78;

And whereas the proposed tax scheme detailed in the “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” resolution proposed enabling powers to local governments to provide financial relief on property taxes for eligible commercial properties owned or operated by small businesses by taxing at current use, not the “highest and best use” through which they may incur higher taxes due to potential for redevelopment:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia be requested to work with municipalities to make the necessary legislative and regulatory changes contained in the “Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class” approach;

And be it further resolved that the legislative and regulatory changes be intended for implementation by 2027 to enable municipalities to lower commercial property tax rate on properties where redevelopment potential has increased costs and provide meaningful relief for small businesses and the arts, culture, and non-profit sectors.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2019-B78 which called for a Split Assessment through a New Commercial Sub-Class approach. However, the Committee advises that the membership has not considered the second request that the legislative and regulatory changes be intended for implementation by 2027.

The Committee also notes that the membership supported resolution 2024-NR78 that called 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 response from the Province noted that “in 2022, the Community Charter was amended to add section 198.1 Development Potential Relief. Municipal councils may, by bylaw, apply a reduced tax rate to the assessed land value of certain occupied commercial and industrial properties in Class 5 Light Industry and/or 6 Business and Other. The intent is to provide business occupiers of properties with development potential a reduction in property taxes where warranted.”

By contrast, the Committee advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2023-NR70 that 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. On the other hand, the membership did endorse resolution 2023-NR69 that asked for authority to introduce a vacant property tax applicable to commercial and industrial properties.

Additionally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking to assist commercial property owners and lessees, in particular those that are small or independently owned, with their assessments and property taxes or rents:

- 2018-B115 sought provincial assessment and tax reform to support the long-term viability of independent small businesses in BC; and*
- 2018-B160 sought a Legacy Business Registry and Grant program to provide relief from prohibitive increases in rent or property tax for independently-owned local businesses.*

Recommendation: Endorse

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

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

HOUSING

R5 - Recreational Vehicle Tenant Protection Township of Langley

Whereas as a result of British Columbia's worsening cost-of-living crisis, more people are finding the most affordable home in which to reside is a Recreational Vehicle (RV) which are only permitted to remain on-location at RV Parks for a short period of time, in most cases a maximum of 6-months, and have no permanent structures or fixtures;

And whereas RV owners are not able to sign tenancy agreements with their landlords, only License to Occupy agreements, which do not afford them the same protections or rights as they would be entitled to under the *Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act* and only the Province of British Columbia has the authority to create any legal protection for these RV owners during the ongoing cost-of-living crisis:

Therefore be it resolved that the UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to examine policy changes to provide rental protection to long-term RV-based tenants in RV and Mobile Home Parks across British Columbia.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to examine policy changes to provide rental protection to long-term RV-based tenants in RV and Mobile Home Parks across British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions addressing smaller residential homes such as RVs and tiny homes, including:

- *2025-NR40 which sought, in part, to revisit industry standards such as CSA (Canadian Standards Association), and create a new category specific to moveable tiny homes certified for permanent occupancy that separates tiny homes from motorized vehicles, towable RVs and temporary small trailers;*
- *2022-NR64 which sought, in part, the creation of emergency or ad-hoc housing or shelter with on site supports as a short-term use, and including tiny homes, navigation centres, portables, and/or modular housing;*
- *2022-NR21 which sought to recognize, allow and provide building requirements for tiny homes, and that the Province should incorporate these changes into Part 9 of the BC Building Code that would define tiny houses as allowable permanent dwellings, and thus permit them to be constructed where local government official community plans and zoning bylaws deem them appropriate; and*
- *2022-NR22 which sought that the Province recognize that Recreational Vehicles (RVs) are used for year-round living, including the development of guidelines for best practices for ensuring health and safety for the use of RVs for year-round living.*

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

COMMUNITY SAFETY**R6 - Authorization for Municipal Use of CCTV Cameras for Public Safety Surveillance
City of White Rock**

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are increasingly seeking to implement closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems to enhance public safety, deter crime, and support law enforcement investigations and the current interpretation and enforcement of privacy legislation by the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (OIPC) restrict the deployment of municipal CCTV systems, even when intended for clearly defined public safety purposes;

And whereas these privacy-related barriers prevent local governments from proactively using modern surveillance tools that can assist in crime deterrence, improve community safety, and provide evidence in criminal investigations:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to enact clear enabling legislation that authorizes local governments to implement and operate CCTV camera systems for public safety purposes, including crime prevention and investigation, subject to strict guidelines;

And be it further resolved that such legislation include province-wide standards and oversight mechanisms addressing transparency, data retention limits, access controls, signage and notification, and regular privacy impact assessments to ensure a balanced approach between public safety and individual privacy rights.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to enact clear enabling legislation that authorizes local governments to implement and operate CCTV camera systems for public safety purposes; and, that such legislation include province-wide standards and oversight mechanisms addressing transparency, data retention limits, access controls, signage and notification, and regular privacy impact assessments.

However, the Committee notes that that membership has supported a resolution asking the Province to expand the intersection safety camera program (2024-EB41), and others requesting that local governments be permitted to independently implement intersection safety cameras on local roads at the local government's expense (2023-EB25, 2019-B8, 2017-B90).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**R7 - Advancing a Vision Zero Approach to Road Safety
City of New Westminster**

Whereas injuries and deaths on BC roads have untold impacts on thousands of BC lives every year, strain local government first responder resources, and result in more than \$500 Million in direct health care costs in British Columbia every year;

And whereas the Province's BC Road Safety Strategy has referenced a Vision Zero approach to road safety starting with the belief that no loss of life on our roads is acceptable and implementing a collaborative Safe System Approach to road safety relying proactive data collection and sharing as the globally recognized path to achieving Vision Zero:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to advance its commitment to Vision Zero and further support local government partners through:

1. expansion of the Vision Zero Road Safety Grant program by providing additional funding to introduce a third funding stream with a cap higher than the current \$20,000 limit to fund more ambitious local government and First Nation community road safety initiatives; and
2. undertaking a comprehensive review of data collected by provincial ministries and agencies in relation to motor vehicle injury and death incidents and develop strategies for proactive data sharing between those agencies and local governments to inform local road safety improvements.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to advance its commitment to Vision Zero and further support local government partners through expansion of the Vision Zero Road Safety Grant program; and, by undertaking a comprehensive review of data collected by provincial ministries and agencies in relation to motor vehicle injury and death incidents and developing strategies for proactive data sharing between those agencies and local governments to inform local road safety improvements.

However, the Committee notes that membership has endorsed resolutions calling for amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act to enable municipalities to implement blanket speed limits in an effort to improve road safety within their municipal boundaries (2025-EB71, 2019-B7, 2009-B19, 2006-B14).

Members also endorsed resolution 2018-B102, which called on the Province to support modernizing the Motor Vehicle Act by addressing recommendations made by the Road Safety Law Reform Group of BC to enhance road safety.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

ENVIRONMENT

R8 - Strengthening Air Quality Regulation, Monitoring and Transparency in BC District of Squamish

Whereas current air quality monitoring and enforcement in BC is based on guidelines for the general adult populations and do not adequately protect the health of significant demographics including children, seniors, and pregnant people;

And whereas monitoring and enforcement are inadequate for meeting air quality guidelines, are not always publicly transparent, are not always available to the authorities with shared

responsibility for community wellbeing, and are based on guidelines that are inherently subjective:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province be asked to:

- ensure monitoring and enforcement of provincial air quality expectations that are independent from polluters, in a manner that is publicly transparent, and ensures consistency with the best science on air quality impacts to all individuals in the province;
- ensure that where certain air quality monitoring and compliance data cannot be shared with the public, that it will be shared with those responsible for community wellbeing, including health authorities, First Nations, and regional and local governments;
- move to a system of objective and reasonable regulatory requirements for air quality, to ensure clear and transparent expectations for the public and industry alike.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution addressing air quality issues as noted in the three bullet points.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions that address air quality, burns and particulate emission standards, including:

- *supporting and incentivizing alternatives to burning of agricultural vegetative debris (Executive endorsed resolution 2021-NR41);*
- *venting indexes and efficiency of burns (Executive endorsed resolution 2020-NR42) and (2018-B70);*
- *addressing and mitigating risks associated with wildfire smoke (2019-B94);*
- *limiting or banning burning of wood debris piles on private and crown forest lands within community air sheds (2016-B24);*
- *establishing standards for regulating wood burning appliances and outdoor boilers (2008-B72, 2007-B35, 2006-B109, 2005-B28); and*
- *establishing emission level standards for agricultural boilers (2007-LR4).*

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**R9 - Equipment Seizure on Agricultural Land Reserves
Fraser Valley Regional District**

Whereas ongoing illegal fill dumping on Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) lands in British Columbia violates the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and local government bylaws, exacerbated by insufficient Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) enforcement resources, frequent disregard of stop work orders, and the lengthy, costly court process for fine collection;

And whereas violators often lack resources for court-ordered remediation post-fines, causing lasting environmental damage, while other agencies including WorkSafeBC and the BC Conservation Officer Service effectively utilize equipment seizure to immediately prevent further violations and lessen remediation costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to amend legislation to grant the Agricultural Land Commission and relevant provincial agencies the authority to immediately seize equipment involved in illegal fill dumping activities on Agricultural Land Reserve lands, drawing on regulatory authorities used by WorkSafeBC Occupational Safety Officers and BC Conservation Officers.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the ALC and relevant provincial agencies to have the authority to immediately seize equipment involved in illegal fill dumping activities on Agricultural Land Reserve lands.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has many endorsed resolutions that address illegal dumping and which call for adequate funding, enforcement and prosecution (2023-EB45, 2021-EB30, 2021-EB31, 2021-EB32, 2020-EB56, 2018-B36, 2017-B25, 2017-B64, 2017-B97, 2012-B29, 2011-B89). In particular, the most recent resolution 2023-EB45 addresses illegal dumping on agricultural lands.

The Committee further notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions that address soil and its disposal, including:

- *Tracking and monitoring of soil and other materials where its source and deposit sites fall within the jurisdiction of the Agricultural Land Commission (2025-NR89);*
- *Contaminated soil permitting process (2016-B34);*
- *Contaminated soil relocation (2013-B37, 2012-B120);*
- *Placement of fill on ALR land and its impact on surrounding lands (2012-B82); and*
- *Soil removal fee (2011-B32, 2008-B135).*

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

FINANCE

R10 - Downloading of Responsibilities onto Local Governments

City of Delta

Whereas local governments in British Columbia have experienced a growing number of responsibilities transferred or expanded by the Province and federal government without corresponding, sustainable funding, requiring municipalities to absorb additional costs within their existing revenue tools;

And whereas property tax remains the primary revenue source available to local governments, and the downloading of provincially driven responsibilities places disproportionate pressure on residential and business property taxpayers, creating inequities and affordability concerns:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM undertake a comprehensive study of the scope, scale, and fiscal impacts of downloading of responsibilities onto local governments in British Columbia;

And be it further resolved that UBCM use the findings of this study to advocate to the Province, and to the federal government, when applicable, for a more equitable funding model that aligns responsibilities with appropriate and sustainable revenue sources and reduces the unfair reliance on property tax increases to fund provincially downloaded responsibilities.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking UBCM to undertake a study on the impact of downloading onto local governments and then to advocate for a more equitable funding model that aligns responsibilities with appropriate and sustainable revenue sources and reduces the unfair reliance on property tax increases to fund provincially downloaded responsibilities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions addressing downloading to local governments and seeking additional funding for local governments to address downloading, on a variety of topics, including:

- *downloading of pre-hospital care costs through local government fire and rescue services (2025-EB7, 2024-EB9, 2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14);*
- *downloading of the costs incurred by local governments to address the lack of homelessness support, mental health and wellness issues, and addictions recovery services and supports (2024-NR2);*
- *downloading of responsibilities under the Fire Safety Act (and previously the Fire Services Act), to local governments (2025-NR47, 2025-EB26, 2019-A1, 2018-SR3, 2015-A3); and*
- *downloading flood protection and diking responsibilities and a request to significantly increase its level of funding and assume greater responsibility for flood preparedness and mitigation, and the Province being re-established as diking authority in all local governments (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, 2011-B11, 2011-B12, 2011-B79, 2010-B8, 2009-B3, 2008-B69, 2007-A1).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently supported resolutions seeking additional funding from the other orders of government to address the fiscal restraints of local governments whose main source of funding is property taxes:

- *Province to create revenue sharing programs as a way of establishing new revenue sources for local governments (2025-SR5, 2015-B82, 2011-B28, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2010-B24, 2010-B76, 2009-B30, 2009-LR9, 2008-B119, 2006-B24, 2005-B18, 2005-B20, 2005-B106); and*
- *increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current financial framework (2025-SR5, 2024-SR2, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2018-B111, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).*

At the 2021 Convention UBCM membership endorsed Policy Paper #1 “Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency ~ Today’s Recovery and Tomorrow’s New Economy”. The Paper was a report from the Select Committee on Local Government Finance. It set out 20 recommendations for addressing local government cost drivers, financial impacts of the New Economy, and a partnership with the provincial government in order to work towards fiscal sustainability for local governments in BC.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R11 - Exempting Local Governments From Expanded Provincial Sales Tax City of Abbotsford

Whereas the Government of British Columbia’s 2026 Budget expands the application of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to a broader range of services, including professional services such as engineering, architectural, and related advisory services that are routinely required by local governments to deliver core infrastructure and services;

And whereas local governments have limited revenue tools and are already facing significant financial pressures related to infrastructure renewal, climate adaptation, housing delivery, and regulatory compliance, and unmitigated application of the expanded PST further constrains local government fiscal capacity;

And whereas local governments are public-sector entities that deliver provincially mandated and community-essential services, and the application of PST to local government purchases represents a cost shift within the public sector that does not increase service value but places additional pressure on local government operating and capital budgets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of British Columbia to exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax (PST) requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax (PST) requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed a resolution requesting that local government infrastructure projects be exempt from PST (2016-B14), as well as a resolution seeking PST exemption following the cancellation of the HST and reintroduction of PST/GST (2013-B17).

The Committee further notes that the membership has previously endorsed resolutions seeking a PST exemption for the purchase of fire trucks, fire protection equipment and supplies for fire departments and other life-saving equipment (2022-EB64, 2019-B20, 2007-B22, 2005-B14, 2003-B14). The Committee acknowledges that some of these are dated references.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**R12 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Funding Stream
Village of Harrison Hot Springs**

Whereas public bodies are responsible for responding to requests for access to records pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*;

And whereas requests are increasing in scope, complexity and frequency, requiring more pages of records to be searched or processed;

And whereas small local governments have limited capacity and resources to respond to such access requests:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the provincial government to establish a funding stream for small local governments with populations under 5,000, to draw from to help local governments meet their obligations under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a funding stream for small local governments with populations under 5,000, to draw from to help local governments meet their obligations under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIPPA).

The Committee notes that the membership supported resolution 2022-EB78 requesting the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia to review its thresholds for disregarding requests made under FOIPPA. The membership also endorsed resolution 2008-B25 that requested amendments to FOIPPA to provide for the option for recovery of actual request processing costs.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

LAND USE

R13 - Protection and Optimization of Industrial Lands Fraser Valley Regional District

Whereas industrial lands are essential to British Columbia's economy, trade networks, and local employment;

And whereas increasing land use pressures, including those arising from provincial housing policies, threaten the availability of industrial lands needed to support jobs, supply chains, food security, and long-term economic resilience:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to protect and optimize industrial lands by establishing a BC Industrial Land Reserve, Strategy identify and inventory critical industrial lands and trade corridors, prioritize brownfield redevelopment, and collaborate with local governments to develop industrial land strategies, address barriers to land utilization, prevent incompatible adjacent uses, and support industrial development and local employment, including food and beverage processing.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to establish a BC Industrial Land Reserve.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2025-NR94, calling for new provincial funding for local and regional governments to prepare or update

industrial land inventories, assessments, strategies, plans, and guidelines for their protection and optimal development.

The Resolutions Committee is aware that the provincial Ministry of Jobs and Economic Growth (JEG) has established an Industrial Lands Office (ILO), which is developing an Industrial Land Action Plan and compiling a comprehensive inventory of industrial land in BC. The inventory will inform a province-wide land-use needs assessment for industrial land.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

TRANSPORTATION

R14 - Need for Province-Wide Regulation of Electric Kick Scooters City of New Westminster

Whereas the use of electric kick scooters is growing and will likely continue to be a preferred mode of transportation in municipalities across British Columbia, regardless of participation in the provincial pilot program, and uncertainty and inconsistent public information remain regarding the safety implications of their use on public highways in BC;

And whereas regulation and enforcement of electric kick scooter usage are inconsistent between municipalities, and there is a lack of province-wide safety data collection and education programs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Government of British Columbia to conclude the Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program and establish province-wide regulations and data-informed education programs governing the safe use of electric kick scooters on public highways across British Columbia.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to conclude the Electric Kick Scooter Pilot Program and establish province-wide regulations and education programs governing the safe use of electric kick scooters on public highways across British Columbia.

The Committee is aware that it is permitted to ride an electric kick scooter on certain highways outside of municipal boundaries, treaty First Nation lands, or Nisga'a Lands. The highway must have a cycle lane, and the electric kick scooter must be ridden in the cycle lane; it cannot be ridden anywhere else on the road or shoulder, including on sidewalks or in crosswalks.

The Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2022-NR59, which asked the Province to review Motor Vehicle Act regulations to enable local governments to pilot regulation of a broader suite of e-mobility devices.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users, including relevant amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (2024-EB74, 2021-EB16, 2018-B12, 2018-B102).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R15 - The Use of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Utility Devices

Langley City

Whereas the *Motor Vehicle Act* in British Columbia and associated regulations presently inhibit seniors and people with disabilities the ability to be active, independent, and engaged by prohibiting the use of electric wheelchairs and three or four wheeled personal mobility scooters on municipal bike and roll lanes and routes resulting in increased conflicts between these devices and pedestrians on sidewalks, multi-use pathways, and trails as well as motor vehicles;

And whereas the rapid growth of micro-mobility devices such as electric kick scooters and electric bikes dictates that the Province needs to regulate the use of such devices in the *Motor Vehicle Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to amend the legislation and regulations within the *Motor Vehicle Act* to permanently enshrine a new class of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Mobility Devices and establish consistent, province-wide standards and regulations for the use of these devices on traffic-calmed public roads and cycling infrastructure across BC.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the legislation and regulations within the Motor Vehicle Act to permanently enshrine a new class of Personal Mobility Devices and Micro-Mobility Devices and establish consistent, province-wide standards and regulations for the use of these devices on traffic-calmed public roads and cycling infrastructure across BC.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolution 2022-NR59 which asked the Province to review the Motor Vehicle Act regulations to enable local governments to pilot the operation of a broader suite of e-mobility devices to increase the choice of active modes of transportation and improve safety for vulnerable road users.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users, including relevant amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (2024-EB74, 2021-EB16, 2018-B12, 2018-B102).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

LEGISLATIVE

R16 - Heritage Conservation Act Reform City of Chilliwack

Whereas local governments have not been consistently included as formal partners in provincial policy development related to archaeology processes and heritage legislation, despite being responsible for land-use planning, permitting, development approvals, and infrastructure projects, all of which are directly affected by provincial archaeology requirements and the *Heritage Conservation Act* and Regulations;

And whereas the current *Heritage Conservation Act* is outdated, and the existing archaeology processes and legislation create uncertainty, delays, and cost impacts for local governments, infrastructure owners, developers, and the public, and these challenges will not be resolved with the proposed policy directions, which will further contribute to challenges in delivering affordable development and housing in British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of heritage and archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the *Heritage Conservation Act*, and that all local governments are provided with meaningful and extensive opportunities to review and provide feedback on proposed changes.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of heritage and archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the Heritage Conservation Act, and that all local governments are provided with meaningful and extensive opportunities to review and provide feedback on proposed changes.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R17 - Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act and the Heritage Conservation Act City of Surrey

Whereas the Province of British Columbia is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, S.B.C. 2019, c. 44 (DRIPA) and undertaking reviews of reconciliation, archeology, and heritage policy frameworks, all of which are likely to impact local governments;

And whereas local governments are not consistently included as formal partners in provincial policy development related to DRIPA implementation, archaeology processes, and heritage legislation and should be consulted and engaged:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia is hereby urged to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the *Heritage Conservation Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 187.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of DRIPA, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the Heritage Conservation Act.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R18 - Increase Maximum Fine Amounts for Tree Bylaw Violations
City of White Rock

Whereas municipal tree protection bylaws play a critical role in preserving urban forests, supporting climate adaptation, protecting environmental values, and maintaining community character;

And whereas unauthorized tree removal or damage – particularly in the context of development – can result in significant and irreversible environmental loss that is not adequately deterred by current maximum fine amounts:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA request that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish higher or distinct maximum fines for tree bylaw violations, recognizing the environmental, ecological, and public interest impacts associated with tree loss.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish higher or distinct maximum fines for tree bylaw violations, recognizing the environmental, ecological, and public interest impacts associated with tree loss.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions seeking an increase in the maximum fines that municipalities may impose for bylaw violations of all kinds, not specifically for tree bylaw violations (2025-NR37, 2016-B85).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

ASSESSMENT

R19 - Tax Fairness for Port Communities
City of Delta

Whereas under the *Assessment Act* regulations for land values of designated port properties are assessed based on their 2007 valuation and increases in assessed land value are indexed to inflation, while other comparable industrial land assessments are market based;

And whereas over time, these different methods of assessing comparable industrial land have resulted in an unequal distribution of the property tax burden both within the industrial property class and between property classes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province for purposes of tax fairness, that the method by which the assessed value of designated port property land is determined under the *Assessment Act* regulations, be amended to gradually bring the assessed value of designated port property land closer to the market rate assessed values of other comparable industrial land.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Assessment Act regulations to gradually bring the assessed value of designated port property land closer to the market rate assessed values of other comparable industrial land.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2025-EB62 which asked the Province to remove or increase the port tax cap thereby ensuring that port industries pay a fair share of taxes in the local communities in which they operate.

The membership also endorsed two resolutions in 2014 related to the taxation of ports:

- *2014-B10 which asked the Province to eliminate port property tax rate caps by repealing the applicable provisions of the Ports Property Tax Act in the fall of 2014; and*
- *2014-B106 which asked the Province to repeal the Port Improvements (Berth Corridor) Tax Exemption Regulation in the fall of 2014.*

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of local government autonomy to apportion appropriate levels of taxation municipally (2023-NR69, 2021-EB19, 2019-B124, 2018-A3, 2017-B14, 2017-B91, 2016-B13, 2009-SR1, 2009-B78, 2006-A5).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R20 - Engagement on Pipeline Valuation Changes City of Abbotsford

Whereas in December 2025, the Province directed BC Assessment to postpone implementation of significant changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines, which would have resulted in substantial shifts in the tax burden from pipeline operators to residential and business property classes, creating financial impacts for local governments;

And whereas local governments rely on stable, predictable assessment practices for long-term financial planning, and any future changes to regulated rate property valuation methodologies (particularly within the Utilities Tax Class), will have province-wide implications for local government taxation, budgeting, and equity among property classes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to direct BC Assessment to undertake a robust and fulsome engagement process with local governments and regional districts, through UBCM, prior to advancing any future changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines or other major regulated utility properties, including sufficient notice, clear disclosure of financial impacts, and opportunities for local government input before decisions are finalized.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on BC Assessment to undertake a robust and fulsome engagement process with local governments and regional districts, through UBCM, prior to advancing any future changes to the valuation methodology for Gathering and Transmission Pipelines or other major regulated utility properties, including sufficient notice, clear disclosure of financial impacts, and opportunities for local government input before decisions are finalized.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2025-EB77, 2025-EB86, 2025-EB88, 2025-NR98, 2024-EB87, 2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of local government autonomy to apportion appropriate levels of taxation municipally (2023-NR69, 2021-EB19, 2019-B124, 2018-A3, 2017-B14, 2017-B91, 2016-B13, 2009-SR1, 2009-B78, 2006-A5).

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

SELECTED ISSUES

R21 - Mandatory Governance Education and Testing for Local Elected Officials City of White Rock

Whereas local government elected officials make policy decisions that affect both current and future residents, and therefore require knowledge of governance, financial management, legal responsibilities, and the difference between the roles of elected officials and staff;

And whereas there ought to be adequate and effective training to enhance decision making, policy creation and overarching policy development (such as the ongoing housing crisis):

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to establish a mandatory, standardized, online governance training program and test for all newly elected and re-elected municipal and regional officials to be completed within six months of assuming office;

And be it further resolved that the Province provide all elected officials with a standardized guidebook covering key governance principles, local government financial literacy, codes of conduct, conflict of interest rules, and clarification of the roles and responsibilities of Council and staff as part of this mandatory training.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to establish a mandatory, standardized, online governance training program and test for all newly elected and re-elected municipal and regional officials to be completed within six months of assuming office. Nor has the membership considered the second set of requests that the Province provide all elected officials with a standardized guidebook covering key governance principles, local government financial literacy, codes of conduct, conflict of interest rules, and clarification of the roles and responsibilities of Council and staff as part of this mandatory training.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was DEFEATED

**R22 - Canada Post Corporation Act Bill C-15 Protecting Postal Services for Libraries and People with Disabilities
Village of Pemberton**

Whereas libraries rely on affordable postal services to share materials and ensure equitable access to a broad range of information and resources for all residents, regardless of location or ability, and free postage for materials for people who are blind or have low vision is essential to accessibility, inclusion, and literacy;

And whereas proposed changes in Bill C-15 to the *Budget Implementation Act* would remove the legal protections that guarantee reduced postal rates for library materials and free postage for accessible reading materials:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Government of Canada to maintain the statutory protections for reduced postal rates for library materials and free postage for accessible reading materials;

And be it further resolved that any proposed changes affecting these services be undertaken in consultation with libraries, Indigenous communities, local governments and disability communities.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2005-B53 which called on the federal government and Canada Post to retain the current Library Book Rate (Canada Post Library Rate) and extend it to include all library materials including CDs, cassettes, videos and other multimedia. The Committee acknowledges that this is a dated reference.

Recommendation: No Recommendation

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR

**PART 4 – RESOLUTIONS CAPTURED BY FOUR CRITERIA PER UBCM
EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTION 2025-ER1**

The following are the resolutions that UBCM has deemed to be captured by one or more of the four criteria as outlined in the Extraordinary Resolution 2025-ER1 Extraordinary Resolution to Amend the UBCM Bylaws to Streamline the Resolutions Process. The four criteria are:

1. Resolution is existing UBCM policy (policy for or policy against);
2. Resolution is outside of the scope of BC local governments and member First Nations;
3. Resolution is within the scope of BC local governments and member First Nations, but does not meet UBCM criteria for format or clarity; or
4. Resolution is regional in focus.

Current policy is set for the last five years: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025.

Current Policy

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**R23 - Coordinated Federal, Provincial and Local Government Homelessness Strategy
City of Mission**

Whereas individuals facing severe mental health and addiction challenges require comprehensive and coordinated care, and the current resources in BC are insufficient to meet the growing demand for detoxification, rehabilitation, and supportive housing;

And whereas communities in British Columbia have experienced a significant increase in the street population, leading to heightened concerns about public safety, community well-being, and the challenges associated with mental health, substance abuse, and public disorder:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM be asked to urge the provincial and federal governments to convene a meeting with representatives of local governments in BC to create a coordinated, resourced strategy for addressing the underlying issues related to homelessness and disruptive street behaviour.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB14.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

FINANCE

R24 - Funding and Development of Mobile (Bookmobile) Library Services Village of Pemberton

Whereas mobile library (bookmobile) services increase libraries' ability to provide an effective and flexible way to deliver literacy programs, written materials, digital access, and community engagement opportunities to underserved populations;

And whereas certain individuals face barriers to accessing library resources due to distance from services, and limited local facilities, particularly residents of rural, remote, and Indigenous communities, as well as homebound or mobility-challenged individuals:

Therefore be it resolve that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to provide stable, dedicated funding to support the establishment, ongoing operation, and long-term sustainability of mobile library (bookmobile) services in rural, remote and Indigenous communities across the province.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R25 - Increased Funding for Libraries
City of Port Moody

Whereas Public Libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by local governments, and the Province's \$14 million in core funding for BC's 71 library systems has not increased since 2010, even as both the population and inflation have grown dramatically over the years;

And whereas libraries continue to shoulder growing expectations without the necessary provincial support and libraries have taken on an ever-expanding role in advancing provincial objectives for community well-being:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA and UBCM call on the provincial government to immediately increase the annual core funding for public libraries to \$30 million, and to index that amount to cost-of-living and inflationary pressures in future years, as recommended by the Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services and repeatedly requested by the BC Public Library Partners;

And be it further resolved that LMLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to establish both a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities, and an advisory body under section 52(1) of the *Library Act* to review the provincial library funding model in consultation with local governments and First Nations.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-SR3.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

LEGISLATIVE

R26 - Increase Maximum Fine Amounts for Municipal Bylaw Violations
City of White Rock

Whereas municipalities in British Columbia rely on effective bylaw enforcement to protect public safety, environmental values, community livability, and municipal assets;

And whereas the maximum fines that municipalities may impose for bylaw offences under provincial legislation, including the Community Charter, have not kept pace with inflation, development pressures, or the economic benefits that may be gained through non-compliance:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA request that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to amend relevant provincial legislation, including the *Community Charter*, to increase the maximum fines that municipalities may impose for bylaw violations.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-NR37.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

**R27 - Enhanced Provincial-Local Government Consultation on Provincial Initiatives
City of Pitt Meadows**

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are democratically elected, and the successful implementation of provincial initiatives is strengthened by early, structured, and respectful consultation with local governments;

And whereas recent provincial legislation and regulatory initiatives — including housing-related reforms and proposed changes to development approval processes — have not provided for meaningful local government input:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to establish a formal provincial–local government consultation framework for policy, legislative and regulatory initiatives that have implications for local government.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be existing policy based on endorsed resolution 2025-EB77.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

Local Government Scope

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

**R28 - Enhanced Mental Health Support Following Infant Loss
City of New Westminster**

Whereas infant loss, including miscarriage, stillbirth, and the death of an infant can result in profound and long-lasting mental health impacts for parents and caregivers;

And whereas access to timely, specialized, and trauma-informed mental health supports following infant loss varies across the province, leaving many families without adequate care during an acute period of grief:

Therefore be it resolved that the City of New Westminster submit a resolution to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association calling on the Province of BC to ensure ongoing provincial funding for research related to pregnancy loss and bereavement care, to provide standardized education and training for health care providers on how to deliver trauma-informed, evidence-based care, and to fund bereavement support programs for families who experience pregnancy loss, infant loss, embryo loss, or failed fertility and IVF treatments.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

TAXATION

R29 - Triple Net Lease Reform

City of New Westminster

Whereas triple net leases shift the responsibility for property taxes, insurance, and maintenance costs from property owners onto commercial tenants, creating financial instability and unpredictability for small and local businesses;

And whereas municipalities rely on vibrant local businesses to support complete communities, economic resilience, and main street vitality, yet lack the legislative authority to regulate commercial leasing practices:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of BC to review and reform commercial leasing legislation, including the use of triple net leases, to improve transparency, fairness, and protections for commercial tenants, particularly small and locally-owned businesses.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

TRANSPORTATION

R30 - Preservation and Revitalization of Strategic Provincial Rail Corridor District of Squamish

Whereas loss of the Squamish-Cariboo rail line which may ensue from CN Rail's plans announced in July 2025 to terminate its lease would result in shippers being forced to higher cost truck transport, increased public highway maintenance costs, loss of passenger (tourist or commuter) rail opportunity, higher GHG emissions, loss of transportation corridor redundancy affecting Western Canada, and constrained regional economic development;

And whereas rail discontinuance policies applying to the former BC Rail line do not necessarily take into account regional and long-term transportation needs and priorities and might frustrate economic viability of potential new short line operators, while infrastructure funding solutions for this valuable rail line's maintenance are lacking:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments be encouraged to consider a new regional authority or ownership structure including First Nations and transition to a short line operator model to support regional enterprise while maintaining the strategic redundancy of the Squamish-Cariboo rail line;

And be it further resolved that senior governments be encouraged to consider potential public-private rail line maintenance funding solutions **that also support the development and long-term viability of passenger rail services along the corridor.**

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R31 - Establishing A Creative Talent Stream under the BC Provincial Nominee Program City of Vancouver

Whereas British Columbia's creative sector – including music, live events, film, television, visual effects, digital media, and gaming – is a major driver of the provincial economy, supporting tens of thousands of skilled jobs and contributing over \$6.7 billion in GDP annually, yet Canada currently lacks a dedicated immigration stream to attract and retain exceptional creative professionals and cultural entrepreneurs;

And whereas other jurisdictions such as Los Angeles and London have successfully leveraged targeted immigration pathways to grow their creative economies, and British Columbia is uniquely positioned to pilot a similar initiative through the Provincial Nominee Program in collaboration with organizations like Creative BC, Music BC, and DigiBC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to develop a pilot Creative Talent Stream under the BC Provincial Nominee Program to attract and retain globally recognized creative professionals and cultural entrepreneurs who can contribute to the province's creative economy, tourism sector, and global competitiveness;

And be it further resolved that UBCM urge the Province to design this pilot in close consultation with cultural industry partners and seek federal partnership and dedicated nomination allocations through Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada, with the potential for national expansion based on pilot results.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be outside of local government jurisdiction.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was DEFEATED

Regional

COMMUNITY SAFETY

**R32 - BC Highway Patrols Service
Fraser Valley Regional District**

Whereas the Province of British Columbia halted a poorly conceived plan to transfer highway policing responsibilities from the South Coast Highway Patrol to local RCMP and municipal police detachments for Highway 1;

And whereas there was no consultation with affected municipalities in advance of the implementation and there is significant concern the provincial service change will create resource strain, geographic challenges, jurisdictional misalignment, operational impacts, traffic and economic disruption, seasonal pressures, understaffing, and systemic vulnerability for the municipalities along Highway 1 in the Fraser Valley who are experiencing the affects of the service change:

Therefore be it resolved that the Lower Mainland Local Government Association advocate on behalf of the Fraser Valley Regional District and its affected member municipalities by requesting the Province of British Columbia initiate immediate consultation regarding any proposed service changes for ~~the Highway 1 corridor through the Fraser Valley.~~ **for all Provincial Highways in the Lower Mainland.**

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

SELECTED ISSUES

**R33 - Ensuring Accountability and Protecting Taxpayers with a Provincial Auditor for Metro Vancouver
District of North Vancouver**

Whereas Lower Mainland taxpayers face significant increases in utility bills due to mismanagement and massive cost overruns on mega projects at Metro Vancouver, including the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant;

And whereas an organization of this size, with this much responsibility for public infrastructure requires independent oversight to ensure that taxpayer's dollars are accountable and spent effectively:

Therefore be it resolved that LMLGA request the Province of British Columbia establish an Auditor General, with a mandate to provide independent oversight of Metro Vancouver.

Comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that this resolution is deemed to be too regional in focus for the UBCM membership.

Recommendation: None Provided

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, was DEFEATED

PART 5 – RESOLUTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

RF1- Reconciling Provincial Housing Funding with Mandated Housing Targets City of Vancouver

Whereas under the authority of the Housing Supply Act, The Province of British Columbia has imposed mandatory housing targets on local governments to accelerate housing delivery, including affordable below-market expectations; and in Budget 2026, the Province indefinitely paused new intakes to the Community Housing Fund, its main capital program supporting non-market and affordable rental housing delivered by local governments and non-profit housing providers, thereby stalling or cancelling projects and stranding pre-development investments; and

Whereas local governments rely on sustained capital investment from the province to deliver non-market housing and cannot meet imposed housing targets if the supply finance chain is broken.

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to immediately reinstate the Community Housing Fund and provide predictable, ongoing capital funding to support the delivery of non-market and affordable housing; and that UBCM call on the Province to align housing target orders with the availability of provincial housing funding, and to refrain from penalizing municipalities for unmet targets resulting from the withdrawal or suspension of provincial housing programs beyond municipal control.

~~And be it further resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to work with the Government of Canada to establish the same cost-shared infrastructure and housing-enabling funding program recently introduced in Ontario that cut municipal development charges by 50% while ensuring stable funding for the infrastructure required to deliver housing at scale.~~

Conference Decision: ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED