

**Association of  
Vancouver Island and Coastal  
Communities**



# **MINUTES OF THE 62<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**Sidney, BC  
April 8 - 10, 2011**

## 2010-11 AVICC EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Mayor Christopher Causton District of Oak Bay
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	Chair Joe Stanhope Regional District of Nanaimo
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	Councillor Barry Avis Town of Qualicum Beach
ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE	Director Mary Marcotte Cowichan Valley Regional District
DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE	Mayor John Fraser District of Tofino
	Mayor Darren Inkster District of Sechelt
	Councillor Ronna-Rae Leonard City of Courtenay
PAST PRESIDENT	Mayor Barry Janyk Town of Gibsons

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# **ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

## **MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION SIDNEY, BC APRIL 8, 9 AND 10, 2011**

### **PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

On Friday morning, two pre-conference tours were held:

- Saanich Peninsula Agricultural Study Tour
- Capital Regional District Hartland Landfill Study Tour

### **CONVENTION OPENING SESSION – FRIDAY, 2:00 PM**

Councillor Kenny Podmore, Official Town Crier for the Town of Sidney led the Executive and honoured guests onto the stage of the Mary Winspear Centre's Charlie White Theatre and welcomed delegates.

The President, Mayor Christopher Causton, called the 62<sup>ND</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities to order at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 8, 2011.

Ms. Sasha Moriarty led the assembly in singing the National Anthem. Elisha Elliot, Wsanec (Saanich) First Nation, gave the invocation. President Causton introduced the AVICC Executive. Mayor Larry Cross introduced his Council and welcomed delegates on behalf of the host community.

Mayor Christopher Causton welcomed Minister Chong, noting that she would be speaking later in the afternoon and recognized MLA's Coell, Fleming, Trevena, Fraser and Routley and MP Denise Savoie who were expected to attend portions of the Convention and noted that Mr. Fraser would be speaking on Sunday on behalf of the Official Opposition. He also acknowledged the Presidents of SILGA, AKBLG and NCLGA who were also attending on behalf of their Area Associations. The many sponsors were recognized and thanked for their contribution noting that many would be participating in the Tradeshow and a number of housekeeping details were covered.

### **FIRST REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

At 2:20 pm, the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Mayor Barry Janyk Janyk presented the first report from the Nominating Committee. Nominations received in advance of the February 25, 2011 deadline:

For President:	Chair Joe Stanhope, Regional District of Nanaimo
For First Vice-President:	Councillor Barry Avis, Town of Qualicum Beach
For Second Vice-President:	None Received
For Director at Large:	Councillor Bob K. Day, Town of Lake Cowichan Councillor Ronna-Rae Leonard, City of Courtenay Councillor Al Siebring, District of North Cowichan
For Electoral Area Representative:	Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District

Mayor Barry Janyk advised delegates that written notification had been received from Councillor Ronna-Rae Leonard that she had withdrawn her name for the position of Director At Large.

Delegates were directed to the Convention program for times of nominations and elections, that elections if required would take place in the foyer outside of Bodine Hall, and advised that there would be a call for nominations from the floor for the Table Officer positions at 4:20 p.m.

## **KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

At 2:25 pm, Mayor Christopher Causton acknowledged the University of Victoria for sponsoring this year's keynote speaker and introduced Dr. Valerie Kuehne, Vice-President, External Relations, University of Victoria, who subsequently introduced her colleague, Dr. Andrew Weaver, Canada Research Chair in Climate Modelling and Analysis and Professor, School of Earth and Ocean Sciences. Dr. Weaver spoke for approximately 55 minutes on the topic of climate change. President Causton thanked the Dr. Weaver and presented him with a gift.

The Convention adjourned briefly at 3:20 p.m. for a refreshment break sponsored by the Private Forest Landowners, TimberWest and Island Timberlands and reconvened in the Charlie White Theatre at 3:40 p.m.

## **ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE IDA CHONG, MINISTER OF COMMUNITY, SPORT AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Mayor Christopher Causton then introduced the Honourable Ida Chong, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development who provided a 30 minute address to delegates. Minister Chong's speech is annexed to these minutes as Appendix A. Mayor Christopher Causton thanked Minister Chong for her address and presented her with a gift.

## **BC FERRIES PRESENTATION**

Mayor Christopher Causton then introduced Mr. Rob Clarke, Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of BC Ferries. Mr. Clarke addressed the topic of BC Ferries' rate setting process for the next performance term of 2012 until 2016. The handouts from Mr. Clarke's Powerpoint presentation can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2011-minutes/>. Mayor Inkster thanked Mr. Clarke for his presentation and presented him with a gift.

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

At 4:30 p.m., the President, Mayor Christopher Causton opened the Annual Meeting.

### **ADOPTION OF CONFERENCE RULES AND PROCEDURES**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Conference Rules and Procedures as printed in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book were adopted.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities held in Powell River, April 9-11, 2010 were adopted as printed and distributed.

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Annual Report was adopted.

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

First Vice-President, Chair Joe Stanhope presented the Audited Financial Statements of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for the year ending December 31, 2010 (Appendix D).

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the statements were adopted.

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the 3% increase across the membership dues structure was approved.

The budget, as approved by the Executive, was circulated to the membership for information.

### **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Executive be authorized to appoint auditors for the year commencing January 1, 2011, was adopted.

### **APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the following be appointed as Scrutineers:

- Ms. Linda Adams, CAO, Islands Trust
- Mr. Rob Buchan, CAO, North Saanich
- Mr. Warren Jones, CAO, Cowichan Valley Regional District
- Mr. Gary MacIsaac, UBCM Executive Director

was adopted.

### **APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that Lorena Staples be appointed as parliamentarian, was adopted.

### **2012 AGM & CONVENTION LOCATION**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the District of Ucluelet be awarded host community for the 2012 AGM & Convention, was adopted.

### **SECOND REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR TABLE OFFICERS**

At 4:40 p.m., Mayor Barry Janyk, Chair of the Nominating Committee called for nominations from the floor for the positions of Table Officers in addition to those already placed in nomination. Those nominated at the close of the nominations for Table Officers were:

For President:	Chair Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo Regional District
For First Vice-President:	Councillor Barry Avis, Town of Qualicum Beach
For Second Vice-President:	Mayor Larry Cross, Town of Sidney

Mayor Barry Janyk declared the positions of President, First Vice President and Second Vice President were elected by acclamation.

### **BC HYDRO PRESENTATION**

Chair Joe Stanhope thanked BC Hydro for its continued sponsorship noting that the notebook received by delegates in their registration kits was courtesy of BC Hydro and then introduced Mr. Dan Doyle, Chair of the BC Hydro Board of Directors who spoke about initiatives that are likely to impact local communities. Chair Joe Stanhope thanked Mr. Doyle and presented him with a gift.

In the end of day wrap-up, Mayor Christopher Causton provided regrets that the meeting had gotten behind schedule and thanked both presenters and delegates for their patience. He advised that Graham Bruce's update from the Island Corridor Foundation was being rescheduled to 1:00 p.m. Saturday following the Delegates Luncheon and expressed appreciation for Mr. Bruce's flexibility. The session was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

## **WELCOME RECEPTION**

The Welcome Reception sponsored by Vancouver Island University was held at the Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre, 9811 Seaport Place. The event provided an excellent networking opportunity for sponsors and delegates. At approximately 6:00 p.m. delegates' attention was drawn to a short PowerPoint presentation highlighting various features of the region followed by Angus Matthews, Executive Director of the Shaw Ocean Discovery Centre welcoming delegates to the Centre. Mayor Causton thanked the Vancouver Island University as sponsors and Dr. David Witty, Vice President Academic addressed delegates briefly. Mayor Causton then acknowledged members of the Host Community Local Organizing Committee and thanked them for their contributions.

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2011**

A Continental Breakfast sponsored by ICBC was served from 7:30-8:30 am, Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in the Myfanwy Gallery and Bodine Hall. The Convention re-convened at 8:30 a.m. in Bodine Hall.

## **MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION**

Director Mary Marcotte introduced Mr. Sherman Chow, Risk Manager with the Municipal Insurance Association and thanked him for MIA's continued sponsorship of the Sunday morning hot breakfast. Mr. Chow spoke on the topic of Doing More with Less. Mayor John Fraser thanked Mr. Chow and presented him with a gift.

## **PRINCIPAL POLICY SESSION - RESOLUTIONS**

The first Resolutions session began with Chair Joe Stanhope in the Chair.

The two resolutions teams and the parliamentarian were identified as follows:

Team #1	Chair Joe Stanhope
	Director Mary Marcotte
	Mayor John Fraser
Team #2	Councillor Barry Avis
	Mayor Darren Inkster
	Mayor Barry Janyk

Drawing delegates' attention to Page 13-15 of the Annual Report and Resolutions Book for the complete copy of the conference rules and procedures for handling resolutions, Chair Stanhope then very briefly reviewed the rules for the order of business and the resolutions process during the Annual Meeting.

## **ADDRESS BY COUNCILLOR BARBARA STEELE, PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES**

Councillor Barry Avis introduced UBCM President, Councillor Barbara Steele. President Steele's remarks are annexed to these minutes as Appendix B. Mayor Darren Inkster thanked President Steele for her update on UBCM activities and presented her with a gift.

## **RESOLUTION SESSION COMMENCED**

The Convention then commenced consideration of the resolutions. Chair Joe Stanhope assumed the Chair and was joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members Director Mary Marcotte and Mayor John Fraser, and parliamentarian Lorena Staples.



**R1 TREATY ADVISORY COMMITTEE FUNDING**

Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS the 2008 Memorandum of Understanding between UBCM and the Province of British Columbia included 'New Relationship' matters within the mandate of the Treaty Advisory Committee, in addition to treaty negotiations;

AND WHEREAS there is no formal pathway within the context of New Relationship funding which includes the interests of local governments;

AND WHEREAS the information gained from these advisory committees is invaluable for negotiations with First Nations thereby benefitting all parties:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities urge the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation to provide adequate core funding to Treaty Advisory Committees and related organizations.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R2 PROVINCIAL HOUSING TRUST FUNDS**

North Saanich

WHEREAS leadership, sustained funding, and strong partnerships are required to increase the supply and diversity of affordable housing across British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS a Provincial housing trust fund, similar to the Capital Regional District's Regional Housing Trust Fund model, is needed to create a stable base of financial resources for the Province to provide subsidized housing in partnership with the private sector and other levels of government:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to create Regional Housing Trust Funds from Property Transfer Tax revenues to provide subsidized, supportive and affordable housing for communities where affordable housing is not accessible for those with low incomes such as seniors, single parent families and people with disabilities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the funds levied for this purpose be kept within the regions they are levied from and disbursement be contingent on financial or in-kind local contributions.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R3 FUNDING FOR VISITOR CENTRES**

North Saanich

WHEREAS many local visitor centres in British Columbia are in need of a higher level of funding to maintain current levels of services to attract more visitors, which provides economic opportunities for local communities;

AND WHEREAS there is an inadequate level of provincial funding provided to visitor centres and local governments are unable to address this financial shortfall:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities petition the Province to increase the level of funding for the improvement and operation of effective visitor centres.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R4 PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING**

Nanaimo City

WHEREAS public libraries enhance the lives of all British Columbians and are an essential resource in all the communities they serve, especially in times of economic hardship;

AND WHEREAS reduced Provincial funding impacts the ability of libraries to adequately provide services, materials, and maintain facilities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities work with the British Columbia Library Trustees Association to lobby the provincial government to restore grants for public libraries to 2009 levels;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amount of grants be adjusted annually thereafter to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for British Columbia.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “not less than” be added to the enactment clause as a friendly amendment, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities work with the British Columbia Library Trustees Association to lobby the provincial government to restore grants for public libraries to not less than 2009 levels;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amount of grants be adjusted annually thereafter to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index for British Columbia.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

**R5 FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

North Saanich

WHEREAS local governments are continuously facing the need for higher tax levies to support British Columbia’s public library system to provide libraries with the resources needed to adequately provide services and maintain and upgrade facilities;

AND WHEREAS systemic reductions in funding from the Province to British Columbia’s public library system has been significantly reducing the ratio of provincial grant to municipal tax levy contributions since 1985:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to restore public library funding so that the ratio of provincial grants to municipal tax levies is restored to the ratio that existed in 1985.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R6 HERITAGE FUNDING**

Victoria

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has a responsibility to support and conserve the heritage resources of the province, and funding cuts to the Heritage Branch of the Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Investment, Heritage BC and local governments across the province have resulted in a state of crisis for heritage conservation;

AND WHEREAS financial investments in heritage conservation can stimulate urban revitalization, employment, tourism and community pride:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to renew its commitment to heritage conservation in the following manner:

1. Invest a further \$10 million in the Heritage Legacy Fund;
2. Restore community support for both local government and community heritage organizations such as Heritage BC;
3. Adopt the draft Provincial Heritage Strategy;
4. Restore the budget of the Heritage Branch; and
5. Resolve the Heritage Properties question.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R7 BIKE LANE SWEEPING**

Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS governments invest in the provision of cycling lanes adjacent to provincial roadways to promote healthy lifestyles and provide alternatives to single occupancy vehicles;

AND WHEREAS gravel and other debris on the cycling paths pose a risk to cyclists and act as an impediment to the use of alternative modes of transportation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities urge the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to amend road maintenance contracts to increase the frequency of bike lane sweeping.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase "and highway shoulder" be added to the enactment clause as a friendly amendment, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities urge the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to amend road maintenance contracts to increase the frequency of bike lane and highway shoulder sweeping.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

**R8 ORV LICENSING & SAFETY**

Powell River RD

WHEREAS the provincial government planned to introduce legislation in late 2010 to provide for ATV licensing and safety features;

AND WHEREAS such legislation would greatly enhance back-country activities in rural British Columbia:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC urge the Province of British Columbia to enact legislation as soon as possible in 2011.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase "ATV licencing" be added to the enactment clause as a friendly amendment, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC urge the Province of British Columbia to enact ATV licencing legislation as soon as possible in 2011.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

**R9 GREYHOUND CANADA PROPOSED SERVICE REDUCTIONS**

Strathcona RD

The sponsor withdrew the resolution in advance of the start of the Convention.

**R10 VARYING TAX RATES**

Lake Cowichan

WHEREAS there is no legislative provision to allow municipalities to impose separate tax rates for each of land and improvements to encourage property owners to make significant improvements to their properties or to reduce the impact of sudden fluctuations in property values;

AND WHEREAS the current legislative mechanisms such as the revitalization tax exemption or the assessment averaging provisions provided under the *Community Charter* and Assessment Averaging and Phasing

Regulation, B.C. Reg. 370/2003, respectively, have not been proven to be useful tools for mitigating the impact of uneven assessment changes on taxation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province be lobbied to amend Section 197 of the *Community Charter* to allow municipalities to have the flexibility of levying separate tax rates for each of land and improvements for each property class.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R11 UNIVERSITY PROPERTY TAX PAYMENTS**

Port Alberni

WHEREAS section 27(2)(w) of the *University Act* grants the Board of Governors of a university the following powers:

- (w) to pay to a municipality incorporated under an Act a grant in a year not exceeding the lesser of
  - (i) the amount that would be payable as general municipal taxes in the year on property of the university within the municipality if the property were not exempt from these taxes, and
  - (ii) the amount specified by the minister or calculated in the manner specified by the minister;

AND WHEREAS municipalities have identified considerable loss of tax revenue due to the low amounts calculated under *University Act* section 27(2)(w)(ii), but local governments have noted no provincial action in response to UBCM resolution 2008-B104, which requested the Province to amend the *University Act* by replacing section 27(2)(w) with the following:

To pay to a municipality incorporated by or under an act a grant in a year equal to general municipal taxes in the year on property of the university within the municipality if the property were not exempt from these taxes:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC and the UBCM urge the Province to address the issue of university grants-in-lieu of taxes by amending section 27(2)(w) of the *University Act* to specify that a university must pay to a municipality a grant equal to general municipal taxes.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R12 DELINQUENT TAX ON CROWN LAND**

Alert Bay

WHEREAS the primary source of revenue for BC municipalities is property tax revenue and service fees;

AND WHEREAS and most unpaid fees can be added to property taxes for the purpose of collection;

AND WHEREAS delinquent taxes owed by fee simple properties are collected by tax sale;

AND WHEREAS delinquent taxes owed by crown lease properties cannot be collected by tax sale and are instead cancelled by the Province in the event of non-payment:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of BC undertake to pay all delinquent property taxes owed by properties which are under crown lease tenures.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R13 BC HYDRO FAIR COMPENSATION**

Nanaimo RD and Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS Crown Corporations are expected to pay their fair share of property taxes by providing a grant-in-lieu;

AND WHEREAS private utilities pay property taxes to municipalities and regional districts on property including rights-of-way for distribution and transmission lines, and private utilities and BC Hydro provide municipalities a 1% tax on gross sales revenues within their jurisdictions:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC and the UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to explore the taxation of BC Hydro and implement a fair and equitable method of compensation to all local governments for the provision of local and regional services.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R14 HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION COSTS**

North Saanich and Sidney

WHEREAS the *Police Act* makes municipalities responsible for the investigation of homicides in British Columbia based on the jurisdiction in which a victim's body is discovered;

AND WHEREAS the increasing average cost for investigating a homicide could have a major impact to local tax payers in most small and mid-sized communities;

AND WHEREAS equal treatment of homicide investigations should not be impaired by the ability of any given municipality to pay for the investigation costs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to amend the *Police Act* to share the costs of homicide investigations with the province in a way that does not significantly and unfairly impact municipal tax payers.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the enactment clause be amended to state "such that the costs of homicide investigations are borne by the Province and not by the municipal taxpayers" was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to amend the *Police Act* such that the costs of homicide investigations are borne by the Province and not by the municipal taxpayers.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

**R15 PACIFIC AQUACULTURE REGULATIONS**

Strathcona RD

WHEREAS the federal government has developed Pacific Aquaculture Regulations under the *Fisheries Act* which have established a new regulatory regime with respect to commercial aquaculture operations on the British Columbia coast;

AND WHEREAS it is critical that operational compliance standards under the regulations include provisions to mitigate the potential for negative impacts on adjacent land uses:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Fisheries and Oceans Canada be requested to expand the current license templates for marine finfish, shellfish and freshwater aquaculture to include specific operational compliance standards that serve to mitigate the potential for negative impact of aquaculture operations on adjacent land uses;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Fisheries and Oceans Canada be requested to defer approval of new aquaculture operations pending written confirmation from local governments that such operations are in compliance with local government regulations;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Fisheries and Oceans Canada be requested to convene a meeting of British Columbia coastal communities, regional districts, local governments and First Nations to provide more clarity on the Pacific Aquaculture Regulations."

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R16 AQUACULTURE AGREEMENT**

AVICC Executive

WHEREAS on February 9, 2009, the Supreme Court ruled that the federal government – not the provinces – should regulate fish farms, prompting both orders of government to negotiate an Aquaculture Agreement that was reached on December 10, 2010;

AND WHEREAS neither the provincial nor federal government sought to consult with UBCM about how the Aquaculture Agreement would impact local governments, specifically those communities that have bylaws (including zoning) in place with respect to where and how fish farms operate:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC request that the provincial and federal governments recognize the authorities and responsibilities of local governments with respect to aquaculture and immediately consult with them about the impact and implications of the new Aquaculture Agreement;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provincial and federal governments recognize and respect local government bylaws (including zoning) in the siting, approval and operation of fish farms.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “and shellfish” be added to the second enactment clause as a friendly amendment, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC request that the provincial and federal governments recognize the authorities and responsibilities of local governments with respect to aquaculture and immediately consult with them about the impact and implications of the new Aquaculture Agreement;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provincial and federal governments recognize and respect local government bylaws (including zoning) in the siting, approval and operation of fish and shellfish farms.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

The Convention adjourned briefly at 10:00 a.m. for a refreshment break and reconvened at 10:20 a.m. in the Bodine Hall with Councillor Barry Avis in the Chair and joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members Mayor Darren Inkster and Mayor Barry Janyk and parliamentarian Lorena Staples.

**R17 CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGARDING RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

WHEREAS local government has expressed its duty to be consulted by elected and appointed representatives of the Government of Canada and the Government of British Columbia, in more than 100 resolutions from the Union of BC Municipalities since 1983;

AND WHEREAS the duties and obligations of local government are expressed in the Government of British Columbia in the *Community Charter* SBC 2003 Part 1 and Par 9 Division 1, which does not identify Local Government as a “Stakeholder”, but rather, a duly appointed Order of Government;

AND WHEREAS the Coastal Community Network, an independent non-government organization comprised of local governments and First Nations collaborating and operating within the Pacific Coast Watershed, expects to be included as a correspondent of all federal and provincial spatial planning processes and policy development as a clearing house of information:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities and the Coastal Community Network:

a) develop a mechanism(s) that ensures meaningful consultation with Canada and British Columbia with respect to all sustainability policies and processes affecting life in the Pacific Coast Watershed;

- b) establish an appropriate platform for community-to-community relations between the urban/rural local governments and First Nations at an appropriate regional level across the Pacific Coast Watershed; and
- c) advise and promote the Coastal Community Network as a suitable organization for Canada and British Columbia to jointly invest in as a one stop resource management assessment and referral delivery authority, co-Chaired by elected leaders drawn from the local government and First Nation leadership resident on the coast, as a long term and final solution to sustainment.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the sections a) and b) be considered separately from section c) was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities and the Coastal Community Network:

- a) develop a mechanism(s) that ensures meaningful consultation with Canada and British Columbia with respect to all sustainability policies and processes affecting life in the Pacific Coast Watershed;
- b) establish an appropriate platform for community-to-community relations between the urban/rural local governments and First Nations at an appropriate regional level across the Pacific Coast Watershed;

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

Delegates then considered section c) of the original resolution which read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities and the Coastal Community Network:

- c) advise and promote the Coastal Community Network as a suitable organization for Canada and British Columbia to jointly invest in as a one stop resource management assessment and referral delivery authority, co-Chaired by elected leaders drawn from the local government and First Nation leadership resident on the coast, as a long term and final solution to sustainment.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that discussion on the severed resolution be tabled until Sunday's resolution session to allow for copies of the proposed amendment to be distributed to delegates, was endorsed.

**R18 DFO REFERRAL TIMES**

Alert Bay

WHEREAS all new and remedial development in riparian and marine environments, including emergency response measures and work to repair, develop or maintain essential infrastructure, must be referred to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans for approval;

AND WHEREAS response time from Department of Fisheries and Oceans to referrals varies widely and often leads to unacceptable project delays resulting in local governments' inability to respond to urgent public safety issues and/or economic hardship to governments and communities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Department of Fisheries and Oceans adopt a policy committing the Department to provide a response to referrals within 30 days of receipt of any development referral from a Local Government or First Nation Government;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any referral which goes unanswered after 30 days of receipt be deemed to be approved.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R19 ANNUAL HALIBUT QUOTA**

Capital Regional District

WHEREAS the recreational and sport fishing industry is an essential economic driver for many communities along the coast of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the federal government changed the quota system in 2003 requiring the recreation fishing industry to rely on a fixed percentage of the annual catch;

AND WHEREAS the allocation between recreational and commercial sectors in the Canadian halibut fishery during years of low abundance will destroy the economic viability of coastal communities and deny Canadian citizens access to the common property resource of halibut;

AND WHEREAS a base guaranteed limit is a more fair and equitable approach that would allow the recreation and commercial fishing industries to survive during years of low annual quotas:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the federal government purchase or lease the required commercial halibut quota to establish a permanent annual guaranteed base limit and season for recreational fishermen of 1 halibut per day 2 in their possession, February 1 to December 31 of each year.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***

**R20 GLASS SPONGE REEF PROTECTION**

Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS ancient and fragile glass sponge reefs previously thought to be extinct exist off British Columbia's coast and are at risk from disturbances caused by trawling, trapping and anchoring;

AND WHEREAS Fisheries and Oceans Canada has designated the Hecate Strait/Queen Charlotte Sound glass sponge reefs as an Area of Interest within the Pacific North Coast:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities urge Fisheries and Oceans Canada to also designate the glass sponge reefs in the Southern Strait of Georgia (specifically McCall Bank, Howe Sound, Fraser Ridge, Active Pass, Nanaimo, Coulee Bank and Parksville) as "areas of interest" for protection.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**THIRD REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR DIRECTOR AT LARGE**

Mayor Barry Janyk, Chair of the Nominating Committee called for nominations from the floor for the positions of Director at Large in addition to those already placed in nomination. Those nominated at the close of the nominations for Director at Large were:

For Director at Large:	Councillor Bob K. Day, Town of Lake Cowichan
	Councillor Cynthia Day, City of Colwood
	Mayor Darren Inkster, District of Sechelt
	Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River
	Councillor Al Siebring, District of North Cowichan
	Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni

Mayor Janyk declared that there would be an election and invited candidates to come forward to provide a short speech. Each candidate then spoke for approximately two minutes. Mayor Janyk then advised that the polls would be available and balloting would occur from 1:15-1:45 p.m. and again from 2:45-3:00 p.m. in the foyer outside of Bodine Hall noting that results will be communicated at 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

**PRESENTATION BY FORTISBC**

Director Marcotte introduced Gord Schoberg, Senior Manager, Municipal Relations Department with FortisBC and thanked FortisBC for their continued sponsorship of the Delegates' Luncheon. Mr. Schoberg provided an update on the operating agreement negotiations underway with AVICC member communities and highlighted the changes that have occurred with Terasen Gas being brought under the shared name of FortisBC. Chair Joe



Stanhope thanked Mr. Schoberg and presented him with a gift. The handouts from Powerpoint presentation can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2011-minutes/>.

The Convention adjourned at 12:00 noon.

## **DELEGATE'S LUNCHEON**

The Annual Delegate's Luncheon sponsored by FortisBC was held in the Bodine Hall of the Mary Winspear Centre. Life members Mary Ashley, Norma Sealey, Mayor Gerry Furney, Mayor Al Huddleston and Mayor Frank Leonard were recognized.

## **ISLAND CORRIDOR FOUNDATION**

Chair Joe Stanhope welcomed Graham Bruce, Executive Director with the Island Corridor Foundation who provided an update on the current issues facing the Foundation. Director Marcotte thanked Mr. Bruce and presented him with a gift.

The polling station for election of Director at Large opened from 1:15-1:45 p.m. in the foyer outside of Bodine Hall.

## **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

Two concurrent workshops were held from 1:45-2:45 p.m. and were repeated again from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

- Fisheries Issues Panel (Charlie White Theatre)
- Vancouver Island-Coast Regional Agricultural Outlook Project

The handouts from the Powerpoint presentations can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2011-minutes/>.

The polling station for election of Director at Large re-opened from 4:15-4:30 p.m. in the main foyer of the Recreation Centre.

The afternoon sessions adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

## **ANNUAL BANQUET**

The Annual Banquet for delegates and guests was held at the BC Aviation Museum. Delegates and their guests, many who came dressed in the evening's theme, gathered from 5:45-6:50 in the Museum's Main Exhibit Hall for the pre-banquet reception. Museum volunteers were on hand to share their extensive knowledge on the wide variety of static displays.

Roger Graham Hind, BC Air Museum Pipe Band piped Executive through the main Exhibit Hall to their seats in the Henderson Hangar at 6:55 pm. Mayor Christopher Causton recognized Sidney Mayor Larry Cross and Council; Steve Gordon, President of the BC Aviation Museum and the many Museum volunteers; and Sandra Long, Owner of Huff N Puff Party Stuff for creating such a memorable setting. Truffles Catering provided a delicious gourmet buffet dinner.

Members of the Stelly's School Jazz Band delighted delegates and their guests with big band style music over the dinner hour. At 8:20 pm, Mayor Causton extended appreciation to Truffles Catering for the terrific service and a great meal, to Stelly's School Jazz Band for wonderful dinner music, to the Association of Mineral Exploration BC and the Mining Association of BC for their continued sponsorship of the Annual Banquet Dinner, to the Victoria Airport Authority and Young Anderson for sponsoring the venue and staging and presented Mayor Barry Janyk with the Life Membership Award thanking him for his many years of service to AVICC and for his continued service representing our region on the UBCM Board as Member at Large.

Mayor Christopher Causton then thanked the BC Lottery Corporation for their continued sponsorship of the evening's entertainment and invited Catherine Matheson, BCLC Public Affairs Manager to provide a brief introduction. Delegates and their guests were mesmerized by the musical tribute concert modelled on the Bob

Hope 1930's and 40's USO Tours choreographed by Jan Heinrich, Teacher with Stelly's Secondary School and performed by the student and alumni of the Stelly's School Drama Program.

The evening program wrapped up at approximately 9:20 p.m. with delegates and guests being shuttled back to their hotels or the Mary Winspear Centre in bus transportation provided and sponsored by BC Transit and the Victoria Regional Transit Commission.

## **SUNDAY, APRIL 10, 2011**

A hot breakfast sponsored by the Municipal Insurance Association was served from 7:30-8:30 am, Sunday, April 10, 2011 in the Myfanwy Gallery and Bodine Hall. The Convention reconvened at 8:30 a.m. with Chair Joe Stanhope thanking Owner Doug Stuart and staff of Stonestreet Café for the food and service while onsite at the Mary Winspear Centre and noting that evaluation forms had been placed on the tables asking for delegates' feedback on the Convention.

### **FOURTH REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR**

Mayor Barry Janyk, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the elections results:

For Director at Large:	Mayor Darren Inkster, District of Sechelt Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni
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A motion, duly moved and seconded, to destroy the ballots, was endorsed.

Mayor Barry Janyk then called for nominations from the floor for the position of Electoral Area Representative in addition to those already placed in nomination. Those nominated at the close of nominations for Electoral Area Representative were:

For Electoral Area Representative: Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District

At the conclusion of nominations, Mayor Janyk declared Director Mary Marcotte be elected Electoral Area Representative by acclamation.

### **VANCOUVER ISLAND SPINE WILDERNESS HIKING AND MULTI-USE TRAIL PRESENTATION**

Director Mary Marcotte introduced Mr. Scott Henley, Executive Director and Board Member, Andrew Pape-Salmon who provided a short presentation on the project. Mayor John Fraser thanked them for participating on the program and presented both with gifts. The handouts from Powerpoint presentations can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2011-minutes/>.

### **ASSOCIATION FOR MINERAL EXPLORATION BC AND MINING ASSOCIATION OF BC PRESENTATION**

Mayor John Fraser introduced Jonathan Buchanan, Director of Communications and Public Affairs for AMEBC and Ben Chalmers, Vice-President, Environmental and Technical Affairs for MABC and thanked them once again for their continued sponsorship of the Annual Banquet. Each speaker spoke briefly and Director Mary Marcotte thanked them presenting both with a gift.

### **CANADA FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY AND CENTRE FOR PLANT HEALTH PRESENTATION**

Chair Joe Stanhope introduced Mr. Dan Thomson, Director of the Centre for Plant Health who provided a brief overview of the Canada Food Inspection Agency and discussed issues such as globalization, climate change and the increased mobility of people and their effects on the CFIA. Mayor Darren Inkster thanked Mr. Thomson and presented him with a gift.

## **BRANDING THE SAANICH PENINSULA PRESENTATION**

Chair Joe Stanhope welcomed Lisa Makar, Hotel Brand Development Manager, Sidney Waterfront Partnership expressing appreciation for coming on such short notice. Ms. Makar spoke on the initiative to develop a brand for Sidney that will form the foundation of a marketing and promotional strategy for Sidney and the Saanich Peninsula. Director Marcotte thanked Ms. Makar and presented her with a gift. The handouts from Powerpoint presentation can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2011-minutes/>.

The Convention adjourned briefly at 10:05 a.m. for a refreshment break and reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

Chair Joe Stanhope, on behalf of the AVICC Executive and members, thanked Mayor Christopher Causton for his work as President for the last two years and invited him to say a few last words. Mayor Causton spoke briefly highlighting the strengths of the organization being originality, engagement, service, community and having fun together and that it is getting stronger and stronger. He commented positively about the value of being able to visit most communities in the region during his term and summed up by saying what a privilege it had been to be the President and thanked members for that honour.

## **ADDRESS BY THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION**

Councillor Barry Avis introduced Scott Fraser, MLA for Alberni-Pacific Rim and the Official Opposition Critic for Community and Rural Development. Mr. Fraser's remarks are appended to these minutes as Appendix C. Chair Joe Stanhope thanked Mr. Fraser and presented him with a gift.

## **RESOLUTIONS RESUMED**

Resolutions resumed with Chair Joe Stanhope in the Chair and he was joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members Director Marcotte and Mayor Fraser and parliamentarian, Lorena Staples.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the remaining part of resolution R17 titled Consultation With Local Government Regarding Resource Management tabled yesterday be lifted, was endorsed.

### **R17 CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT REGARDING RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities and the Coastal Community Network:

c) advise and promote the Coastal Community Network as a suitable organization for Canada and British Columbia to jointly invest in as a one stop resource management assessment and referral delivery authority, co-Chaired by elected leaders drawn from the local government and First Nation leadership resident on the coast, as a long term and final solution to sustainment.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended as distributed, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities work with the Coastal Community Network to provide a one stop resource management assessment and referral delivery authority co-chaired by elected leaders drawn from local government and First Nations leadership resident on the coast.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

**R21 ILLEGAL DUMPING**

Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS illegal waste disposal is detrimental to the environment and our communities;

AND WHEREAS local governments are being called on to expend greater resources in order to monitor and clean up illegal dump sites:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Environment be requested to make additional financial and human resources available to assist with enforcement, monitoring and clean up of illegal dump sites on Crown land.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R22 CONTROL OF CANADA GEESE**

Metchosin

WHEREAS the Canada Goose was introduced and habituated to the Capital Region in the early 1950s by the BC Fish and Wildlife Service to provide stock for hunting purposes;

AND WHEREAS recent population counts of Canada Geese now fluctuate between 3000 to 5000 in the Capital Region and these geese inflict significant damage to farms crops in Metchosin and on the Saanich Peninsula:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC and UBCM work with the provincial and federal governments to manage and control burgeoning populations of Canada geese which, left uncontrolled, present major and significant human health and safety, food production, environmental, recreational, water quality and other impacts; and that AVICC support continued provincial support for the multi-phased approach adopted by the Peninsula Agriculture Commission.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

On motion from the floor, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution titled Island Corridor Foundation Federal/Provincial Funding Application distributed to delegates be admitted for immediate debate, was endorsed.

**ISLAND CORRIDOR FOUNDATION FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL FUNDING APPLICATION**

WHEREAS the BC Safety Authority, Southern Railway of Vancouver Island, the BC Ministry of Transportation & Infrastructure and VIA Rail have terminated VIA Rail dayliner service on Vancouver Island until further notice,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC petition the governments of Canada and British Columbia to approve the \$15 million rail infrastructure application for capital works on the Victoria to Courtenay rail line submitted by the Island Corridor Foundation in October 2010 to ensure the future of Island rail transportation and restoration of VIA passenger rail service between Victoria and Courtenay;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that an emergency meeting be arranged between the Island Rail Corridor Foundation and all appropriate and applicable parties including the Premier and Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure of BC to request their immediate assistance in coordinating this appeal with the Federal Government of Canada.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R23 BEE IMPORTATION**

North Saanich

WHEREAS local honey bee populations on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands are in danger of contracting diseases and pests from mainland North America that significantly affect the health of honey bees, and which are not currently present on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands;

AND WHEREAS the Province recently lifted a 22 yearlong quarantine that prohibited the importation of honey bees from mainland North America to Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to protect the health of island bee populations by restoring the former quarantine that had prohibited the importation of honey bees from mainland North America to Vancouver Island and the Gulf islands.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “that had prohibited the importation of honey bees” be replaced with “that has managed the importation of honey bees and prohibited the importation of used equipment and cones to Canada Food Inspection Agency standards” in the enactment clause, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to protect the health of island bee populations by restoring the former quarantine that has managed the importation of honey bees and prohibited the importation of used equipment and cones to Canada Food Inspection Agency standards from mainland North America to Vancouver Island and the Gulf islands.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

On motion from the floor, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution titled Vancouver Island University Labour Dispute distributed to delegates be admitted for immediate debate, was endorsed.

#### **VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY LABOUR DISPUTE**

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that if the current negotiations involving the labour dispute at Vancouver Island University results in a failure to resolve the situation, that the Premier of the Province of BC impose a cooling off period with the resumption of all classes at the university, and further that a mutually agreed upon mediator or arbitrator be appointed by the Province.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

#### **R24 NATURAL AREA TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM**

Sunshine Coast RD

WHEREAS the Islands Trust currently offers a Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program which provides property tax relief of up to 65% for owners who wish to enter into a conservation covenant to protect important natural features of their property;

AND WHEREAS Regional Districts may wish to support and encourage property owners to preserve natural areas for the benefit of future generations:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development be requested to grant regional districts the legislative authority to implement natural area protection tax exemption programs.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that “local governments” be substituted for “regional districts” in the enactment clause as a friendly amendment, was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development be requested to grant local governments the legislative authority to implement natural area protection tax exemption programs.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

On motion from the floor, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution titled BC Hydro Smart Meters distributed by the Cowichan Valley Regional District to delegates be admitted for immediate debate, was not endorsed.

**R25 DEVELOPMENT OF A NATURE AND CLIMATE CONSERVATION STRATEGY**

Tofino

WHEREAS the Province-led Biodiversity BC has declared that without immediate action, BC's globally significant biodiversity and the ecological services on which we all depend, are vulnerable to rapid deterioration due to the challenges posed by expanding human settlement and development, especially in light of climate change;

AND WHEREAS the 179 local governments to date that have signed-on to the BC Climate Action Charter, recognize both the urgent need to implement effective measures to reduce GHG emissions and anticipate and prepare for climate change impacts, and that protecting the environment can be done in ways that promote economic prosperity, e.g., forest conservation carbon credits:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC recommend that the Province of British Columbia develop a science-based Nature and Climate Conservation Strategy, that would concurrently accomplish:

- allowing more species to survive and adapt to a changing climate;
- protecting the natural carbon stores in our primary and intact forests other ecosystems;
- protecting water and other vital ecosystem services that support both human well-being and a conservation-based economy; and
- supporting sustainable natural resource management that is based on prioritizing the needs of the ecosystems.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R26 ENDANGERED SPECIES & ECOSYSTEMS PROTECTION ACT**

North Saanich

WHEREAS the rich biodiversity of British Columbia, which is of critical importance to maintaining ecosystem integrity and human well-being, is in danger from the more than 1,900 species that are at risk of extinction or extirpation in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS there is little legislation in British Columbia to protect the vast majorities of species and ecosystems that are at risk of extinction:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to enact an effective Species and Ecosystem Protection Act to protect British Columbia's biodiversity.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R27 FOOD SAFETY AT COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Alert Bay

WHEREAS the Village of Alert Bay has a long tradition of tournaments and festivals which have traditionally included street vendors selling locally prepared food;

AND WHEREAS there has never been a case of food borne illness associated with the consumption of the food from these street vendors;

AND WHEREAS the Vancouver Island Health Authority is taking enforcement action against street vendors and sellers and providers of homemade food at community events:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC request that the Vancouver Island Health Authority develop reasonable policies that will allow the sale and provision of foods prepared in non-commercial kitchens and which are not cost prohibitive or otherwise prohibitively onerous to the average citizen.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R28 ELIMINATION OF MSP PREMIUMS FOR SENIORS**

Victoria

WHEREAS all seniors living in British Columbia must pay Medical Services Plan (MSP) premiums;

AND WHEREAS, with the elimination of MSP premiums, British Columbia seniors would have more money for healthy living:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) support, in principle, the elimination of MSP premiums for all seniors in the Province of British Columbia;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM conduct a workshop on all of the factors involved in such a resolution.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “those with a net income of \$30,000” replace “all seniors” in the enactment clause, was not endorsed.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***

**R29 ELIMINATION OF MSP PREMIUMS FOR SENIORS**

North Saanich

WHEREAS British Columbia is the only provincial jurisdiction in Canada in which senior citizens must pay Medical Service Plan premiums for medical insurance;

AND WHEREAS the Municipal Pension Fund has to joint fund the Medical Service Plan premiums for retirees;

AND WHEREAS there would be additional pension funds to support group health benefits if the Municipal Pension Fund did not have to pay towards Medical Service Plan premiums:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities petition the Province to eliminate Medical Service Plan premiums for medical insurance in the province of British Columbia for all seniors;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities support the retirees of the Municipal Pension Plan by agreeing that upon the elimination of Medical Service Plan premiums that the present percentage of employers’ contributions previously used for MSP premiums, be used to assist in the payment of group health benefits.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***

**R30 RESTORE FUNDING TO HOSPITALS**

Sechelt

WHEREAS provincial funding to properly equip and operate hospitals in British Columbia has been inadequate for a number of years;

AND WHEREAS this lack of funding causes unfair inequities from community to community, and leaves some hospital's without equipment and others with high levels of resources:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be urged to properly fund construction of and supply of adequate equipment and furnishing for hospitals in this Province.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the phrase “construction of and supply of adequate equipment and furnishing for” be replaced with “construction, resourcing, equipping and staffing of,” was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be urged to properly fund construction, resourcing, equipping and staffing of hospitals in this Province.

***ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED***

**R31 FOR-PROFIT CLINICS**

Victoria

WHEREAS everyone must have the right to high quality, responsive and appropriate health care which is publicly funded, publicly accountable and publicly controlled, regardless of an individual's income, ability, age, cultural heritage, sex, sexual orientation or geographical location;

AND WHEREAS for-profit clinics represent an increasing and serious threat to British Columbians' health and the financial stability of the health care system;

AND WHEREAS the number of private, for-profit surgical and MRI/CT facilities in BC has more than doubled in the past five years, with a growing number of for-profit facilities operating in breach of the Canada *Health Act's* criteria requiring universality and accessibility by charging patients privately for medically necessary and MSP insured hospital or physician services;

AND WHEREAS there is clear evidence that such clinics cost more than public facilities, increase wait times by draining scarce health human resources from the public system, and compromise patient safety:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) request that the Province of British Columbia;

1. Establish a moratorium on any further expansion of private, for-profit surgical and MRI/CT clinics;
2. Require an end to public funding of for-profit clinics, including the contracting-out of day surgeries and the provision of Health Authority contracts to for-profit clinics;
3. Require full accountability and transparency on the part of for-profit clinics by ensuring that they submit to all oversight and regulatory mechanisms currently applied to public facilities operating under the B.C. *Hospital Act*; and
4. Expand public capacity by requiring the development of publicly funded and administered outpatient facilities;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UBCM continue to research and monitor the threat to universal public health care posed by the operations of private, for-profit surgical and MRI/CT facilities in its member communities.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R32 TAX ON SELECTED PROCESSED FOODS**

Tofino

WHEREAS over the past several years, Canada has experienced an alarming increase in obesity rates among adults, children and youth, and obesity is a preventable disease;

AND WHEREAS obesity is an important individual and population health issue, as it is a contributor to a wide variety of chronic diseases, such as diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension and liver disease, as well as breast, colon and prostate cancer;

AND WHEREAS the costs of medical care are expected to soar in the coming years and currently, in many jurisdictions "sin taxes" already exist on cigarettes and alcohol which help to fund medical care resulting from using these products:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government impose a tax no less than 10% on processed food that contains levels of sugar, sugar substitutes, salt, or fats, that exceed the nutritional allowance contained in Health Canada's guidelines and that these monies be used to help offset the medical costs associated with obesity.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***



**R33 AGE RESTRICTIONS ON INDOOR TANNING**

Esquimalt

WHEREAS using indoor tanning devices is particularly damaging for youth and increases their risk of melanoma (the deadliest form of skin cancer);

AND WHEREAS the Medical Health Officers' Council of BC calls upon the Province of British Columbia to use its regulatory powers to restrict use of indoor tanning beds by persons under the age of 18:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the provincial government to introduce legislation to ban indoor tanning for youth under the age of 18.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**R34 LOWERING THE VOTING AGE**

Tofino

WHEREAS the historic turnout of eligible voters for Provincial and Civic elections is getting less and less each year, in the future, it is possible that the majority of people eligible to vote, won't vote;

AND WHEREAS when a citizen is 16 years old, they can obtain a drivers licence, work full time and pay tax, be tried in courts as adults, and join a political party and have voting rights within that party;

AND WHEREAS, civic politics can be a required subject to be taught in high schools and would likely increase the interest of youth in the political process:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC and UBCM urge the provincial government to lower the voting age to sixteen years.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***

**R35 ALLOW VOTERS MORE CHOICE**

Tofino

WHEREAS if citizens do not like the candidates on a ballot, they simply stay away from the polling booth because they have no way to register their dissatisfaction. This is against democratic principles, the right to choose and not to choose. A "None of the Above" (NOTA) option would allow everyone to participate in the democratic process;

AND WHEREAS all legitimate consent requires the ability to withhold consent; "None of the Above" gives the voter the ballot option to withhold consent from an election to office, just as voters can cast a "No" vote on a ballot question;

AND WHEREAS those ridings where the majority of the votes cast are for "None of the Above", that jurisdiction would ensue a by-election within a time frame designated by the province;

AND WHEREAS provincially, currently, political parties decide who would run in each riding. A NOTA option would decide the fate of the political parties' choices, instead of the parties deciding the voters' choices. This would further the ability for the people, not the political parties to determine their representative:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC and UBCM urge the Provincial government to allow for the NOTA clause on all ballots in a provincial and civic election.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***

**R36 CHARITABLE STATUS OF CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Port McNeill

WHEREAS millions of dollars annually are transferred from US-based charitable foundations such as Tides USA to registered charities in Canada such as Tides Canada;

AND WHEREAS some of the activities of these registered charities do not appear to be charitable:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Federal Minister of Revenue be requested to review the “charitable” status of these organizations and if justified, cancel their “charitable” status.

***ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED***

**R37 ANIMAL ABUSE**

Victoria

WHEREAS there have been many incidents of animal abuse in the news lately, and, the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) receives no government funding to conduct animal cruelty investigations and lacks sufficient resources to enforce the provisions of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*, resulting in increased demands on local government to take action in response to animal welfare complaints;

AND WHEREAS Saskatchewan recently increased the maximum fine for animal abuse under its *Animal Protection Act* to \$25,000, while the maximum fine in BC under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* is \$5,000 for the first and \$10,000 for a second or subsequent offence:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province of British Columbia to demonstrate its commitment to the welfare of animals in the province by:

1. providing appropriate funding to allow the BC SPCA to effectively prevent and respond to incidents of animal abuse; and
2. investigating whether increases to the maximum penalties under the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act* may assist in reducing incidents of animal abuse.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

On motion from the floor, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution titled Forestry Practices on Private Managed Forest Lands as distributed to delegates, be admitted for immediate debate, was endorsed.

**FORESTRY PRACTICES ON PRIVATE MANAGED FOREST LANDS**

WHEREAS numerous large parcels of private managed forest land exist on Vancouver Island as a result of the E&N land grants dating back to 1884;

AND WHEREAS private managed forest land regulations are inferior to Crown Land forest regulations with respect to protecting key environmental, watershed and community interests:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities petition the Province of British Columbia to revise the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* and appurtenant regulations to improve forestry practices on private managed forest lands to a standard equivalent or better than Crown forest land regulations thereby better protecting community interests.

***ON MOTION, was ENDORSED***

**REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE**

Chair Joe Stanhope presented the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline:

- A. **LATE RESOLUTIONS: ADMIT FOR PLENARY DEBATE**  
None Recommended.

**B. LATE RESOLUTIONS: NOT APPROPRIATE FOR DEBATE**

- LR1 FEDERAL LIBRARY FUNDING CONTRIBUTION (Cowichan Valley RD)
- LR2 AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION (Metchosin)

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Report on Resolutions Received After the Deadline be adopted, was endorsed.

Chair Joe Stanhope extended appreciation to parliamentarian Lorena Staples for her efficient and effective assistance.

On motion from the floor, duly moved and seconded, that the motion to adopt the Report on Resolution Received After the Deadline be rescinded, was not endorsed.

**INSTALLATION OF NEW EXECUTIVE**

Chair Joe Stanhope introduced the 2011-12 Executive and extended congratulations to them:

President	Chair Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo RD
First Vice President	Councillor Barry Avis, Town of Qualicum Beach
Second Vice President	Mayor Larry Cross, Town of Sidney
Electoral Area Representative	Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley RD
Directors at Large	Mayor Darren Inkster, District of Sechelt Councillor Claire Moglive, City of Campbell River Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni
Past President	Mayor Christopher Causton, District of Oak Bay

**2012 HOST COMMUNITY REMARKS**

Abby Fortune, Recreation Director for the Community of Ucluelet on behalf of the Mayor and Council of Ucluelet, welcomed delegates to the District of Ucluelet for next year's Convention highlighting that it will be held in their brand new LEED certified Community Centre. Ms. Fortune then introduced Deputy Mayor Randy Oliwa who further extended the invitation from the west coast community of Ucluelet, from all of its citizens and at the District, and from the Ucluelet First Nation who will be co-hosting the Convention.

**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

Chair Joe Stanhope presented Iris Hesketh-Boles, Executive Coordinator with a bouquet of flowers thanking her for all of her work. He then thanked Mayor Cross and Council for the previous evening's event and Stelly's School for their outstanding performance. He commented that he looked forward to the year ahead with the new Executive noting that they will work hard on members' behalf requesting continued input and participation. He then called on MLA Scott Fraser to make the draw for the grand prize award for fares for two for the Northern Passage donated by BC Ferries. The award was made to Councillor Kent Becker, Town of Qualicum Beach.

**CONVENTION CLOSING**

Chair Joe Stanhope closed the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention. The Convention adjourned at approximately 12:05 p.m.

Certified Correct

Iris Hesketh-Boles  
AVICC Executive Coordinator

**Address by the Honourable Ida Chong  
Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
Friday, April 8, 2011, Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney, BC**

Thanks very much Joe and I do appreciate being back here in a portfolio that I love so dearly and one I've held the longest.

I do want to acknowledge a few people that were originally introduced, but weren't here prior to the keynote speaker. The first is my good friend MLA Murray Coell from Saanich Gulf Islands. Murray, thanks for being here. He is sitting beside Frank Leonard--I know they are whispering about my antics on Saanich Council, so stop it! I also saw Claire Trevena come in. I don't know if you're here Claire, but yep you're here—you were also introduced earlier Claire and I'm not sure if Rob Fleming is back—he did come in for the earlier session, but he may have left again. I know they were introduced earlier, but they weren't here to receive your recognition.

Thank you for inviting me to speak to your AVICC Conference. I think this is probably my 17<sup>th</sup> AVICC. Back then we called it AVIM as you all know and many things have changed, but what has not changed is the dedication and the commitment that all of you make as elected officials in your respective communities. Some of you have been here only for a short time since 2008 and so I haven't had a chance to meet with you. I left the portfolio in June of 2008 and the election occurred in November 2008 so I didn't get to see all of you, but at the subsequent AVICC's and UBCM's, I tried to find out who you all were. Then there are those who have been here for a lot longer than that and of course we all know Gerry Furney—where are you Gerry? Ahh Gerry's been around forever so just shows you that the commitment that once started can be infectious and stay around for a long time.

As Joe mentioned, my public service roots began in the District of Saanich and it was a good term that I was there. Plenty of things were going on. We had the Commonwealth Games back in 1994. There was infrastructure that was being built in and around the Greater Victoria area because of the Commonwealth Games. It was a wonderful time and while things have changed a lot, I can tell you that we got back to that building of infrastructure over the course of the last decade and I think many of your communities have been able to benefit from some of those infrastructure programs which I'm going to speak about in a moment.

I do want, as well, to acknowledge the keynote speaker, Dr. Weaver that I think as Christopher said, as Mayor Causton said, our heads were all spinning because I've actually never sat in a lecture with Dr. Weaver in that way, but certainly he has gained a reputation as someone that is not only very, very credible and believable, but somebody who also is able to in a very short timeframe, give us a very quick caption of what is going on and peak our awareness, and raise our awareness of what's happening and I really commend him for doing that because in my previous portfolio as Minister of Science and Universities had an opportunity, as well, to talk to a number of scientists and scholars throughout the university system knowing how they are challenged by some of the skeptics out there, but yet still persevere. But also from Dr. Weaver's perspective, he is in charge of the University of Victoria's Pacific Institute for Climate Solutions. As many of you may know and if you don't know, I just want to quickly say, it's the only institute of its kind. It is the one university and it is here in Victoria, but it collaborates with our other three research universities to talk about climate action, climate change, adaptation, climate solutions which is as I say, why he is so passionate about it and the reason why it came about was because in 2007 when our financial situation was much, much better, the then Minister of Advanced Education, the Honourable Murray Coell was able to convince Government that we needed to set up this particular institute and a \$94 million endowment was passed over which allows Dr. Weaver to continue to do the work he needs to do with all the researchers. So when he speaks as he does and he is passionate as he is, he is in fact saying thank you to British Columbia, thank you to local governments in British Columbia, because he's able to do what he is able to present, because of the work we all collaborate together on. So I just wanted to quickly say that because when you speak to him or ask him questions tonight at the reception, I think it's great to have that background.

I want to very quickly speak about where we're headed with the new Executive Council and a new Premier. Premier Christy Clark asked me to join her on March 14<sup>th</sup> when I was sworn in and asked me to take on this portfolio because I think she knew I had a passion for local government and a number of other areas. But what she also wanted to ensure that we would consider going forward, because of where we are fiscally, was to make decisions that were mindful of what is happening to families, what it would do to job creation, what it would do to the dialogue we have with people, so opening up Government. And, of course, all of you play a key role in that. You are concerning your communities about families, you are concerned about the jobs and what they bring to the quality life in your areas, and I do believe you, as well, want to see an open Government dialogue with your citizens as much as we do. So I am going to spend some time making sure that those priorities that she has put in place will continue throughout my role with yourselves and connecting with you, but more importantly to see how we can help you engage with your citizens in the same way that she would like to take place.

I am going to skip through a number of notes that I have because as you can all appreciate, we always get pages and pages of things to talk about, but because we're a little over the time with Andrew and the fact that I know some of you may want to have some questions, I am going to just quickly talk about some of the things that I see going forward and leave some of the technical things to later on in our personal conversations that we might have, our one off conversations.

We are, as I said, faced with some very difficult decisions because of our financial challenges. We are not yet out of the woods although we are essentially out of the recession—we are still not in the fiscal place that we were some four years ago. So when we are faced with making decisions, we will be looking at those decisions with two basic questions: how does it affect the family and will it make families stronger?

So even with the Government infrastructures grants and all of the other programs that we've put through UBCM to your area associations and through to you as local governments, please know that those will be some of the questions that we are going to be asking to make sure that we have the right sense and the right outcomes at the end of the day. It allows us to emphasize the priorities of British Columbians because families, after all, are the centre of their lives.

We've also talked about the commitment to creating jobs and supporting jobs in British Columbia. That's one of the reasons why you have seen a restructuring in the jobs portfolio and the new Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation Ministry. That really is about taking a look at not just about regular service jobs or retail or manufacturing jobs, but the greens jobs, the resource sector jobs that maybe need to be revitalized. Obviously, it also includes our service sector jobs because tourism is huge part of many of our communities and also jobs in the trades because when I was the Minister for Science and Universities and the Minister for Regional Economic Skills Development, I was out there talking to communities about the challenge that we are going to have in 10 years from now whereby there will be 1 million job vacancies, not just from retirements and attritions, but just because of the demographic change as well, but a million job vacancies with only 650,000 people in the system that could possibly fill that, so with a 1/3 shortage in essence of the job vacancies, it means our communities could suffer in very different ways--our rural communities, our urban communities—in very different ways. We need to be focused on where those challenges will be, to make sure the job creation that takes place in those communities fits within your areas as well. And again, creating jobs strengthens families.

What else do I want to talk to you about? I think what you're really concerned about in your communities is the ability to deliver good services and amenities which affect the people that you serve and the investment that you make. To be able to use the dollars that you levy through your taxes with the dollars that you receive from other levels of government, through the provincial and federal levels, to make sure that with those dollars that you give those citizens in your communities which is all of our collective citizens, whether urban or rural, a really high quality of community life. We need to make sure that we use technology in the best way possible. And technology is not just in the best research looking at climate change that's there, or the best technology in terms of our protection of our wastewater system and our drinking water, which obviously is important to all of you, but also in the technology and how we communicate with each other which is why you will see the use of social media increasingly used more and more by our Government and I am presuming by yours as well. We want to use that technology to bring British Columbians together which is what Premier Clark is really referring to when

she talks about open Government. Using that technology to dialogue with people in a more interactive role, if it possible, especially for those in a more remote and rural areas because I think for so long, some British Columbians have felt that they were not listened to, that their ideas were not heard and that's not necessarily the case. It is somehow, sometimes, the communication that takes place to bring about open, frank public discussions and about the challenges that we have, and they are not always that very different.

I want to as well acknowledge, as I say, the fact that in each of our communities we are looking at the talent of the people that are there—the talented people who bring together ideas that change the way your community can function; it takes those people in your communities, I guess the best way I can describe it, is the staff in your communities. Oftentimes, when I was the Minister in 2005-2008, I met with the administrators and the planners in your respective councils. I want to pay respect to them as well because they work very hard and they use their talents and expertise to search out those programs that are offered by the federal or the provincial government and put together very, very good proposals for those applications that are out there. Not everyone's application, as you know, can be accepted, but the talent that they have and the limited number of those administrators and planners that are out there, they're part of that pool of people that will be retiring. It is also very important, I believe, in your councils to make sure that they put forward the very best applications so that when Governments are considering them, that if they are that important to you, that they proceed.

And I want to say that when I previously dealt with this, I acknowledge that in some smaller councils, that sometimes it was one person doing 5 jobs. It's not like, you know let's be honest, it's not like Vancouver, Surrey or Richmond where they have a whole department that can take care of those things so that I want to assure you that when you are putting in your application through your small towns that if you ever felt that you needed to be able to speak to members of my staff and our Ministry to add more to what is there, don't ever hesitate to pick up the phone and call. In fact, I used to oftentimes, after hearing from some of you wondering why your application was not looked upon as favourably, yet when you shared with me how important it was, I would go "Gee that makes an awful lot of sense, why did it rank so low, why was it not as good as someone else's? It was because you had that one staffer who was doing six different jobs. So if you feel that sometimes the application is limited in the way it is presented and you feel you need to talk to staff to somehow raise our awareness or bring it to our attention, I say the phone lines are there or a way of communication is there, please don't hesitate to use that because you know there are always going to be programs that are oversubscribed and I would hate that you didn't think that you had the opportunity to call and add value to that.

Today, I want to as well congratulate the Comox Valley Regional District and all of the levels of government within the Comox Valley that worked together on the Regional Growth Strategy. I've seen a few of you already today and you shared with me how pleased you were with getting to that stage and I want to say that and publicly acknowledge to everyone in this room, it was a long job, long hard job that you all did and it is an important milestone. A Regional Growth Strategy is not easily accomplished when there are so many different views and so many different communities, but congratulations to those of you in the Comox Valley. It is really terrific that you were able to do that and I am looking forward to it. Thank you! As I say, I believe it started after I left so its three years—not too long a time, but certainly it was for those who were involved and I know it took some working with our First Nations as partners and that certainly did happen.

And that brings me to the issue of partnerships. In British Columbia we have had a tradition of partnerships I believe. We have had a tradition of working with local and provincial government. One particularly great program that was there was when Murray was the Minister at the time, was the BC Community Water Improvement Program--that was a direct program; not to mention all the others like Locomotion, Spirit Squares, Towns for Tomorrow, Trees for Tomorrow. A number of those are strictly Provincial and Local, but also when the Federal Government comes to the table, we have made it a tradition and a practice to ensure that we bring the Local Governments along which is one of the reasons why I was really pleased that the Gas Tax Agreement, which as many of you know started back a number of years ago, was renewed. It started with about a \$635 million program; it was renewed for another \$1 billion so \$1.6 billion for British Columbia and for UBCM to be the ones that are actually at the table for a discussion on how those dollars are used is again a significant achievement because as I had mentioned before, for those of you who are new since 2008 and may not be

aware, other jurisdictions in Canada do not let their provincial municipal organizations like UBCM, do not allow them to be at the table to make some pretty significant decisions on how those dollars are spread out through the communities and that was something our former Premier insisted on and that's what we have continued on to this day and that goes to the heart of having a collaborative partnership. I was very glad to see that has taken place and is still taking shape.

I also want to say that I had occasion just last month to attend the anniversary of the Municipal Finance Authority and you probably will all know how important the MFA is. It really is a success story. It is another way that Local Government and Provincial Government have worked together, but more importantly this organization, which as you know was created by the Province in 1970 to provide low cost finance funding for municipalities has worked for your benefit to allow you to access dollars with a sound credit rating, to let you build those projects in your areas that mean so much to people that you serve. So we know that our role as a Provincial Government is to allow MFA to continue to move forward, acting as stewards of the municipal finance system just as we do so at our Provincial level acting as stewards of the tax dollars that you all know is so important.

I want to, again very quickly, talk about a number of areas that I think some of you are concerned about and that I will have a chance to speak with many of you either at receptions or as I travel around the province to attend the other area association meetings that are going on. One of which is the Towns for Tomorrow. I think some of you are already asking or wondering how that is. The Towns for Tomorrow Program, as you know, was designed for small communities and originally it was for communities under 5,000 and then that was expanded to towns under 15,000. The changes that have been made in recent years, again I think good changes, was a quicker turnaround to be able to get those "shovels in the ground" when the snow starts to thaw. The application closed, the assessing of those applications I think was 6 days, concluded around March 14 or 15 which was literally the day that the new Cabinet was being sworn in, so I have to tell you that process is almost to conclusion. I am not able to give you a date today—I know some of you are anxious and will probably try to buttonhole me at the reception to ask me exactly when, so I want to tell you all now that it is underway. What I can tell you is there is about \$17.5 million available, but \$48 million of "asks," so you all know what that means is that we want to take a look at those best projects, but also we want to ask and ensure the questions of "how this will affect the families in your area as well, so that will still require a little more time, but hopefully not too much time, but there have been other priorities of Government since a new Premier has been sworn in that we're certainly having to take a look at.

Another area that deals with infrastructure is the infrastructure that was committed to under the infrastructure stimulus package with the Federal Government and many of you know that the deadline had been March 31 and we were able to negotiate successfully an extension of that deadline so many of you will know that while you had an extension, I do believe we'll have to, in many cases, conclude this year so those projects, please be careful to not go beyond that because I don't believe there will be another extension that's available so I think October 31 is the date for that. Sometimes that creeps up a lot faster and with municipal elections looming, you do not want to be thinking about that in those last two weeks of October when you are just starting to get out on the campaign trail. Which brings me to the municipal elections which I think some of you are curious about as well.

I am very mindful of the fact that there was a Local Elections Taskforce and much work had been done on that. As well at UBCM last year, there was a very vigorous debate and voting on the possible change to the term of office so I think it is important to acknowledge that we want to get this right, we want to make sure that going forward the municipal elections are fair and easily understood, and that people who have questions that those questions are answered before we get into this, so we are still considering certainly all those recommendations, but at this point, I just would say that if you're thinking that you need to make any major changes, I would just suggest that you at least go on the assumption that the way in which you conducted your elections in 2008, you should at least be prepared to conduct them in 2011. If the changes are able to be made in time, before 2011, then clearly that could be in place, but you all know that it's important that books and guides are printed for people especially those who are not seeking re-election, but for new individuals that they have these guides or

books that are printed, and I know from the past that they just don't happen overnight, there's always questions and input that can be sought so I just want to share with you that it was certainly one of the first things that came across my desk and we are trying to move on that as quick as we can, but I cannot give you the absolute assurance that the changes that you are hoping for will all be in place by 2011, so you need to be able to work going forward knowing that's what you need to carry on with is the same rules are in place.

Finally, I just want to talk to you about the Strategic Community Investment Fund (SCIF). I think you will all have received your letters on the small community grants with the traffic fine revenue sharing monies that have just been put out. Again this was done as an advance payment when there was room in the fiscal budget of the Provincial Government. You know sometimes we are able to advance dollars and I hope that to you this is a good thing because then you have certainty of the cash that you can do more with it. I just want to assure you that the dollars while if they appear to be a lesser amount than the previous year, overall the amounts that you will receive will be the same as what had been planned out—that assurance I can give you. I know you are going to see a second installment in June, so in about 2 ½ months you will see your second installment, but over the course of the next 3 years, the amount that has been allocated is still there and will be still there for you so four payments over a 3 year term—I think is what has been conveyed to me by my staff is what is going to be taking place.

So, really I hope that gives you an idea of what's we're looking in terms of this particular Ministry that I have the pleasure of being able to manage. I know that the partnerships that as I say we've had in the past will continue. Those of you who I've met with over the number of years know my door has always been open and I am always a phone call away. You can reach my staff, you can certainly find me and I'm always willing to sit down with you and share with you some thoughts, ideas, opinions. Clearly, we may not always agree, but there was some disagreements a few times back, but we have come to an understanding I think and the commitment I give through to all of you is that my door is always open, I will always be respectful of your opinions and share with you my thoughts and ask you to share with me yours, but sometimes when decisions are made, you will know that I will have made them with the very best of intentions with all the input I have received so that you can do your job in the best way possible, that I can do mine job in the best way possible, so I look forward to continuing on what is I believe a really great working relationship.

Thanks so much!



**Address by UBCM President Barbara Steele  
Saturday, April 9, 2011, Mary Winspear Center, Sidney BC**

Good morning delegates! It is an honor to attend this year's annual meeting of the AVICC. Thank you for this opportunity to speak about the work of UBCM.

I am very appreciative of the work of this year's Planning Committee. The fact that we are meeting here is a tribute to the efforts of Mayor Cross, Council and staff to develop Sidney into a destination for mid-size conventions. With partners like the Aviation Museum and the Ocean Discovery Centre, Sidney is an excellent location for this year's meeting.

Your representatives on UBCM Executive are Mayor Barry Janyk and Mayor Christopher Causton. As you know, they are solid contributors, and serve on four different committees between them - let's show them our appreciation.

I also want to acknowledge UBCM Life Members Jim Abram and Frank Leonard (applause). UBCM and AVICC are fortunate to have their ongoing leadership.

As part of my work as President, I will be attending each of the five Area Association meetings this spring.

Like many of you, I look forward to my AGM every year. The meeting sets the tone for emerging policy. It also provides a great venue to network and compare notes with colleagues. And, on top of it all, the AGM gives us a chance to step back and take stock of the big picture.

A couple of years ago, the big picture was defined by the economic downturn, and UBCM's efforts to secure infrastructure funding. Last year, it was the issues related to industrial taxation.

And this year ... well let's see – what's new provincially?...

We saw the first ever successful Citizen Initiative petition;

- As a result, there was some turbulence in both major provincial parties;
- There was a dramatic restructuring of the public service;
- Two leadership campaigns;
- 4 failed recall campaigns;
- The Cabinet was overhauled twice; and
- We have a new Premier, and a new leader of Official Opposition on the way.

Other than that, though, everything is the same!

On the federal level, we are now in the fourth general election in seven years. While the outcome is still to be determined, we already know that several long-serving MPs from BC are not running. Regardless of which party wins, there will be new faces representing BC in Ottawa.

The message here is that these changes impact our work at all levels. In some instances, things have moved slower than expected. In others, we have lost working relationships that have developed over a number of years.

This is not a complaint – the ability to create change in governance is a hallmark of a healthy democracy. By virtue of these changes, though, there are new opportunities and vulnerabilities for local government. With the number of officials in new portfolios, we will need to be proactive and re-build relationships to advance the interests of our membership over the coming weeks.

**RCMP Contract**

My comments this morning will focus on UBCM’s leading files, as well as some activities of particular interest to the AVICC.

The main policy focus for UBCM since Whistler has been the renewal of the RCMP contract. The RCMP provides 70% of the policing services across the BC. A broad cross section of BC communities will be affected by the outcome of these negotiations.

At Convention, you endorsed an action plan to raise the issue of RCMP costs with the federal and provincial governments. Our goal was to drive home the message that the rate of increases is unsustainable. Following the endorsement of this plan, we met with the BC Caucus of the federal Conservative Party and Minister Coleman to press our case.

Recently, we advised you of a significant development in the negotiations. At the end of March, Alberta signed a new RCMP contract prior to the conclusion of negotiations with the other provinces and territories. Their agreement was forwarded to the federal government for final approval just days before the non-confidence vote triggering the election. At the outset of the negotiations, the federal government committed to not entering side agreements, so we will watch the federal response to Alberta’s decision closely.

Whatever the federal government decides, though, does not change the fact that BC local governments have a large stake in the negotiations. In our view, there are issues that are unresolved. Recently, we met with Shirley Bond, the newly appointed Solicitor General and Attorney General Barry Penner. I was pleased to hear that the province shares our view about the status of the negotiations.

The critical issue at this stage is the determination of the cost base for the contract. Pension costs, member benefits and medical costs – each of these are key cost drivers. Our goal is to see these contained in any future agreement.

This process has also demonstrated the need for an ongoing contract management group to keep on top of provincial – local government issues. Terms of reference are being developed for such a group. When they are complete, we will provide them to you in an update.

It is important that we continue to press our federal counterparts on the importance of these negotiations for BC communities. The federal election provides us with an excellent opportunity to raise our concerns with all candidates. I have directed staff to provide you with a set of questions early next week.

This is an “up to the moment” update on the RCMP contract. There are sure to be further developments, and we will continue our frequent communications with you.

**Elections Taskforce**

Another file that loomed large at last year’s Convention was the Elections Task Force. The Task Force delivered its recommendations nearly a year ago. The objective at the time was to see legislation implemented well in advance of the 2011 local government elections.

The legislative work began last summer with contributions from UBCM. Following our update at Convention, the work continued through the winter in anticipation of a spring session. As of yet, we do not know when the legislative assembly will be recalled. During the Liberal leadership campaign, several of the candidates indicated that it would be difficult to implement legislation this spring. Clearly, the window to enact and implement legislation is closing. Our Executive will be meeting with Minister Chong next week, and the status of the legislation will be a topic of conversation.

### **Ferry Fares and Derelict Vessels**

I want to move now to two issues of importance to your communities. Earlier this year, BC Ferries released projections indicating that fares on some non-major routes are likely to double over the next four years. In response, UBCM struck an Advisory Committee to advocate on behalf of the communities that would bear the brunt of such increases.

UBCM has endorsed resolutions calling on the province to recognize the ferry service as part of the highway system. One of the themes of these resolutions is that we need a greater commitment of provincial funding to ensure that coastal residents have affordable transportation.

Just last week the BC Ferry Commissioner brought down a preliminary decision allowing rate increases up to a maximum of 37% on minor routes over the next four years.

The Advisory Committee has spoken with the BC Ferry Commissioner as well as staff in the Ministry of Transportation. The Committee will also meet with Blair Lekstrom, the Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure, later this month.

At this point, the key issue is whether the province is prepared to increase the minor routes portion of BC Ferries' subsidy. The Commissioner will be making final fare recommendations in September, so the time for Ministerial direction is now.

Another topic of interest to AVICC communities is derelict vessels. UBCM has formed a working group with the federal Ministry of Transport and provincial Ministry of Natural Resource Operations. It appears that both the federal and provincial representatives recognize the need for action. They have also said that the jurisdictional issues are manageable. The greatest obstacle to further progress will be – you guessed it - funding. As a next step, the working group will survey local governments to determine the scope of the issue. This group is in the early stages of its work, but we are encouraged to see it underway.

### **Industrial Taxation**

I would like to briefly touch on the issue of industrial taxation.

The working group provided an update during a special policy session at Convention in September. Our message then was that the review had arrived at a stalemate. On the one hand, the province was cool to our request for additional funds to support tax reductions in communities. On the other, the province did not bite on the business community's request for provincial involvement in the determination of local tax rates.

Recently, the Executive directed staff to study the impact of municipal property taxes on business investment. UBCM is working with the Province and the BC Business Council to draft the terms of reference for submissions to the study. Given the complexity of the issue, great care needs to be taken in determining the methodology. We will have further updates as this project develops.

### **Infrastructure Funding**

I want to turn now to a couple of items on infrastructure.

Back at Convention, Past-President Harry Nyce said that he was optimistic the federal government would provide an extension to the stimulus funding programs. UBCM was quite vocal the need for an extension. Our messaging for this issue was based, in part, on a resolution that AVICC endorsed at the 2010 AGM.

Last summer, I joined Harry before a Parliamentary Committee along with FCM. After Convention, when Prime Minister Harper announced the extension, I was pleased the decision reflected the proposal we put before the committee. Many communities around BC have taken advantage of the extension. We are hopeful that the additional time will allow communities to take full advantage of these grants.

## APPENDIX B – ADDRESS BY UBCM PRESIDENT

The 2011 federal budget also provided some positive infrastructure news. First of all, the budget committed the government to introduce legislation making the Gas Tax Fund permanent. This has been an objective of UBCM since the program was first introduced in 2005.

Second, the Budget also included a commitment to work with provinces, territories, FCM and other stakeholders to develop a long-term plan for infrastructure.

Despite the defeat of the budget, our feeling is that both commitments provide a foundation we can build on with the next government. The infrastructure deficit is a longstanding issue for our communities, and these initiatives provide us with a step forward.

### **New Initiatives**

I want to turn now to two new initiatives. Earlier this week, the Sled Dog Task Force released its final report along with 10 recommendations to improve animal protection. One of the findings of the Task Force is that the sled dog industry is best regulated at the provincial level. Minister Terry Lake did an excellent job in chairing the Task Force, and I was pleased to support the recommendations.

Another recent initiative for UBCM is FCM's *Municipal Partners for Economic Development* program. FCM led a mission last fall to assist the Association of Cities of Viet Nam. UBCM staff participated in this mission, and reported back to our January Executive meeting. Recently, I was part of a delegation to Vietnam that facilitated a focus group between the Association and donor organizations. We will report out on our experience to Executive to help determine the level of UBCM's participation going forward.

### **Relationship Building with Provincial Government**

In conclusion, I want to share our current efforts to build relationships with the provincial government.

Following her successful candidacy, I wrote to Premier Clark to say I would be pleased to discuss matters of interest to local government. As result, we will meet just over a week from now in Victoria.

Once the outcome of the NDP leadership contest is known, I will also seek a meeting with new Leader of the Official Opposition.

In addition, there are several meetings with Ministers and staff on the April agenda. Topics of discussion will include:

- The elections taskforce with Minister Chong;
- The modernization of the water act and CCME wastewater regulations with Minister Lake;
- Child poverty issues with Minister McNeill;
- Treaty advisory matters with Minister Polak.
- The RCMP contract with Minister Bond; and
- European trade negotiations with Dana Hayden, Deputy of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation.

As you can see, we will have a busy few days. I look forward to sharing updates as new developments arise.

### **Concluding Comments**

This concludes what I hoped to share with you today. I will be here throughout the morning and would enjoy meeting with you. If you have any questions about UBCM and our work – please seek me out.

Thank you for your time and attention this morning.

**Address by Scott Fraser, MLA for Alberni-Pacific Rim  
Sunday, April 10, 2011, Mary Winspear Centre, Sidney, BC**

Thank you so much for that warm welcome.

It is great to be in Sidney. Thanks to Mayor and Council. And I would also like to acknowledge the traditional territory on which we gather. The 4 Saanich Nations' history long predates contact.

I'm pleased to bring greetings from the Official Opposition Caucus to this association.

The first one of these I attended was 1997 as Mayor of Tofino. Tofino is well known for Mayors named Fraser. The press still gets confused over that one – they still confuse John and I.

I want to start by thanking the AVICC for their kind invitation to speak with you today. I know this association has been a strong voice for island and coastal communities for more than half a century.

And your issues – our issues – are often unique. Basic transportation - involving more than roads, bridges and trains, but ferries, water taxis, float planes, and the occasional sea kayak.

Public safety issues that go beyond fire trucks and ambulances to include coast guard vessels and light house stations.

Raising these issues in some parts of the province is often met with a certain amount of sneering. Too many times have we heard someone from the lower mainland make the comment, "that's the price you pay for living on an island," or "You should pay your own way!"

Well, let me put this as clearly as I can: we love living in this part of the country. We should make no apologies for living in one of the most beautiful parts of British Columbia.

But we are still part of British Columbia and as such, our communities deserve access to the same basic services that other British Columbians enjoy. And that includes transportation!

We shouldn't have to endure repeated and exorbitant increases to basic transportation to other parts of our own province.

We should never be held at ransom by a ferry system not run for the public interest – not run to assist valiant attempts at economic development by our communities.

We shouldn't have to go begging to the federal government to make sure that basic safety infrastructure remains in place.

This is the importance of the AVICC.

An organization devoted to ensuring that the issues important to communities like yours are raised with a single voice to other levels of government.

And that voice deserves attention – deserves to be heard!

## APPENDIX C – ADDRESS BY OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

Do you remember last year's AGM in Powell River. NANOOSE DL 33? I would like to thank AVICC members for their strongly worded resolution – an emergency resolution made possible by people like Councillor Barry Avis and Mayor Teunis Westbrook and Annette Tanner of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee ... and my cell phone played a role too.

If you recall, the provincial government was about to engineer the cutting of one of the last intact examples of mature, Coastal Douglas Fir ecosystems left on the Island. This is considered the most endangered ecosystem in Canada and every report and every forest ecologist who has set foot in DL33 has warned not to cut. And the AVICC stepped forward affirming that position. Thank you. Unfortunately, and unbelievably, your resolution was completely ignored. The Province issued a cutting permit two days before Christmas!

Right now, in Victoria, we have a government that is not listening, and has not been listening for 10 years.

We have a BC Liberal government that has spent 10 years trying to balance its books on the backs of local communities, stripping away needed funding and downloading responsibilities onto your shoulders.

When the BC Liberals brought the legislature back this spring – for four days after being off for nine months – they brought in a budget that was devastating for local governments.

Local government and services transfers had its budget cut by \$87 million – a 30-per-cent reduction.

At a time when budgets are already strained by losses of our industrial tax base, the provincial government stripped away \$87 million from your coffers, and the federal government took away another \$128 million.

All this - after years of increasing costs to local governments.

Here are just a few examples:

They have increased direct costs to local governments through increases in the gas tax, the carbon tax, MSP premiums, BC Hydro rates and, of course, the HST.

Then there are the indirect costs.

They cut income assistance and funding for affordable housing, leading to a significant increase in homelessness and child poverty across the province.

You and I both know – the devastating cuts to our valuable non-profits – priceless organizations that are doing the work that the province should be doing – often cleaning up from the problems caused by bad government policy. Those cuts to those organizations are another type of downloading and you, as local governments, see it first and you are often left to pick up the pieces.

The impact has been enormous. And local governments have stepped in. **You** have stepped in out of necessity, to fill the vacuum left by the BC Liberals.

As Critic, I don't have all of the answers – but I know that this relationship is not working. Passing problem after problem onto your shoulders does not make those problems go away. And we all know that property taxes – that the property owner is not a bottomless pit full of money.

When a relationship is broken – you go back to the table and work it out. In my opinion, the provincial government should not drop responsibilities onto you without recognizing the costs inherent with that responsibility and without providing a means to pay.

## APPENDIX C – ADDRESS BY OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

Increased responsibility – at the local level can be a good thing. You have wisdom often not residing in Victoria. But, increased responsibility without the resources to pay is a burden. And this government is giving a lot of burden to you.

This government has dumped responsibilities at your doorstep, in some cases requiring local governments to take over work that rightfully is the bailiwick of the province.

Now, it's the problem of municipalities to deal with flooding and mudslides.

And even after the Filmon report gave the provincial government the responsibility to clean up dead wood around communities, the BC Liberals simply offloaded the issue onto the backs of municipalities.

So local governments are told they have to go onto Crown land and clean up the mess left behind by the owners of the land ... without the funding necessary to do the work.

This, all from the government that promised in 2001 to, quote “outlaw provincial government offloading of costs onto municipal governments”.

Finally, they have systematically stripped away the rights of local governments to even have a say on issues and projects with profound impacts on how your communities operate.

This *really* bothers me!

In 2003, they passed the Significant Projects Streamlining Act (Bill 75), which essentially made local bylaws and environmental regulations secondary to the needs of outside forces. New Democrats opposed that legislation.

In 2004, the Private Managed Forest land Act – I think it is Section 20 – that prohibits local government/ regional district governments from having any say – from using any of your tools – of zoning, community planning, development permits – from using any of them to protect the public interest over bad or incompatible forestry operations that affect your communities and your waterways. Unbelievable!

In 2006, they decided that local governments should have no input into independent power projects, even if they impact local watersheds. Remember Bill 30? New Democrats opposed that plan, too.

In 2007, they came up with the plan to create so-called resort municipalities (Bill 11), again overriding local input. New Democrats were against that.

Also in 2007, the BC Liberals signed TILMA, a trade agreement with Alberta that gave corporations from Alberta the right to sue local governments for any bylaws or initiatives that are perceived to restrict development. New Democrats were opposed to that deal and would have voted against it, except the BC Liberals refused to bring it to the legislature.

And they brought in provisions that required municipalities to consider the P3 option for all major projects using provincial dollars.

As a former mayor, I will tell you that I think this record is simply appalling.

What's worse is that these measures were undertaken despite strong opposition from local governments and the organizations like yours.

## APPENDIX C – ADDRESS BY OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

It's a strong and sad signal that not only does this government have the wrong priorities, but they're out of touch with the needs of people in your communities.

And they're out of touch with the desires of the people who represent those communities.

I'm not telling you a lot that you don't already know.

And you're probably asking, well, what would New Democrats do differently?

As I'm sure you know, our party is in the process of electing a new leader. A week away, to be precise.

The last six months or so have been, well, interesting.

But the leadership race has been invigorating. We have four tremendous candidates who have been criss-crossing the province, sharing their vision for a better British Columbia.

It's a striking difference between our leadership race and the election the BC Liberals held, I think.

The best the BC Liberals could come up with was a half step away from the worst policies of Gordon Campbell.

The candidates in our race have been talking about real vision, about real change.

They've all put forward comprehensive plans for poverty reduction, for health care, for economic development, for environmental renewal.

I'm eager to see the results.

I can't speak for the new Leader but I will tell one thing. We fought these legislated changes that stripped away your rights and dismissed your wisdom because they were wrong! And they are still wrong! As Critic, my recommendation is that we scrap bad legislation, and recognize the importance of local governments in making decisions that affect your constituents.

No matter who comes out on top next week, we can be certain of one thing.

Our leader will listen to British Columbians. New Democrats will pay attention to the needs of local communities. And I look forward to the opportunity to do just that!

Thank you.



Financial Statements of

**ASSOCIATION OF  
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND  
COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

Year ended December 31, 2010



**KPMG LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
St. Andrew's Square II  
800-730 View Street  
Victoria BC V8W 3Y7  
Canada

Telephone (250) 480-3500  
Fax (250) 480-3539  
Internet www.kpmg.ca

## Independent Auditors' Report

### *To the Members of Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities*

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2010, the statements of operations and changes in net assets and 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 generally accepted accounting principles, 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.

#### *Auditors' Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, we consider internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence that we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### *Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities as at December 31, 2010 and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

#### *Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements*

As required by the Society Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, these principles have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

March 23, 2011  
Victoria, Canada

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2010, with comparative figures for 2009


	2010	2009
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 34,095	\$ 20,399
Short term investments (note 2)	94,302	103,556
Accounts receivable	1,469	897
Prepaid expenses	8,468	-
	\$ 138,334	\$ 124,852


## Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 7,364	\$ 6,602
Deferred contributions (note 3)	44,665	49,665
	52,029	56,267
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	86,305	68,585
Contractual commitments (note 4)		
	\$ 138,334	\$ 124,852

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

## Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, 2010, with comparative figures for 2009

	2010	2009
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Annual meeting - sponsorships	\$ 35,000	\$ 28,500
Annual meeting - registration	33,919	34,331
Association dues	71,562	71,376
Interest	911	1,168
	<u>141,392</u>	<u>135,375</u>
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Annual meeting	51,873	61,830
Communication and staff travel	874	2,022
Executive meetings	9,521	9,592
Other meetings	2,634	1,167
Postage, office and miscellaneous	2,360	6,278
Professional fees	6,410	6,180
Union of BC Municipalities contract fees	50,000	50,000
	<u>123,672</u>	<u>137,069</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	17,720	(1,694)
Balance, beginning of year	68,585	70,279
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 86,305</u>	<u>\$ 68,585</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2010, with comparative figures for 2009

	2010	2009
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 17,720	\$ (1,694)
Increase in accounts receivable	(572)	(897)
Increase in prepaid expenses	(8,468)	-
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	762	(754)
Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions	(5,000)	5,000
	4,442	1,655
Investments:		
Decrease in investments	9,254	3,949
Increase in cash position	13,696	5,604
Cash position, beginning of year	20,399	14,795
Cash position, end of year	\$ 34,095	\$ 20,399

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2010

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Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (the "Association") is incorporated under the Society Act (British Columbia) and is exempt from the requirement to pay income taxes. Its purpose is to promote autonomy within local government and to advance the principles of local government. The Association represents the various municipalities and regional districts of Vancouver Island, Powell River and the Sunshine and Central Coasts.

## 1. Significant accounting policies:

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles for not-for-profit organizations, incorporating the following significant accounting principles:

### (a) Basis of presentation:

These financial statements present the financial position, results of operations and changes in net assets of the Association and, as such, do not include all the assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses of the members of the Association.

There is no provision in the accounts for income taxes as the activities of the Association are considered to be carried on a not-for-profit basis.

### (b) 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.

### (c) Financial instruments:

All financial instruments are included on the statement of financial position and are initially measured at fair market value. Loans and receivables, investments held-to-maturity and other financial liabilities, are subsequently measured at amortized cost.

The Association classifies its cash and short term investments as held for trading which are measured at fair market value. All changes in fair value are recognized in earnings

The Association complies with CICA Handbook 3861, "Financial Instruments - Disclosure and Presentation", for the presentation and disclosure of financial instruments.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2010

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## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (d) Future accounting changes:

In December 2010 the Accounting Standards Board ("AcSB") released new accounting standards for the not-for-profit sector effective for years beginning on or after January 1, 2012, with an option to early adopt the new standards.

For not-for-profit organizations that are not subject to public sector accounting standards, the AcSB provided a choice of (a) the accounting standards for private enterprises plus the 4400 series of Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants Handbook Sections, appropriately modified to fit with these standards, or (b) International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS").

The Association is currently examining the potential impact of adopting these new standards.

### (e) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles 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 revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

## 2. Short term investments:

Investments consist of amounts on deposit in the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia's money market fund. These investments are carried at their fair market value.

## 3. Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions consist of provincial grants restricted for the facilitation of the activities of the treaty advisory committee.

## 4. Contractual commitments:

The Association has a contract with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for secretarial and office services. Payments under this contract are currently \$12,500 quarterly subject to adjustment each January.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2010

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## **5. Financial instruments:**

The carrying value of the Association's accounts receivable and accounts payable and accrued liabilities approximate their fair value due to the relatively short periods to maturity of these items or because they are receivable or payable on demand. The Association's cash and short term investments are carried at fair value.

It is management's opinion that the Association is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risk arising from these financial instruments.

## **6. Capital management:**

The Association receives its principal source of capital through fees from members. The Association defines capital to be its fund balance and the Association's objective is to monitor expenses in order to preserve capital. The Association has complied with all external capital restrictions with respect to operating funding.



### **Available Power Point Presentation Handouts**

A number of session presenters used Power Point presentations. The handouts for these presentations are available for download from <http://avicc.ca/2011-minutes/>

- Elections Task Force Update
- BC Hydro New Energy Technologies
- BC Ferries Update
- Municipal Insurance Association Claims Trends
- UBCM Resolutions Process Review Update
- HST and the Impact on Local Governments and Their Communities
- Carbon Neutral Local Government
- Conserving Natural Areas for Climate and Community Health

## **2011-12 AVICC EXECUTIVE**

**PRESIDENT**

Chair Joe Stanhope  
Regional District of Nanaimo

**FIRST VICE PRESIDENT**

Councillor Barry Avis  
Town of Qualicum Beach

**SECOND VICE PRESIDENT**

Mayor Larry Cross  
Town of Sidney

**ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE**

Director Mary Marcotte  
Cowichan Valley Regional District

**DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE**

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District of Sechelt

Councillor Claire Moglove  
City of Campbell River

Councillor Cindy Solda  
City of Port Alberni

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Mayor Christopher Causton  
District of Oak Bay