

**Association of  
Vancouver Island and  
Coastal Communities**



# **MINUTES OF THE 65<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION**

**Qualicum Beach and Parksville, BC  
April 11 - 13, 2014**

## 2013-14 AVICC EXECUTIVE

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| PRESIDENT                     | Mayor Larry Cross<br>Town of Sidney   |
| FIRST VICE PRESIDENT          | Councillor Cindy Solda<br>City of Port Alberni  |
| SECOND VICE PRESIDENT         | Councillor Barbara Price<br>Town of Comox   |
| ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE | Director Mary Marcotte<br>Cowichan Valley Regional District   |
| DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE            | Councillor Meagan Brame<br>Township of Esquimalt<br><br>Councillor Claire Moglove<br>City of Campbell River<br><br>Councillor Andrew Mostad<br>District of Lantzville |
| PAST PRESIDENT                | Chair Joe Stanhope<br>Regional District of Nanaimo  |

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# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

## MINUTES OF THE SIXTY FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION QUALICUM BEACH AND PARKSVILLE, BC APRIL 11, 12 AND 13, 2014

### PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Friday morning pre-conference program began at 8:15 a.m. with delegates boarding buses provided by BC Transit to participate in a study tour of the Deep Bay Marine Station. A second tour left at 8:30 am for the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre, and the last pre-convention study tour boarded at 9:45 am for a tour of the Milner Gardens.

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

Pipe Major Mel Wilson of the Mount Arrowsmith Pipe Band led the parade of AVICC Executive and honoured guests onto the stage of the Pioneer Hall of the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre. President Larry Cross called the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities to order at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 11, 2014.

Ms. Maureen O’Hearn led the assembly in singing the National Anthem. President Cross then introduced the AVICC Executive. Co-Host Community Mayors Chris Burger and Teunis Westbroek provided an unusual welcome to the delegates in the form of a skit entitled “waiting for the train”. President Cross noted that Minister Don McRae would be speaking later in the afternoon and recognized MLAs Leonard Krog, Michelle Stilwell, Claire Trevena, Scott Fraser, Nicholas Simons and Gary Holman, and interim Leader of the BC Green Party Adam Olsen who were expected to attend portions of the Convention. President Cross drew delegates’ attention to the *Supplementary Materials Package* they received at registration, noting that a full and thought provoking program was planned, announced that it was time to get started on the business of the Convention, asked Executive and distinguished guests to move to the reserved seats at the front of the hall, and invited Past President Stanhope, Chair of the Nominating Committee to provide the First Report on Nominations.

### FIRST REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At 2:30 p.m., Past President Stanhope, Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the first report from the Nominating Committee bringing delegates’ attention to the Nominating Committee Report included in their *Supplementary Materials Package* reporting that nominations received in advance of the February 24, 2014 deadline were as follows:

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| For President:                     | Mayor Larry Cross, Town of Sidney  |
| For First Vice-President:          | Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni   |
| For Second Vice-President:         | Councillor Barbara Price, Town of Comox  |
| For Director at Large:             | Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy<br>Vice Chair/Trustee Peter Luckham, Islands Trust<br>Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River<br>Councillor Andrew Mostad, District of Lantzville |
| For Electoral Area Representative: | Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District  |

Delegates were directed to the Convention program for times of nominations and elections, that elections when required would take place in the Foyer, 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 2:40 p.m., President Cross introduced previous Member of Parliament, member of the Privy Council and Order of Canada, Chair of the Security Intelligence Review Committee, and author Deborah Grey. Ms. Grey spoke for approximately 50 minutes, speaking with great enthusiasm and humour of her time as the first elected Reform Party Member of Parliament, as well as life growing up on the west coast. President Larry Cross thanked Ms. Grey.

The Convention adjourned at 3:35 p.m. for a refreshment break sponsored by KPMG reconvening at 3:55 p.m.

## **ADDRESS BY THE HONOURABLE DON MCRAE, MINISTER OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL INNOVATION**

President Larry Cross introduced the Honourable Don McRae, Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation. Minister McRae addressed delegates. Councillor Brame thanked Minister McRae with a gift.

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

At 4:20 p.m., Past President Stanhope, 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:             | Mayor Larry Cross, Town of Sidney            |
| For First Vice-President:  | Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni |
| For Second Vice-President: | Councillor Barbara Price, Town of Comox      |

Past President Stanhope declared the positions of President, First Vice President and Second Vice President were elected by acclamation.

## **BC FERRIES SPECIAL PLENARY SESSION**

President Larry Cross introduced the members of the panel to the delegates;

- Chair Colin Palmer, Powell River Regional District, and member of the RD Coastal Chairs Group
- Chair Jim Abram, Strathcona Regional District
- Chair Sheila Malcolmson, Islands Trust Council
- Trustee Tony Law, Islands Trust, and Co-Chair of the Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs
- Mr. Dave Petryk, President and CEO, Tourism Vancouver Island

President Cross then provided a brief overview of the Special Committee on BC Ferries that was established in response to the Provincial Government's announcing service reductions and increases in fares last year. President Cross explained that the Committee had undertaken some preliminary work on the socio-economic impacts of the announced service reductions, and had developed a Policy Paper for the members' consideration, which provided an overview of the work of the Committee to date, and also outlined next steps.

President Cross noted that the AVICC Executive had endorsed the recommendations in the Policy Paper and would introduce the paper for consideration at 9:10 AM Saturday morning. President Cross introduced the panel and then invited the first panelist, Mr. Dave Petryk to speak. Each of the remaining panelists were then provided with seven minutes each to address the delegates and provide their perspective on the issue. Members of the audience were then invited to ask questions of the panelists.

A copy of the Policy Paper has been posted on <http://avicc.ca/category/resources/policy-papers/>. President Cross presented each of the panelists with a gift as a thank you for their participation.

## **END OF DAY WRAP-UP**

The business session wrapped up at 5:30 p.m.

## **WELCOME RECEPTION**

The Welcome Reception sponsored by Vancouver Island University and was held at the Tigh Na Mara Seaside Resort from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Approximately 300 delegates, sponsors and their guests attended providing the opportunity to network.

## **SATURDAY – APRIL 12, 2014**

A continental breakfast sponsored by ICBC was served from 7:15 a.m. – 8:15 a.m.

## **ANNUAL MEETING**

At 8:30 a.m., the President, Mayor Larry Cross 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 *Supplementary Materials Package* were adopted.

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, the Minutes of the 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities held in Sooke, April 12-14, 2013 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, Councillor Cindy Solda, presented the Audited Financial Statements of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for the year ending December 31, 2013 (Appendix B).

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

The budget, as approved by the Executive, was distributed 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, 2014, was adopted.

The President, Mayor Cross, then resumed the Chair.

## **APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS**

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

- Ms. Linda Adams, CAO, Islands Trust
- Mr. Emanuel Machado, CAO, Gibsons
- Mr. Al Radke, CAO, Powell River Regional District
- Mr. Peter de Verteuil, CAO, Duncan
- Mr. Gary MacIsaac, UBCM Executive Director
- Mr. Oliver Ray, Executive Director, NCLGA

was adopted.

## **APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN**

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

## **2015 AGM & CONVENTION LOCATION**

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the City of Courtenay be awarded the 2015 AGM & Convention, was adopted.

## **ADDRESS BY DIRECTOR RHONE MARTIN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES**

President Larry Cross introduced UBCM President, Director Rhona Martin. President Martin's remarks are annexed to these minutes as Appendix A. Director Mary Marcotte thanked President Martin for her address with a gift.

## **PRINCIPAL POLICY SESSION – RESOLUTIONS**

The first Resolutions session began at 9:05 a.m. with President Cross introducing the teams who would be managing the resolutions sessions.

Team #1            Mayor Larry Cross (Chair)  
                         Director Mary Marcotte  
                         Councillor Barbara Price  
                         Councillor Andrew Mostad

Team #2            Councillor Cindy Solda (Chair)  
                         Councillor Meagan Brame  
                         Councillor Claire Moglove  
                         Past President Joe Stanhope

Drawing delegates' attention to the conference rules and procedures for handling resolutions as printed in the *Supplementary Materials Package*, President Cross then very briefly reviewed the rules for the order of business, the resolutions process and the timing of the sessions. The Convention then commenced with consideration of resolutions.



## **SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF BC FERRIES SERVICE REDUCTIONS POLICY PAPER**

Councillor Claire Moglove introduced the Policy Paper from the floor, and made the following motion, which was duly moved and seconded,

THAT the AVICC membership endorse the Policy Paper of the Special Committee on BC Ferries on the economic impact of planned ferry service reductions.

AND

THAT the AVICC membership support the request of the Special Committee on BC Ferries to engage the services of a consultant to undertake Phase 2 work that would:

- Seek to fill the information gap that presently exists around the socio-economic impacts of planned ferry changes; and
- Undertake more thorough quantitative research, focusing on one or two specific routes, that would provide reliable quantitative data to identify the socio-economic impacts of planned ferry changes for communities, various sectors and the overall provincial economy.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

### **PART 1 – REFERRED RESOLUTIONS**

The following are resolutions that were referred to the Association by UBCM.

#### **RR1 PROTECTION OF LOCAL WATER RESOURCES & WATERSHED LAND**

**Cowichan Valley RD**

WHEREAS it is recognized that water is a public trust and the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing protection and control of local water resources, and that adequate tools are required to enable local authorities to enact measures for protection of watersheds;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has recently released further details concerning implementation of its commitment to modernize the *Water Act*, which includes a strategy to protect water flows for fish and the environment; regulate groundwater; improve governance; and promote conservation, in order to address issues of source water protection, industrial pollution and land-use changes:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the Ministry of Environment to proceed in its efforts to modernize the *Water Act* including full consultation with First Nations, to ensure that the new Water Sustainability Act establishes a strong enabling framework, in the context of provincial and federal oversight and regulatory backstop, that:

- increases the local role in key decisions affecting the health of watersheds;
- ensures protection for water for fish and the environment in the context of local conditions;
- regulates groundwater;
- promotes water conservation;
- recognizes First Nations Rights and Title; and
- establishes a meaningful role for local government, First Nations, and local watershed authorities regarding approvals and control.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**RR2 PARKING ENFORCEMENT IN RURAL AREAS**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

WHEREAS the RCMP are responsible for enforcing parking regulations in rural areas;

AND WHEREAS the process required to ticket and/or tow parking offenders is time consuming and takes policing resources away from other priorities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that regional districts be granted the authority to enforce parking regulations within their boundaries.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**Part 2 - Section "A"** – This section contains resolutions that feature new issues of interest to all members.

**LEGISLATIVE**

**R1 ELECTED OFFICIALS COVERAGE UNDER  
WORKERS COMPENSATION ACT**

**Sechelt District**

WHEREAS all duly elected council and regional board members are not considered workers or employers and are therefore not covered under the *Workers Compensation Act* in their capacity as elected officials;

AND WHEREAS the Personal Optional Protection Insurance is not available to elected officials;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia review the *Workers Compensation Act* in consultation with local governments and make the necessary amendments to include all duly elected council or board members in the definition of "worker."

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**COMMUNITY SAFETY**

**R2 EQUAL STANDARDS FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL BUILDING CODE**

**Alberni Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS the provincial government building codes are to a higher standard than the federal building codes;

AND WHEREAS there is concern this discrepancy can impact health and safety;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities request the Union of British Columbia Municipalities work with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities to bring the federal building code to a standard which equals the provincial standards.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

The Convention adjourned at 10:05 a.m. for a refreshment break and reconvened at 10:25 a.m. with Councillor Cindy Solda in the Chair joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members: Councillor Meagan Brame, Councillor Claire Moglove and Chair Joe Stanhope Parliamentarian Lorena Staples, UBCM Executive Director Gary MacIsaac, and Executive Coordinator Shelley Webber.

**R3 AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLERS**

**Esquimalt**

WHEREAS fire kills 8 individuals in Canada every week, residential property fires account for 40% of all fires, and 73% of all fire deaths occur in residential properties;

AND WHEREAS automatic fire sprinkler technology exists, which is proven to be effective, reliable and affordable (approximately 94 cents per square foot for residential construction), that will virtually eliminate fire deaths in residential properties thereby enhancing the safety of first responders including firefighters, paramedics, police and the public;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) petition the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) to request that the British Columbia provincial government enact legislation to:

- a) Require automatic fire sprinklers be installed in every new occupancy where individuals will sleep through its 2015 BC Building Code; and
- b) Require that all existing occupancies where individuals sleep (excluding residences owned by individuals) be retrofitted with automatic fire sprinklers by 2017.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended by deleting clause (b) from the resolution was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) petition the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) to request that the British Columbia provincial government enact legislation to:

- a) Require automatic fire sprinklers be installed in every new occupancy where individuals will sleep through its 2015 BC Building Code.

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

#### **R4 FUKUSHIMA DAIICHI NUCLEAR DISASTER**

**Alert Bay**

WHEREAS the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster occurred on March 11, 2011 resulting in the catastrophic failure of three nuclear reactors and associated fuel rod storage pools causing the release of significant amounts of radionuclide contamination into the atmospheric and marine environments. The owners of the Daiichi facility, Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), and the Japanese government, have not been able to contain the marine and atmospheric radionuclide contamination originating from the failed Fukushima Daiichi facility;

AND WHEREAS the 80% of British Columbians who live within 10 miles of the Pacific Ocean, as well as the wide variety of marine and coastal economic stakeholders who rely on ocean and coastal environments deserve to have access to detailed information regarding possible radionuclide contamination associated with the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities support those British Columbians who are affected by the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster by calling on the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada to immediately enact the following:

1. Convene a panel of institutional and citizen scientists to determine what type and frequency of marine and atmospheric monitoring is required to maintain clear understanding of the environmental impacts of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster on coastal British Columbia;
2. Determine the locations where a comprehensive network of marine and terrestrial sensors or other monitoring methodologies will be maintained;
3. Commission a website that would both list the raw findings of sensor and environment testing and interpret these data in a clear and transparent manner;

4. Open negotiations directly with the Government of Japan regarding both the accelerated containment of radionuclide contamination, and full financial support of the cost of the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster monitoring program on the west coast of BC and Canada.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R5 FEDERAL MEDICAL MARIHUANA LICENCES**

**Cowichan Valley RD**

WHEREAS the federal government is phasing out medical marihuana licences under the Medical Marihuana Access Regulations on April 1, 2014 in favour of licencing much larger production facilities under the new Marihuana for Medical Purposes Regulations;

AND WHEREAS, due to privacy concerns, the federal government will not be releasing the locations of the licensed facilities being phased out thus making it impossible for local authorities to ensure that production at these facilities has ceased and the premises are properly remediated;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the locational information on the medical marihuana licences under the Medical Marihuana Access Regulations be provided on a confidential basis to local governments in order to enable local authorities to ensure that production has ceased and the premises are properly remediated for health and safety reasons.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended as follows to the enactment clause: add "multiple" before "medical"; and delete "s" from "licenses"; and insert "in residentially zoned areas" after "production", was not endorsed.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

**R6 MASS CASUALTY MEDICAL PREPAREDNESS**

**Ucluelet**

WHEREAS in the event of a major disaster, in particular a Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) event (i.e., an earthquake with a magnitude 8 or greater followed by a subsequent tsunami) within BC's southwest seismic activity zone, the system of mass casualty medical emergency preparedness in the province of BC is ineffective for high risk remote communities that do not have Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA) hospitals and clinics;

AND WHEREAS fast and wide reaching mass casualty medical strategies are necessary to save lives for communities that will potentially have no access to medical centres and/or hospitals due to catastrophic damage:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and Federation of Canadian Municipalities urge the provincial and federal governments to establish a world-class mass casualty medical emergency preparedness plan for high risk communities in BC's southwest seismic activity zone that do not have VIHA hospitals and clinics.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**ELECTIONS**

**R7 THREE YEAR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TERM**

**Metchosin**

WHEREAS finding a diversity of citizens to run for council positions becomes more difficult as the length of term increases;

AND WHEREAS a three year term allows citizens to hold local governments more accountable, through the voting process:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM work with the Province to retain three year terms.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

On a motion for discussion, duly moved and seconded, Councillor Michelle Kirby, with the District of Oak Bay introduced a resolution off the floor.

**OF1 - SOME FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

WHEREAS the majority of local governments in BC have signed the Climate Action Charter, with 31 of them already achieving carbon neutrality and many others making significant progress towards this goal;

AND WHEREAS the April 2014 Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reaffirmed and amplified the warnings of previous scientific reports about the impacts and costs of global climate change;

AND WHEREAS an effective response to this fundamental issue presents the opportunity for new, high-skilled jobs and security for our Province's future and avoiding significant future costs;

NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED THAT the UBCM calls upon the Province to recommit to meeting the goals of BC's Climate Action Charter;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT establish a process, in partnership with local governments, to evaluate BC's climate change targets in the context of the 2014 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report;

AND THAT the UBCM bring a resolution to the FCM's 2015 AGM calling upon the Government of Canada to work with other countries in Paris in 2015 to develop an international treaty to replace the Kyoto Protocol that responds to the 2014 IPCC report.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ADMITTED FOR DEBATE**

**TRANSPORTATION**

**R8 REGULATION OF MOTORIZED MOBILITY AIDS OPERATION**

**Sechelt District**

WHEREAS the unregulated operation of motorized mobility aids in public areas creates safety risks for the operators and the public;

AND WHEREAS there is no provincial legislation that regulates the safe operation of motorized mobility aids or that requires operators to demonstrate acceptable cognitive and physical abilities, health or knowledge of safe motorized mobility aids operation:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be urged to expedite the enactment of legislation to regulate the operation of motorized mobility aids in public areas and set acceptable levels for operator abilities and knowledge.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended to add "in consultation with BC Coalition for People with Disabilities, SPARC and Municipal Disability Committees" after "public areas" was endorsed.

The motion, as amended then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be urged to expedite the enactment of

legislation to regulate the operation of motorized mobility aids in public areas in consultation with BC Coalition for People with Disabilities, SPARC and Municipal Disability Committees and set acceptable levels for operator abilities and knowledge.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

The Second Resolution Session was then adjourned at approximately 11:25 a.m.

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

Past President, Joe Stanhope, 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. Councillor Carrie Powell-Davidson, City of Parksville was nominated. Those nominated at the close of the nominations for Director at Large were:

Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy  
Vice Chair/Trustee Peter Luckham, Islands Trust  
Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River  
Councillor Andrew Mostad, District of Lantzville  
Councillor Carrie Powell-Davidson, City of Parksville

Past President Stanhope declared that there would be an election and invited candidates to come forward to briefly address delegates. Each candidate then spoke for approximately two minutes. Past President Stanhope then advised that the polls would be available and balloting would occur from 12:45 – 1:30 p.m. in the Foyer noting that the results would be communicated at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday morning.

**PRESENTATION BY FORTIS BC**

Director at Large, Councillor Claire Moglove then introduced Carol Greaves, FortisBC's Community Relations Manager for Vancouver Island and the Sunshine Coast noting that FortisBC is a long-time sponsor of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities thanking them for their continued sponsorship of the Delegates Lunch. Councillor Moglove noted that AVICC has worked with FortisBC over the past several years to arrive at a place where customers and particularly local governments on Vancouver Island will benefit significantly from the amalgamation of FortisBC and the introduction of postage stamp rates. Carol extended her appreciation to organizations like AVICC who have partnered in the difficult process over the past five years. Carol then turned over the presentation to AVICC Past President, Chair Joe Stanhope, who highlighted the next steps in being ready to take advantage of the price reductions in natural gas to be able to implement operating fees. He advised that a special resolution will be coming forward from AVICC Executive at tomorrow's resolution session on the matter. Director at Large, Councillor Meagan Brame, thanked Carol Greaves for the update and for FortisBC's continued sponsorship of the Delegate Lunch that will follow in the Pioneer Hall.

The Convention adjourned for lunch shortly after 12:00 p.m.

**DELEGATES LUNCHEON**

The Delegates Luncheon was sponsored by FortisBC. At approximately 1:05 President Larry Cross thanked FortisBC for sponsoring the lunch, expressed appreciation to the staff for the service so far, and introduced the following life members in attendance:

- Norma Sealey, past president from Sidney in 1983-84
- Anne Fiddick, past president from Gold River in 1981-1982
- Ron Webber, past president from Courtenay in 1992-1993
- Mayor Gerry Furney, Port McNeill, past president in 1993-1994 and long service recognition in 2008
- Mayor Frank Leonard, Saanich, past president in 2000-2001
- Jack Peake, past president from Lake Cowichan 2005-2007
- Christopher Causton, past president from Oak Bay in 2010-2011

Strathcona Director Jim Abram was also recognized as a UBCM Life Member.

The polling station for election of the positions of Directors-at-Large opened from 12:45-1:30 p.m. in the Foyer.

## **CONCURRENT SESSION**

Four one-hour concurrent workshops were held between 1:30 and 4:00 p.m. with a refreshment break scheduled from 2:30 – 3:00 p.m. in the Foyer.

- Climate Change – The Problem and Imperative of Our Times (Pioneer Hall East)
- Collaborating for Community Health (Pioneer Hall West)
- Eco-Assets Natures Role as Municipal Infrastructure (Pioneer Hall West)
- Private Managed Forest Land Act (Pioneer Hall East)

The handouts from the Powerpoint presentations as are available can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2014-minutes/>

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

## **ANNUAL BANQUET**

The Annual Banquet for delegates and guests was held at the Parksville Community Centre. Delegates and their guests, gathered from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Lobby for the pre-banquet reception sponsored by Island Health.

Shortly before 7:00 p.m., approximately 255 delegates and guests took their seats in the Seaside Auditorium. Pipe Major Mel Wilson of the Mount Arrowsmith Pipe Band led the parade of AVICC Executive into the front of the Seaside Auditorium. President Cross thanked Pipe Major Wilson for his contribution to the ceremonies of the Convention and welcomed the delegates and guests. Island Health was thanked for their sponsorship of the banquet reception, as well as BC Transit and their partner the Regional District of Nanaimo for their sponsorship of the bus transportation for the evening.

Following dinner, President Cross thanked the chef and staff of the Tigh Na Mara Resort and the Parksville Community Centre staff for their service at the reception and the bar. President Cross noted the decorations for the evening were sponsored by the City of Parksville. He also noted that the gift at each table setting was provided by the evening's wine sponsor, The Partnership Group.

President Cross thanked the Association for Mineral Exploration BC, the Mining Association of BC and GeoScience BC for their co-sponsorship of the Annual Banquet and invited Dan Berkshire, past director of AMEBC to say a few words as a representative of the co-sponsors. President Cross thanked the BC Lottery Corporation for their sponsorship of the entertainment for the evening, and invited Nicole Lewis, Stakeholder Engagement Specialist with the BCLC to come up and say a few words. The entertainment for the evening - Eddie and the Funk was then introduced. The band played two sets, with the evening wrapping up at approximately 11:30 p.m.

## **SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2014**

A hot breakfast sponsored by the Municipal Insurance Association was served from 7:15 – 8:15 a.m.

The Convention reconvened at 8:30 a.m. with President Cross noting that evaluation forms had been placed at the tables asking for delegates' feedback on the Convention and that the completed evaluation forms would be used for the Grand Prize Award just prior to adjournment.

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

Past President Stanhope, Chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the election results for Director at Large:

Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy  
Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River  
Councillor Andrew Mostad, District of Lantzville

Past President Stanhope then called for nominations from the floor for the position of Electoral Area Representative in addition to the one already placed in nomination. Nominated at the close of nominations for Electoral Area Representative was:

Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District

At the conclusion of nominations, Past President Stanhope declared Mary Marcotte be elected Electoral Area Representative by acclamation.

## **FINAL RESOLUTIONS AND LATE RESOLUTIONS SESSION**

Resolutions resumed at 8:30 a.m., with President Cross in the Chair. He was joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members: Director Mary Marcotte, Councillor Barbara Price and Councillor Andrew Mostad, Parliamentarian Lorena Staples, UBCM Executive Director Gary MacIsaac and Executive Coordinator Shelley Webber.

The session opened with a motion to bring to the floor an AVICC Executive Resolution was duly moved and seconded.

### **ER2 AVICC EXECUTIVE RESOLUTION**

### **AVICC Executive**

WHEREAS the implementation of operating fees on Vancouver Island remains an issue of critical importance to AVICC;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC:

1. Continue to lobby the Provincial Government to expedite the passage of legislation to permit the collection of operating fees within AVICC.
2. Recommend to members that they NOT formally enter into any new operating agreements until such time as the required legislation is passed and the full impacts of the amalgamation phase-in are determined.
3. Strike a policy advisory group of municipal CAO's to gather information and make recommendations to the membership regarding the final implementation of operating fees.

On motion, duly moved and seconded that the resolution be amended to add "for natural gas" after "operating fees" in point (1), and add "with Fortis BC" before "until such time" in point (2) was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

WHEREAS the implementation of operating fees on Vancouver Island remains an issue of critical importance to AVICC:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC:

1. continue to lobby the provincial government to expedite the passage of legislation to permit the collection of operating fees for natural gas within AVICC;



2. recommend to members that they not formally enter into any new operating agreements with Fortis BC until such time as the required legislation is passed and the full impacts of the amalgamation phase-in are determined; and
3. strike a policy advisory group of municipal CAO's to gather information and make recommendations to the membership regarding the final implementation of operating fees.

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

## **TAXATION & ASSESSMENT**

### **R9 UTILITY BILL DEFERRAL**

**Victoria**

WHEREAS utility billing, once included as a part of property taxes, is increasingly being billed separately by local governments;

AND WHEREAS this has unintended consequences of creating potential financial hardship for seniors, people with disabilities, surviving spouses, and families with children who participate in the provincial Tax Deferment Program:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to include municipal utility bills in the Tax Deferment Program.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

### **R10 CLASSIFICATION SPLIT ON ACCOMMODATION HOTELS**

**Ucluelet**

WHEREAS BC Assessment in 2007 introduced a new classification methodology that permitted "strata accommodation properties" to be split-classified between Class 6 and Class 1 – residential to reflect a dual use of these properties (personal residential and commercial use);

AND WHEREAS the re-assessment of certain properties, which continue to be zoned for commercial uses only, has significantly reduced the tax base of smaller tourist based communities throughout BC which planned in accordance to the proposed uses and commercial land base within their OCPs, tax and budget forecast:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of BC review its methodology for split classification in cases where the zoning precludes residential uses as a permitted use.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **FINANCE**

### **R11 VANCOUVER ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY INCREASED COSTS**

**Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS the Vancouver Island Regional Library provides important service valued by the local communities it serves;

AND WHEREAS the cost of Vancouver Island Regional Library services is increasing well beyond the rate of inflation on an annual basis – a rate that many local communities set for the cost increases of their own essential services:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities request the Vancouver Island Regional Library to undertake a thorough review for the purposes of developing a strategy to

live within the rate of inflation to minimize the financial burden on local tax payers while continuing to provide a financially sustainable service.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

**ENVIRONMENT**

**R12 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS FOR COAL TRANSPORT**

**Sunshine Coast RD**

WHEREAS assessment studies provided to Port Metro Vancouver have not assessed the environmental or health impacts related to the release of coal dust during barge transfer and transport over coastal waters between the Port of Metro Vancouver and Texada Island;

AND WHEREAS there is currently no mechanism that provides oversight or ensures the implementation of mitigation measures to minimize environmental and health impacts of coal transport over coastal waters:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a comprehensive environmental and health impact assessment for the shipment of coal over coastal waters be conducted;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an appropriate federal and/or provincial agency be named to monitor barge transfer and transport of coal over coastal waters to ensure oversight and implementation of environmental and health protection measures.

On motion, duly moved and seconded to adopt the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee to remove “between Port Metro Vancouver and Texada Island” in the first clause was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

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

**R13 SEWER MANAGEMENT RESOURCES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

**Cumberland**

WHEREAS all local governments deal with wastewater treatment and it is in local governments' interest to be assisted with best practices;

AND WHEREAS the Union of British Columbia municipalities is an advocate for local governments' common interests and serves local governments' common needs:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities be requested to establish resources and staff hours to assist with the development and management of sewage treatment systems for local governments.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

**LAND USE**

**R14 MARIHUANA PRODUCTION ON AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

**Nanaimo City**

WHEREAS the Province, through BC Assessment, regards medical marihuana production as a ‘farm use’ for assessment purposes;

AND WHEREAS the Province, through the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and *Farm Practices Protection (Right to Farm) Act*, includes medical marihuana production as a ‘farm use’:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province amend legislation and regulations in order to remove the production of medical marihuana as a 'farm use' in terms of taxation assessment;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province amend legislation and regulations in order to allow communities to regulate the production of medical marihuana within the agricultural land reserve through land use planning provisions provided in the *Local Government Act*.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R15 OWNER-OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENT FOR SECONDARY SUITES**

**View Royal**

WHEREAS communities want to see well-maintained residential neighbourhoods where neighbours are mutually respectful;

AND WHEREAS there is generally a higher duty of care shown to neighbours in communities with owner-occupied properties and by tenants when owners are present:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be required to amend Part 26 of the *Local Government Act* granting the authority to require secondary suites be permitted in owner-occupied homes only.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R16 TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWERS & ANTENNAE**

**Nanaimo City**

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments have received three Union of British Columbia Municipalities endorsed resolutions since 2002 regarding telecommunications towers and antennae;

AND WHEREAS the federal government, through Industry Canada, retains sole discretion to reject or approve proposals, regardless of community deliberations and planning;

AND WHEREAS local governments and residents continue to express frustration and dissatisfaction with the existing Industry Canada process:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, Federation of Canadian Municipalities and Province of British Columbia, once again call on the federal government to require that in addition to federal legislation and regulations, all telecommunications towers, antennae and structures are subject to local government bylaw compliance.

**WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR**

**SELECTED ISSUES**

**R17 SOCIAL POLICY FRAMEWORK**

**Duncan**

WHEREAS every British Columbian depends on social services, health care, justice and education services;

AND WHEREAS our communities are partners in the delivery of many of these services and are facing increasingly complex social challenges requiring coordination between multiple social ministries of government, municipalities and the community agencies and organizations that deliver services to the public:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the municipal governments of British Columbia call upon the Premier to begin a consultation with British Columbians to initiate the development of a social policy framework that will set

out key policy directions, values, priorities, roles and expectations, and guide the creation of public policy to meet our social needs now and into the future.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

**R18 BANNING WILDLIFE TRAPPING**

**Nanaimo City**

WHEREAS the Province has indicated a review of wildlife trapping regulations is underway;

AND WHEREAS the use of body and leg hold traps within urban areas continues to pose an unacceptable risk of injuries to humans and pets, and the unrestricted sale of traps to unlicensed individuals continues;

AND WHEREAS since 2012, the Province has not provided the required ministerial approval for wildlife trapping bylaws submitted from the City of Vernon, City of Surrey, District of Sechelt and City of Nanaimo:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province provide ministerial approval to local government bylaws in a timely manner, until such time that the Province completes a review of the trapping regulations.

**ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED**

**R18A SHORTAGE OF PHYSICIANS & SPECIALISTS IN BC**

**Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS there is a shortage of physicians and medical specialists in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the Province of BC is recruiting physicians and medical specialists from other countries to practice in British Columbia to address this shortage:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province of British Columbia to allow British Columbia students who have obtained a medical degree outside of Canada to do their clinical residency and practice in British Columbia.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, to adopt and amend the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee by adding “and the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons” after “Province of British Columbia” was endorsed. The motion then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities lobby the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and Province of British Columbia and the BC College of Physicians and Surgeons to allow Canadian students who have obtained a medical degree outside of Canada to do their clinical residency and practice in British Columbia.

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

**Part 2 - Section “B”** - This section contains resolutions that support existing UBCM policy including:

- Previously considered and endorsed resolutions; or
- Resolutions in keeping with the UBCM policy, including previously approved policy papers or other documents.

On motion, moved and duly seconded, that Resolution R19 be removed from the block and debated separately was endorsed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that all the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for Part 2, Section “B” Resolutions with the exception of Resolution R19 be adopted, was endorsed.

## **COMMUNITY SAFETY**

### **R20 ADEQUATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT POLICE BASED VICTIM SERVICES Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS the provincial Police Based Victim Services Program provides valuable support and referral services to victims of crime and trauma in BC communities;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government does not fully fund this program which is affecting the ability for community victim services programs to provide proper services to support our victims of crime:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities request the Province of British Columbia to provide adequate funding to support the Police Based Victim Services Program.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **TRANSPORTATION**

### **R21 TRANSPORT CANADA DIVESTITURE OF ASSETS Alberni-Clayoquot RD**

WHEREAS Transport Canada is actively working to divest essential infrastructure in remote coastal communities;

AND WHEREAS this infrastructure is vital to small communities with limited resources to assume responsibility for these assets:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island Coastal Communities work with UBCM and FCM to ensure the federal government continues to own, operate and manage its infrastructure especially in small remote communities.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## **COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

### **R22 AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE & AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION Victoria**

WHEREAS the Agricultural Land Commission, created as an autonomous body in 1974, has served to protect over four million hectares of farmland in the Province of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS measures to protect farmland and support farmers and regional food systems are essential to provide food security in the face of increasing global transportation and energy costs and the impacts of climate change:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) request that the provincial government respect the integrity of the province-wide Agricultural Land Reserve and support its management by an independent and adequately funded Agricultural Land Commission;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the provincial government work with the agricultural community, UBCM and local governments to identify and implement additional measures that will increase the viability of farming and food production in British Columbia.

**ON MOTION, was ENDORSED**

## LEGISLATIVE

### R19 BREACH OF CLOSED MEETING CONFIDENTIALITY

Sechelt

WHEREAS all duly elected council and regional board members swear an Oath of Office to uphold important ethical standards in compliance with the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act*,

AND WHEREAS it is incumbent upon each council and board member to maintain absolute confidentiality in all matters discussed during a closed meeting and to protect the confidentiality of documents under section 117 of the *Community Charter*.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* be amended to provide that a council or board member who breaches the confidentiality obligations under section 117 of the *Community Charter* will be subject to:

1. disqualification from office in the same manner as if they have a pecuniary interest in a matter in respect of which they participate in the debate and voting; and
2. prosecution under the *Offence Act* for breach of an offence.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that “will” be changed to “may” in the last line of the enactment clause was endorsed.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the two subject to clauses numbered (1) and (2) be debated individually was endorsed.

The resolution then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* be amended to provide that a council or board member who breaches the confidentiality obligations under section 117 of the *Community Charter* may be subject to disqualification from office in the same manner as if they have a pecuniary interest in a matter in respect of which they participate in the debate and voting.

#### ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* be amended to provide that a council or board member who breaches the confidentiality obligations under section 117 of the *Community Charter* may be subject to prosecution under the *Offence Act* for breach of an offence.

#### ON MOTION, was NOT ENDORSED

### PART 3 – LATE RESOLUTIONS

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Late Resolutions Block be referred to the AVICC Executive was endorsed.

### LR1 Water Pricing Principles

Sunshine Coast Regional District

WHEREAS the Province of BC has introduced new water pricing principles as part of the *Water Sustainability Act* which will increase the annual rental costs for the waterworks licenses held by local governments;

AND WHEREAS the Water Pricing Strategy is tantamount to downloading the costs of the implementation of the *Water Sustainability Act*,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC encourage the Province to ensure local government water purveyors are not subjected to increased costs for the operation of their water systems.

**ON MOTION, was REFERRED automatically to the AVICC Executive**

**LR2 Federal Government Support**

**City of Port Alberni**

WHEREAS local governments on Vancouver Island are working individually and collectively to advance transportation infrastructure and economic development initiatives;

AND WHEREAS the federal government's New Building Canada Plan provides limited funding and certainty for local governments in applying for projects related to roads and other economic infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC lobby the Government of Canada to enhance the New Building Canada Plan to provide increased funding for transportation infrastructure and economic development on Vancouver Island.

**ON MOTION, was REFERRED automatically to the AVICC Executive**

**LR3 Provincial Energy Efficiency Incentive Programs**

**Regional District of Nanaimo**

WHEREAS the Government of BC has discontinued the successful LiveSmart BC residential efficiency incentive program, shifting support to product based incentives offered through major utilities;

AND WHEREAS this program shift results in the loss of funding for comprehensive actions recommended through home energy assessments, and a reduced understanding of the overall energy performance of a home;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC, through UBCM, request the Province ensure incentives remain available for comprehensive actions to address overall residential energy efficiency, including incentives for home energy assessments and post-retrofit evaluations.

**ON MOTION, was REFERRED automatically to the AVICC Executive**

**LR4 Parenting Plan**

**District of Metchosin**

WHEREAS under the current Family Law model no one is charged with advocating for the rights and interests of children, and that research shows that children suffer emotional, psychological and spiritual harm from parental conflict,

AND WHEREAS there is no requirement for a parental plan that describes the division of parental responsibilities before parents access the court system,

AND WHEREAS the court system is expensive, adversarial, escalates conflict and hostility between the parents, and it can take many months to obtain a court date,

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Province develop policies and regulations that require that parents of underage children must develop, through mutual agreement or mediation, a prescribed parenting plan that includes division of parental responsibilities, before the parents may apply to court for a parenting order.

AND IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province create an agency similar to the Civil Dispute Tribunal, that would be structured to encourage parents to use a broad range of non-litigation based dispute resolution tools, including mediation delivered online, via video-conferencing or in person, to help parents resolve disputes as early as possible.

**ON MOTION, was REFERRED automatically to the AVICC Executive**

**LR5 CSA Certified Standard for Recreational & Sport Helmets**

**City of Powell River**

WHEREAS Brain Injury occurs at a rate of 50 per 100,000 persons in Canada, or 60,000\* persons, at a cost of over \$150 Million Dollars per year\*\*;

AND WHEREAS The severity of Acquired Brain Injury could be lessened significantly with the use of CSA certified standards in helmets for all sports, as is mandated for ice hockey players;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Federation of Canadian Municipalities request that the government of Canada mandate the use of CSA standards for all recreational and sport helmets sold in Canada through product legislation, as with ice hockey helmets.

**ON MOTION, was REFERRED automatically to the AVICC Executive**

**LR6 Provincial Woodstove Program**

**Regional District of Nanaimo**

WHEREAS the Provincial Wood Stove Exchange Program is a successful locally delivered program that improves air quality province-wide; supports local, renewable and affordable wood-fuel use; and stimulates small business activity in participating communities;

AND WHEREAS the ability of local governments to plan and deliver the Program efficiently and effectively to local residents and small businesses is negatively impacted by uncertainty in the availability and timing of funding;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC, through UBCM, request the Province consider providing stable funding to support the Woodstove Exchange Program for a five year period beginning in 2014.

**ON MOTION, was REFERRED automatically to the AVICC Executive**

**ADDRESS BY NDP MLA SELINA ROBINSON**

Director at Large, Councillor Barbara Price introduced Ms. Selina Robinson, MLA and Local Government and Sports Critic. Ms. Robinson then addressed delegates followed by a brief opportunity for delegates to ask questions. First Vice President, Councillor Cindy Solda, thanked Ms. Robinson with a gift.

The Convention adjourned at approximately 10:25 a.m. for a refreshment break and reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

**BC LOCAL GOVERNMENT: OVERVIEW OF CHANGES TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS LEGISLATION**

President Cross introduced Linda Reimer, Parliamentary Secretary who provided an introduction to the session, followed by a presentation by Heather Brazier, Executive Lead, Integrated Policy, Legislation & Operations Division of the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development on election changes expected for 2014. Delegates had the opportunity to pose questions after the presentation. Director at Large, Councillor Megan Brame thanked the presenters with gifts.

**FINAL BUSINESS SESSION**

**FIFTH AND FINAL REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND INSTALLATION OF THE NEW EXECUTIVE**

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the ballots for Director At Large be destroyed, was endorsed. Past President, Chair Joe Stanhope, Chair of the Nominating Committee, then introduced the 2014-15 Executive and extended congratulations to them:



|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| President                     | Mayor Larry Cross, Town of Sidney   |
| First Vice President          | Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni  |
| Second Vice President         | Councillor Barbara Price, Town of Comox   |
| Electoral Area Representative | Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley RD  |
| Directors at Large            | Councillor Jessie Hemphill, Director of Port Hardy<br>Councillor Claire Moglive, City of Campbell River<br>Councillor Andrew Mostad, District of Lantzville |
| Past President                | Chair Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo RD  |

## **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

President, Mayor Larry Cross thanked the assembly and members. He also thanked the host communities, the staff of the Qualicum Beach Civic Centre, caterers and technicians. President Cross also thanked Councillor Meagan Brame for her service to the Board over the past year. Congratulations were also extended to the incoming Board.

## **CONVENTION CLOSING**

President, Mayor Larry Cross then presented AVICC Executive Coordinator Shelley Webber with a bouquet of flowers thanking her for her work on the Convention.

The Grand Prize draw was then initiated and Tofino Mayor Josie Osbourne was drawn for the grand prize award. President Cross thanked BC Ferries for providing the award of a trip for two and vehicle for the Northern Passage.

President Cross then closed the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. The Convention adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

Certified Correct,

Shelley Webber  
AVICC Executive Coordinator

**APPENDIX A - UBCM President Rhona Martin**  
**Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Qualicum Beach Civic Centre, Qualicum Beach, BC**

Good morning. Thank you for this opportunity to provide an update of UBCM's work on behalf of BC local governments and our First Nations members.

I want to extend my appreciation to the communities of Parksville and Qualicum Beach for hosting this year's conference. It has been some years since I last visited your communities, and I am glad to be back this beautiful part of our province.

It was a pleasure to connect with many of you at last night's reception. Thank you to UBCM Executive members Larry Cross and Claire Moglove for your hospitality. I also want to acknowledge past presidents Jim Abram and Frank Leonard – it is good to be among friends and familiar faces.

Strength in Diversity

The Area Association meetings come at the mid-point of the term for UBCM President, and I find myself mildly shocked to realize the year is half-over.

That's a reflection of a busy calendar. It also reflects the fact that the role of UBCM President is part of a vibrant, healthy system for local government advocacy.

One of the keys to the health of that system is the diversity of our membership. The Area Associations are part of that, and the composition of our Executive also plays a role.

To see that diversity in action, you only need to look at our last three Presidents. Prior my term, we have had a Mayor from the North, a Councillor from the Lower Mainland, and a Director from the Kootenays. This diversity that keeps us fresh and engaged. Its something also something we need to protect.

Our capacity to welcome and maintain diversity – urban and rural; large and small; from all regions - is a real strength of UBCM.

Elections Legislation

In the time available this morning, I want to update you on the key points in UBCM's work since last Convention, starting with local government elections legislation.

Minister Oakes introduced the legislation two weeks ago, and I joined her at the Legislature to brief the media.

The legislation addresses some but not all of the 31 recommendations delivered by the joint task force four years ago. If you want the fine details, take a look at our *Compass* article from last week. In a nutshell, the legislation proposes to:

- Establish a four year term;
- Change the election date from November to October effective 2018;
- Provide new rules for third party advertising;
- Tighten up financial reporting; and
- Create a significant role for Elections BC.

The new changes will not impact anonymous contributions of less to \$50, so "pass the hat" fundraising will still be permitted.

Last fall, when it became apparent the legislation would not be introduced in 2013, UBCM advised the Ministry to phase delivery to avoid introducing expense limits in an election year.

At our meeting last week, Minister Oakes asked Executive whether or not we supported allowing each community to set their own expense limit through a bylaw. Our response was to reiterate the need for province-wide legislation in this area. We also offered to work with the province to get to find a workable solution.

Once this legislation is passed, the greatest challenge facing the government will be communicating the changes to candidates. November is not far away, and if the new rules are going to be enforced, they will need to be effectively communicated. For those of you who will be running again later this year, I recommend actively investigating the rule changes once they become available to avoid surprises.

### MMBC

Last fall at Convention, the hottest issue by far was the new recycling program administered by MMBC.

As a result of a resolution endorsed by the membership, UBCM devoted significant resources to this issue. I won't retrace all the ground that we have covered since then, and will touch instead on where things stand presently.

Based on information provided by MMBC, sixty-seven (67) local governments and thirteen (13) First Nations communities that have executed agreements with MMBC. There are an additional eight (8) communities where MMBC will be providing the service directly to residents. In terms of scope, the program will capture about 73% of the province.

What we are hearing is that opinions vary considerably among local governments regarding the implementation. Some communities are delighted. Others are frustrated, particularly those that did not execute agreements by November 30th and are now on a waiting list. I have also heard that some communities are not getting prompt answers to questions raised as the implementation proceeds.

Last week the Premier announced there are no plans to change or delay implementation of the program. She also acknowledged there were issues, and that the Minister of Environment would engage with those issues.

Our Environment Committee met with Minister Polak last week. What we heard is that the Ministry has increased the staff resources it is providing to oversee the implementation of the program. In practical terms, if your community is not getting timely, clear responses from MMBC, the Ministry of Environment will get involved and get the information you are looking for. Greater provincial engagement is something local governments have been asking for, and this is a welcome step.

UBCM has been granted three seats on MMBC's Advisory Committee – two voting positions for elected representatives and one non-voting, technical seat designed for staff. Executive is reviewing applications for these roles and will announce our appointments through the *Compass* in the coming days.

### Building Canada Fund

I want to touch briefly this morning on the recently announced Building Canada Fund.

UBCM has been liaising with the Province and FCM to emphasize the need to dedicate a portion of funds for local government infrastructure.

Despite the announcement of the program, there are many details that need to be clarified.

At this point we know there is a dedicated portion of funds for small communities. For BC, it would appear the same amount of funds would be available as provided in the last round. However, these funds will be spread over 10 years rather than 7. The funds also will not flow until provincial agreements are signed.

There is even more uncertainty for larger communities who will have to secure funds from the National and Provincial / Territorial components of the program. We understand that applications will require the submission of a detailed business case to Infrastructure Canada.

We will continue to monitor this program, and will direct you to resources as those come available.

### Gas Tax Fund

The picture looks considerably brighter for the Gas Tax Fund.

UBCM has been directly involved in negotiations for the renewed program. You know some of the details already. The project categories have been expanded, so you can do more things. An index has also been added to prevent the erosion of the program from inflation. Both points are big gains, and the result of advocacy both by FCM, UBCM and other local government organizations. I am very appreciative the federal government listened to local governments during the Long-term Infrastructure process, and responded with these measures.

UBCM has been at the table to seek additional changes that reflect member feedback through your resolutions, survey responses and consultation.

One of the things we heard is that while it is important to retain a mix of pooled and allocated funding, some want a greater proportion of the funding delivered through the allocated programs.

For those regions that have dedicated regional pools, we also heard there was a desire for more autonomy to make decisions about how to spend these funds. We have taken all of these views to the negotiating table.

The negotiations are down to the final details. We are confident that the agreement will be signed in time to ensure that allocated funds will flow without interruption.

Bringing these negotiations to conclusion remains one of our highest priorities. The renewed administrative agreement promises to deliver \$2.6 billion to BC local governments over the next decade. I am hoping we will have some news to announce shortly.

### BC Ferries

One of key issues in your agenda this year is advocacy with regard to cuts to the service provided by BC Ferries.

AVICC was quite right in pointing out that there has been very little discussion on the economic impact that will result from ferry cuts. UBCM was pleased to work with you to address that gap, the first phase of which is the policy paper that was discussed in your plenary yesterday.

It is the right thing for us to work with you on this because ferry service is not just an "island" issue or a "coastal" issue - it's a provincial issue. Ferries are part of the highway system that links all part of our province, and it right to work to protect that system.

I understand that a resolution will be coming forward in your agenda today. If there is a phase 2 in the work, we will join with you in that. I look forward to hearing your discussion.

### ALC

One of the topics that attracted considerable discussion at our Executive meeting last week is the Government's introduction of Bill 24, which proposes changes to the Act governing the Agricultural Land Commission.

Following information that leaked from Government, the Executive met in January of this with Richard Bullock, Chair of the ALC.

Shortly afterward, the Ministry of Agriculture approached UBCM with an offer to consult on the changes that were coming to the ALC Act. The Ministry would not share any policy information with UBCM unless confidentiality agreements were signed, which limited our ability to participate.

Following the discussion by Executive last week, I will be writing to Minister Pimm to say that UBCM is interested in working with the ministry, the ALC and the agricultural industry in developing new regulations that ensure the preservation of farmland and help the farming community. I will also be expressing our dissatisfaction with the Government's approach to consultation leading up to Bill 24.

We will provide an update once we have heard back from the Minister.

### Mission to Viet Nam

I want to share a few thoughts with you about our work alongside FCM through their international program.

The federally funded mission aims to build local government capacity in seven countries. For several years, UBCM has been a partner to the *Association of Cities* in Viet Nam.

Our work has focused on building capacity for policy development, advocacy and intergovernmental relations – in short, the bread and butter functions of an advocacy organization.

In March, I travelled along with staff to *Can Tho* for the latest round of the mission. We all know that the translation of knowledge and resources from one culture to another is very difficult. What struck me about the exchange is that the *Association of Cities* is taking the resources we are providing and finding ways to make them come alive in their context. The result has been stronger engagement with their membership, and the delivery of resources they have designed to support economic development.

I came away from the experience believing there is a continued role for Canadian local governments to share what we have learned with peers in other countries. I hope this program will continue over the years to come.

### Strong Fiscal Futures

Finally, I want to tell you about our Advocacy Days in Victoria last week.

The focus of our outreach was building awareness among MLAs from all parties with regard to the *Strong Fiscal Futures* Report

The report was produced by our Select Committee on Local Government Finance and received unanimous endorsement at the 2013 Convention. The basic message it delivered is that while our finance system is sound at present, there are weaknesses that need to be addressed now to avoid issues a decade down the road. Chief among those issues is the affordability of property taxes for lower income British Columbians.

Last week we met with 30 MLAs, including Ministers Fassbender, McRae, Polak, Anton, Rustad and Oakes.

What we said is that we need to get moving on this initiative through the creation of a joint provincial – UBCM management committee.

Our aim is to see something up and running in advance of the 2014 Convention. We have the Minister's attention on this issue, and will continue to move this forward alongside the Select Committee.

### Concluding Comments

Before I go, I want to give a plug for the *Compass*, UBCM's weekly email newsletter. If you are not yet signed up, you can do on the landing page of our website. What I love about the newsletter is that you can scan the headlines 30 seconds and choose the stories you are interested in with a single click.

That concludes my remarks for today. If you have comments, questions or feedback, I will be available at the back of the room. If we don't connect today, you can call me any time.

Thank you very much for your time and attention this morning.

Financial Statements of

**ASSOCIATION OF  
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND  
COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

Year ended December 31, 2013



**KPMG LLP**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
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## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Members of Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2013, 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 accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### *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 we have obtained in our audit 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 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities as at December 31, 2013, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.





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

As required by the Society Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting policies applied by the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities in preparing and presenting the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP'. The signature is written in a cursive, slanted style. Below the signature is a long, horizontal, slightly curved line that underlines the text.

Chartered Accountants

March 7, 2014

Victoria, Canada

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2013, with comparative information for 2012

|                                    | 2013              | 2012              |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                      |                   |                   |
| Current assets:                    |                   |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents (note 2) | \$ 181,713        | \$ 169,125        |
| Prepaid expenses                   | 2,250             | 2,000             |
| Accounts receivable                | 458               | 139               |
|                                    | <u>\$ 184,421</u> | <u>\$ 171,264</u> |


## Liabilities and Net Assets

|  |                   |                   |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Current liabilities:                     |                   |                   |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 9,784          | \$ 7,600          |
| Deferred contributions (note 3)          | 50,832            | 46,665            |
|  | 60,616            | 54,265            |
| Net assets:                              |                   |                   |
| Unrestricted                             | 123,805           | 116,999           |
| Contractual commitments (note 4)         |                   |                   |
|  | <u>\$ 184,421</u> | <u>\$ 171,264</u> |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

\_\_\_\_\_ Director

  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Director

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2013, with comparative information for 2012

|  | 2013              | 2012              |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Assets</b>                            |                   |                   |
| Current assets:                          |                   |                   |
| Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)       | \$ 181,713        | \$ 169,125        |
| Prepaid expenses                         | 2,250             | 2,000             |
| Accounts receivable                      | 458               | 139               |
|  | <u>\$ 184,421</u> | <u>\$ 171,264</u> |
| <b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>        |                   |                   |
| Current liabilities:                     |                   |                   |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | \$ 9,784          | \$ 7,600          |
| Deferred contributions (note 3)          | 50,832            | 46,665            |
|  | <u>60,616</u>     | <u>54,265</u>     |
| Net assets:                              |                   |                   |
| Unrestricted                             | 123,805           | 116,999           |
| Contractual commitments (note 4)         |                   |                   |
|  | <u>\$ 184,421</u> | <u>\$ 171,264</u> |

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, 2013, with comparative information for 2012

|  | 2013              | 2012              |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Revenue:                                 |                   |                   |
| Annual meeting - sponsorships            | \$ 36,300         | \$ 33,050         |
| Annual meeting - registration            | 46,223            | 49,417            |
| Association dues                         | 76,132            | 76,017            |
| Interest                                 | 2,134             | 1,965             |
| Other                                    | 458               | 2,076             |
|  | <u>161,247</u>    | <u>162,525</u>    |
| Expenses:                                |                   |                   |
| Annual meeting                           | 71,493            | 75,728            |
| Communication and staff travel           | 1,316             | 1,235             |
| Executive meetings                       | 9,249             | 7,880             |
| Other meetings                           | 1,858             | 1,253             |
| Postage, office and miscellaneous        | 10,585            | 3,396             |
| Professional fees                        | 6,090             | 6,205             |
| Union of BC Municipalities contract fees | 53,850            | 52,530            |
|  | <u>154,441</u>    | <u>148,227</u>    |
| Excess of revenue over expenses          | 6,806             | 14,298            |
| Net assets, beginning of year            | 116,999           | 102,701           |
| Net assets, end of year                  | <u>\$ 123,805</u> | <u>\$ 116,999</u> |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2013, with comparative information for 2012

|   | 2013       | 2012       |
|---|------------|------------|
| Cash provided by (used in):                                     |            |            |
| Operations:   |            |            |
| Excess of revenue over expenses                                 | \$ 6,806   | \$ 14,298  |
| Change in non-cash operating working capital:                   |            |            |
| Increase in prepaid expenses                                    | (250)      | (1,151)    |
| Increase in accounts receivable                                 | (319)      | (139)      |
| Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 2,184      | (3,532)    |
| Increase (decrease) in deferred contributions                   | 4,167      | (5,000)    |
| Increase in cash and cash equivalents                           | 12,588     | 4,476      |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year                    | 169,125    | 164,649    |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of year                          | \$ 181,713 | \$ 169,125 |

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2013

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## **Nature of operations:**

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 Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit Organizations ("ASNPO") in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook. The Association's significant accounting policies are as follows:

### **(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 conducted on a not-for-profit basis.

### **(b) Cash and cash equivalents:**

Cash and cash equivalents are defined as cash and highly liquid investments consisting of term deposits with original maturities at the date of purchase of three months or less.

### **(c) Revenue recognition:**

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

Annual meeting sponsorships, registration and exhibit revenues are recognized as revenue when the conference takes place.

Association dues are recognized as revenue in the year they are earned and collection is reasonably assured.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2013

---

## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (d) Contributed materials and services:

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

### (e) Financial instruments:

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

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

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

### (f) Capital assets:

In accordance with the ASNPO Handbook section 4431, "Tangible capital assets held by not-for-profit organizations" the Association has not capitalized any expenditures during the year. In 2013 there were no capital expenditures (2012 - \$nil). Capital assets owned by the Association but which are not capitalized under this policy include furniture, computer hardware and software.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2013

---

## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(g) Use of estimates:

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

## 2. Cash and cash equivalents:

|                        | 2013       | 2012       |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| Cash                   | \$ 22,776  | \$ 21,875  |
| MFA Money Market Funds | 158,937    | 147,250    |
|                        | \$ 181,713 | \$ 169,125 |

## 3. Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions consist of \$44,665 (2012 - \$44,665) of provincial grants restricted for the facilitation of the activities of the treaty advisory committee in addition to \$6,167 (2012 - \$2,000) of sponsorship revenues received in advance for the 2014 conference.

## 4. Contractual commitments:

The Association has a contract with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for secretarial and office services. Payments under this contract in 2013 were \$13,463 quarterly (2012 - \$13,133). The amounts are subject to adjustment each January.



## APPENDIX C

### **Keynote Address – Deb Grey – West Coast Wonderful!**

Deb Grey is a BC girl, born and raised in Vancouver. She moved to Alberta as a young woman, and taught school on a reserve and in a small farm town, before being elected in 1989, as the first-ever Reform Party Member of Parliament. Deb commuted to Ottawa weekly during her four terms as an MP. She has always been a hands-on, practical leader, always looking for ways to encourage and celebrate people. Deb will share stories of her career in the classroom and the Commons. She will challenge you to lead, laugh and love. She and her husband, Lew, are happily semi-retired in Qualicum Beach. When she is not speaking or traveling to Ottawa as the Chair of the Security Intelligence Review Committee, many of you have seen them roll into your community for coffee on their matching Honda Valkyries as they continually explore the Coastal Communities around them.

### **UBCM President – Director Rhona Martin**

Director Rhona Martin is serving her eighth term as an Electoral Area Director on the Columbia Shuswap Regional District, where she was Chair for six years. She has also been a UBCM board member since 2006, and is a past president of the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA).

During her service on the UBCM Executive, Director Martin has been involved in several Committees and groups, including being Chair of the Environment Committee and a member of the Presidents Committee.

Director Martin has been involved in community issues since the early 1980s and is currently:

- Chair of the North Okanagan Columbia Shuswap Regional Hospital District;
- Chair of the Southern Interior Beetle Action Committee; and
- A member of the Meals Society Board that provides quality meals and the opportunity for seniors to socialize.

Rhona was raised in Kitimat and moved to Malakwa in her late teens. She and her partner Brian have owned and operated a family restaurant there for over 25 years. Rhona has five children, one daughter and four sons, 17 grandchildren and two great-granddaughters.

### **The Honorable Don McRae, MLA for the Comox Valley and Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation**

Don McRae was appointed Minister of Social Development and Social Innovation on June 7, 2013. He has served as Minister of Agriculture and as Minister of Education. Prior to that, he was convener of the Select Standing Committee on Aboriginal Affairs and was a member of the Select Standing Committee on Health and Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

Minister McRae was born and raised in the Comox Valley. For 14 years he taught at GP Vanier Secondary school in Courtenay. McRae also served as a Courtenay city councillor from 2002-09.

He has served as a Courtenay City Councillor for seven years. During his time on council, he has served as a municipal director for both the Comox Strathcona Regional District and the newly restructured Comox Valley Regional District. He has also been a member of the Comox Strathcona Hospital Board, vice-chair of the Comox Valley Sewer and Water Committees, and numerous community organizations and boards. In 2008, he was appointed by Premier Campbell to the Citizen's Conservation Council.

Selena Robinson - MLA for Coquitlam-Maillardville & Opposition Critic for Local Government & Sport  
Selina Robinson was elected to the BC Legislature in 2013 and currently serves as the Opposition Critic for Local Government and Sport.

Prior to being elected MLA, she was elected twice to serve on Coquitlam Council once in 2008 and again in 2011. When on Council she was the Chair of the Universal Access-Ability Advisory Committee and the Vice – Chair of the Coquitlam River Aggregate Committee. MLA Robinson was appointed by the Chair of Metro Vancouver to the Metro Vancouver Environment and Parks Committee. She also represented the City of Coquitlam on the Tri-Cities Homelessness Task Group and on the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable.

Prior to life in politics she worked for SHARE Family and Community Services as the Director of Development, a role that provided her with a solid understanding of community issues and helped her to develop relationships with community leaders and others who live, work and play in Coquitlam. MLA Robinson has a Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology and have spent most of her professional life working with individuals, families and communities in the non-profit sector.

### **Other Presentations and Concurrent Sessions**

#### **Climate Change – The Problem and Imperative of Our Times**

This presentation will examine all aspects of the climate change complex important to politicians, municipal staff and the general public.

After a brief description of climate change history and science, the presentation moves on to look at likely scenarios society faces. The strong possibility that predictions from computer models are too conservative is examined with particular attention paid to the role of "feedback" mechanisms. Next, the presentation reviews problems that climate change presents including: sea level rise, acidification of the oceans, shifting habitats and species extinction, increases in extreme weather events, changing climatic patterns, loss of "glacial water", massive global increase in refugees and shifts in disease vectors.

The presentation concludes by describing transformative changes we must accomplish in our communities including: planning for "adaptive measures" and recognizing the URGENT need to massively address mitigation. The "New Industrial Revolution" and the "non carbon economy" it will create receive particular emphasis.

*Presenter: Vic Derman, Councillor, District of Saanich and Director, Capital Regional District*

#### **Collaborating For Community Health**

Dr. Paul Hasselback is the Medical Health Officer for Central Vancouver Island. Since 1990 he has also held Medical Health Officer positions in the BC Interior, Southwestern Alberta, Calgary and Regina. He is a specialist in public health and preventive medicine who trained in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal and was in family practice in rural Saskatchewan for four years. He has a Master's of Science in Epidemiology and is a Clinical Associate Professor at University of British Columbia and Affiliate Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Victoria.

Dr. Hasselback has over 25 peer reviewed publications and has done over 130 public health related presentations. In 2000 he was awarded the Canadian Public Health Association award for "an individual who has significantly advanced the cause, legitimized and stressed the responsibility for the state of the art of the public health". In 2010 he was awarded the National Specialist Society for Community Medicine President's Award for contributions to the specialty. He is the past chair of the Health Officer's Council of British Columbia.

In his presentation Dr. Hasselback will discuss how communities, agencies and others can collaborate to improve the health conditions across Vancouver Island.

*Presenter: Dr. Paul Hasselback, Medical Health Officer, Island Health*

### **Eco-Assets: Nature's Role as Municipal Infrastructure**

The Town of Gibsons has recognized, formally and in practice, that nature, and the ecosystems services that it provides, are a fundamental and integral part of the Town's infrastructure system. Gibsons is one of the first communities in North America to do so. The Town is blessed with valuable natural assets such as the Gibsons Aquifer which provides high quality untreated drinking water; three major creeks that are a major part of the rainwater management system; and a foreshore area, still mostly natural that protects the area from sea activity. Other natural assets include forested areas, green space and soil.

Natural assets are considered cheaper to operate; can last indefinitely, if properly managed; and are carbon neutral, and in some cases can be carbon positive. It is important to differentiate green infrastructure, which is designed and built to mimic nature, such as a rain garden, from a natural asset such as a creek. Gibsons is also creating sub-categories in asset lists and financial statements to include Eco-Assets and implementing a strategy to manage these assets specifically.

"Ultimately, the Town's goal is to move from simply maintaining infrastructure to a service delivery model, where those services are delivered by the smallest number, the most natural, most energy energy-efficient, and the most reliable municipal assets, that cost the least to operate over the long term.

*Presenters: Emanuel Machado, Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Gibsons and Dave Newman, Director of Engineering, Town of Gibsons*

### **Private Managed Forest Land Act**

This presentation is an excellent opportunity for delegates to receive an update on the activities, issues and mandate of the Private Managed Forest Land Council. The presentation will include a brief history of the Private Managed Forest Land Act and the Private Managed Forest Land Council. Delegates will learn about such topics as; management objectives on Private Managed Forest Land, legislation & regulations, the difference between private managed land forestry vs. crown land forestry and provide an opportunity to ask questions.

*Presenters: Rod Davis, Chair, Private Managed Forest Land Council; Phil O'Connor, Executive Director, Private Managed Forest Land Council*

### **An Overview of Changes to Local Government Election Legislation**

This plenary session will provide participants with practical information on expected changes to local government elections legislation (i.e. elections rules that candidates should expect for the 2014 local government elections). The session will feature an introduction from Parliamentary Secretary Linda Reimer, followed by a presentation by Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Staff who will provide more detailed information on the elections changes expected for 2014. Delegates can expect to hear about such matters as; registration by third-party advertisers, sponsorship information requirements for all election advertising, campaign finance disclosure statements to be filed 90 days, rather than 120, following an election, banning anonymous contributions, creating a role for Elections BC in the compliance and enforcement of campaign finance rules in municipal elections. The session will also provide an opportunity for discussion and question and answers for participants.

*Presenters: Linda Reimer, Parliamentary Secretary; Heather Brazier, Executive Lead, Integrated Policy, Legislation & Operations Division*

## 2014-15 AVICC EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

Mayor Larry Cross  
Town of Sidney

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Councillor Cindy Solda  
City of Port Alberni

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Councillor Barbara Price  
Town of Comox

ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Director Mary Marcotte  
Cowichan Valley Regional District

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Councillor Jessie Hemphill  
District of Port Hardy

Councillor Claire Moglove  
City of Campbell River

Councillor Andrew Mostad  
District of Lantzville

PAST PRESIDENT

Chair Joe Stanhope  
Regional District of Nanaimo