

**Association of
Vancouver Island and
Coastal Communities**



MINUTES OF THE 66th ANNUAL CONVENTION

**Courtenay, BC
April 10 - 12, 2015**

2014-15 AVICC EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT	Councillor Barbara Price Town of Comox
FIRST VICE PRESIDENT	Vacant
SECOND VICE PRESIDENT	Vacant
ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE	Director Mary Marcotte Cowichan Valley Regional District
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE	Councillor Jessie Hemphill District of Port Hardy
ACTING DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE	Director Edwin Grieve Comox Valley Regional District
	Councillor Carl Jensen District of Central Saanich
	Mayor Josie Osborne District of Tofino
	Director Colin Palmer Powell River Regional District
PAST PRESIDENT	Chair Joe Stanhope Regional District of Nanaimo

Thank you to the following members who completed their term November 30, 2014:

- Mayor Larry Cross, Town of Sidney (President)
- Councillor Cindy Solda, City of Port Alberni (1st Vice President)
- Councillor Claire Moglove, City of Campbell River (Director at Large)
- Councillor Andrew Mostad, District of Lantzville (Director at Large)

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ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION COURTENAY, BC APRIL 10, 11 AND 12, 2015

PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The Friday morning pre-conference program began at 8:30 a.m. with two programs being offered:

- Study Tour of the North Island Hospitals Project and Vancouver Island Visitor Centre (17 registrants)
- Building Cultural Bridges: Reconciliation in Action offered by John Rampanen (70 registrants)

CONVENTION OPENING SESSION – FRIDAY, 1:45 PM

Pipe Major Bill Quig and the Courtenay Fire Department Honor Guard led the parade of AVICC Executive and honoured guests onto the platform of the Main Hall of the Florence Filberg Centre. President Barbara Price called the 66th Annual Meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities to order at 1:45 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2015 with 196 voting delegates; 20 non-voting delegates including 5 life members; 10 MLA's and MP's; and 27 sponsor delegates in attendance.

Miss Keisja Cox led the assembly in singing the National Anthem. President Price thanked Miss Cox and recognized the City of Courtenay's Fire Department Honor Guard for participating in the ceremony and for the service to communities provided by them and their fellow fire fighters. Andy Everson of the K'omoks and Kwakwaka'wakw First Nation provided the welcome and invocation. The K'mugwe Dancers performed several traditional dances.

President Price then introduced the AVICC Executive. Mayor Larry Jangula welcomed delegates on behalf of the host community and introduced members of the Courtenay Council in attendance. President Price recognized MP's Jean Crowder and Elizabeth May, and MLA's Selina Robinson, Nicholas Simons, Bill Routley, Rob Fleming, Leonard Krog, Scott Fraser and John Horgan who were expected to attend segments of the Convention and further noted that Mr. Horgan would be speaking Sunday morning in his role of Leader of the Official Opposition.

President Price drew delegates' attention to the *Supplementary Materials Package* they received at registration, noting that a full and thought provoking program was planned, recognized the importance of the sponsors, highlighted the Tradeshow, and announced that it was time to get started on the business of the Convention and asked Executive and distinguished guests to move to the reserved seats at the front of the hall.

President Price then invited AVICC Director at Large Jessie Hemphill to facilitate a short networking activity.

FIRST REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At 2:25 p.m., President Barbara Price invited Past President Joe Stanhope, Chair of the Nominating Committee to present the first report from the Nominating Committee. Past President Stanhope brought delegates' attention to the Nominating Committee Report included in their *Supplementary Materials Package* reporting that nominations received in advance of the February 23, 2015 deadline were as follows:

For President:	Councillor Barbara Price, Town of Comox
For First Vice-President:	Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District
For Second Vice-President:	Director Edwin Grieve, Comox Valley Regional District
For Director at Large:	Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy

Councillor Carl Jensen, District of Central Saanich
Mayor Josie Osborne, District of Tofino
Director Colin Palmer, Powell River Regional District
None

For Electoral Area Representative:

Delegates were directed to the Convention program for times of nominations and elections, that elections when required would take place in the Upper 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 2:30 p.m., Past President Joe Stanhope introduced Tonia S. Winchester, Former Deputy Campaign Director, Washington State Initiative 502. Ms. Winchester spoke for approximately 45 minutes followed by 15 minutes of delegate questions and answers. See Appendix C for a descriptor of the session. Director Jessie Hemphill thanked Ms. Winchester.

The Convention adjourned at 3:30 p.m. for a refreshment break sponsored by KPMG and reconvened at 3:50 p.m.

PROVINCIAL ADDRESS BY PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY LINDA REIMER

Acting Director Josie Osborne introduced Parliamentary Secretary Linda Reimer. Ms. Reimer addressed delegates which focused on providing an update on the Special Committee on Expense Limits. Ms. Reimer responded to some questions. Acting Director Colin Palmer thanked Ms. Reimer with a gift.

SECOND REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR TABLE OFFICERS

At 4:20 p.m., Past President Joe 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:	Councillor Barbara Price, Town of Comox
For First Vice-President:	Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District
For Second Vice-President:	Director Edwin Grieve, Comox Valley Regional District

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

FUTURE OF BC FERRIES WORKSHOP

Acting Director Edwin Grieve introduced AVICC Acting Director, Chair of the Regional District Coastal Ferry Group and Director of the Powell River Regional District Colin Palmer; and Alison Morse, Bowen Island Municipal Councillor, Islands Trust Council Trustee and Co-chair of the Ferry Advisory Committee. The session provided an overview of the BC Ferry Commissioner's preliminary decision for price caps that will apply to coastal ferry fares for 2016-2020 and the resulting potential implications. It also provided background on the Coastal Regional District Chairs Group's work and recent meetings with the Minister and the Ferry Commissioner. The session ended with a short delegate question and answer opportunity. The handouts of the Powerpoint presentation are posted on <http://avicc.ca/2015-minutes/> and full description of the session is in Appendix C. Past President Joe Stanhope thanked the presenters with a gift.

END OF DAY WRAP-UP

President Barbara Price wrapped up the business of the day by recognizing Dave Hurley, Executive Director of University Relations and Ralph Nilson, President of Vancouver Island University thanking them for sponsoring the Friday evening Welcome Reception and noting that Vancouver Island University was participating with a

booth in the Tradeshow encouraging delegates to stop by. The options for breakfast were highlighted including the working breakfast on Regulation of Forest Management Activities on Private Managed Forest Lands and advised that the main program would begin at 8:30 a.m. with the Annual Meeting followed by the first Resolutions Session.

WELCOME RECEPTION

The Welcome Reception sponsored by Vancouver Island University was held in the Native Sons Hall. Approximately 275 delegates, sponsors and their guests attended with opportunities to network and visit the Tradeshow exhibits. Background music was provided by Fiddlejam, an eclectic group of musicians who played old time, celtic, bluegrass and country and swing music.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2015

A networking breakfast sponsored by ICBC was served from 7:15 - 8:15 a.m. in the Native Sons Hall. The working breakfast session was held in the Rotary Hall of the Florence Filberg Centre.

FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES ON PRIVATE MANAGED FOREST LANDS WORKING BREAKFAST

Electoral Area Representative Mary Marcotte welcomed approximately 80 delegates to the session being held in the Rotary Hall and introduced Chair Rod Davis and Executive Director Phil O'Connor of the Managed Forest Council. Mr. Davis discussed the Managed Forest Council's role as the regulator of forest management practices on private managed forest land and was followed by an opportunity for delegates to ask questions. The handouts of the Powerpoint presentation are posted on <http://avicc.ca/2015-minutes/> and detailed descriptor of the session is available in Appendix C. Acting Director Edwin Grieve thanked Mr. Davis with a gift.

The Convention re-convened at 8:30 a.m. in the Filberg Main Hall with President Barbara Price welcoming delegates to a new day; recognizing and thanking the following sponsors: BC Hydro, Municipal Finance Authority, BC Assessment, Western Forest Products, Shaw Communications and Canadian Wood Council; as well as general thank you to Tradeshow participants and community.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At 8:35 a.m., President Barbara Price 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 65th Annual Meeting of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities held in Qualicum Beach and Parksville, April 11-13, 2014, as electronically posted and distributed, were adopted.

ANNUAL REPORT

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

President Price presented the Audited Financial Statements of the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities for the year ending December 31, 2014 (Appendix B).

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

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.

2015 BUDGET

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the 2015 budget be received and that the membership approve a 2% dues increase was adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

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

- Mr. Brian Carruthers, CAO, Cowichan Valley Regional District
- Ms. Heather Nelson-Smith, CAO, Alert Bay
- Ms. Talitha Soldera, Director of Finance, Duncan
- Ms. Darla Blake, CAO, Central Coast Regional District
- Ms. Linda Adams, CAO, Islands Trust
- Mr. Gary MacIsaac, UBCM Executive Director

was adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARIAN

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

2016 AGM & CONVENTION LOCATION

On regular motion, duly moved and seconded, that the City of Nanaimo be awarded host community for the 2016 AGM & Convention, was adopted.

PRINCIPAL POLICY SESSION - RESOLUTIONS

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

Team #1 Past President Joe Stanhope (Chair)
EA Representative Mary Marcotte
A/Director Colin Palmer
A/Director Carl Jensen

Team #2 President Barbara Price (Chair)
Director Jessie Hemphill
A/Director Edwin Grieve
A/Director Josie Osborne

Drawing delegates' attention to the conference rules and procedures for handling resolutions as printed in the *Supplementary Materials Package*, Past President Joe Stanhope 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 with Past President Joe Stanhope in the Chair. He was joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members: Electoral Area Representative Mary Marcotte, Acting Director Colin Palmer, Acting Director Carl Jensen, and Parliamentarian Lorena Staples.

PART SR - SPECIAL RESOLUTION

**SR1 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities AVICC Executive
Annual General Meeting and Convention Timing**

WHEREAS prior to selecting Convention dates for 2017-2019, the AVICC Executive would like the membership to consider whether the Friday to Sunday timing is still the most effective;

AND WHEREAS a number of potential impacts and other background has been provided in Appendix A below;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities maintain the present timing of its Annual General Meeting and Convention which is Friday afternoon though to noon on Sunday, allowing for an optional Pre-Convention Program on the Friday morning.

ON MOTION was ENDORSED

PART 1 – REFERRED RESOLUTIONS

There were no referred resolutions in 2015.

PART 2 – RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE

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

LEGISLATIVE

R1 Candidates for Local Government Elections to Run in One Jurisdiction Only Town of View Royal

WHEREAS the simultaneous running for local government office by a candidate in multiple jurisdictions makes a mockery of the election process;

AND WHEREAS there is currently no mechanism in local government elections-related legislation to prohibit the simultaneous running for local government office by a candidate in multiple jurisdictions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia be requested to amend Part 3 of the *Local Government Act* to add a prohibition on the simultaneous running for local government office by a candidate in multiple jurisdictions.

ON MOTION was ENDORSED

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R2 ICET Funding City of Campbell River, Strathcona Regional District, Town of Port McNeill

WHEREAS the Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET) has expended nearly all of its original capitalization;

AND WHEREAS the \$50 million fund has been the key factor enabling ICET to leverage significant levels of other government, nongovernment and private sector funding resulting in important gains for the people, businesses and communities in the AVICC region;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that AVICC petition the Provincial Government to renew the Island Coastal Economic Trust by recapitalizing the Trust to its original level.

ON MOTION was ENDORSED

FINANCE

R3 Land Title Fees

Regional District of Nanaimo

WHEREAS local governments rely on land title records and survey plans from the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC (LTSA) in their day to day operations beyond those searches conducted for assessment or taxation purposes;

AND WHEREAS the transition from BC Online to myLTSA has limited the fee exemption to land title register searches conducted for taxation and assessment purposes only, resulting in significant additional costs to local governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Land Title and Survey Authority of BC to charge local governments for accessing records in a consistent manner to that of BC Online;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Province to, if necessary to achieve the above, amend the *Land Title Act* to expand the purposes under which a local government can search the records of the land title office without charge.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended to remove the first enactment clause was endorsed.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Province to amend the *Land Title Act* to expand the purposes under which a local government can search the records of the land title office without charge.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

TRANSPORTATION

R4 Funding for Road Maintenance

Village of Zeballos

WHEREAS road infrastructure, the lifeline to many coastal communities, is not under the care and control of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, but rather entrusted to profit oriented industry.

AND WHEREAS funding levels driven by stumpage and royalties are no longer adequate to sustain and maintain coastal road infrastructure to "community use" standard as expected by the travelling public.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Provincial Government be required to re-evaluate stumpage rates and apply an increased operating budget to support additional maintenance funding to the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations who is responsible for many of these coastal community lifelines.

The friendly amendment to add **for forest roads accessing communities** after "additional maintenance funding" was accepted.

The motion, as amended, then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the British Columbia Provincial Government be required to re-evaluate stumpage rates and apply an increased operating budget to support additional maintenance funding for forest roads accessing communities to the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations who is responsible for many of these coastal community lifelines.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R5 Development of an Emergency Response Seismic Mitigation Fund

City of Powell River

WHEREAS in 1921 the Province of British Columbia initiated collection of a tax of 4.4% of gross property and vehicle insurance premiums (Insurance Premium Tax) equal to approximately \$450M per year to offset the cost of administering the Fire Marshalls Act, later the Fire Services Act;

AND WHEREAS the March 2014 Auditor General's Report concluded that British Columbia was not adequately prepared for a catastrophic seismic event and it is anticipated that seismic upgrading will be one of the included recommendations contained in the report of Henry Renteria, Chair of the BC Earthquake Preparedness Consultation that has been received by the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities forward a motion to the 2015 Union of BC Municipalities Conference requesting:

THAT the Provincial Government establish an Emergency Response Seismic Mitigation Fund; and further

THAT the Provincial Government allocate \$190,000,000 annually from the Insurance Premium Tax to the fund; and further

THAT up to \$1,000,000 of the fund be made available annually to each of the 190 local government jurisdictions in British Columbia for the purpose of seismic upgrading of municipal emergency response buildings.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the final enactment clause of the resolution be amended to change "municipal" to "local government" and add "including emergency reception centres" at the end.

The amended resolution then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities forward a motion to the 2015 Union of BC Municipalities Conference requesting:

THAT the Provincial Government establish an Emergency Response Seismic Mitigation Fund; and further

THAT the Provincial Government allocate \$190,000,000 annually from the Insurance Premium Tax to the fund; and further

THAT up to \$1,000,000 of the fund be made available annually to each of the 190 local government jurisdictions in British Columbia for the purpose of seismic upgrading of local government emergency response buildings including emergency reception centres.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

R6 National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women

City of Victoria

WHEREAS Indigenous women and girls in Canada have been murdered or have gone missing at a rate four times higher than non-indigenous women, despite aboriginal women constituting less than five per cent of the Canadian population;

AND WHEREAS the homicide rate in the past decade is roughly seven time higher for Indigenous women and girls than for all other women and girls in Canada;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and Union of British Columbia Municipalities requests that the Federal Government convene a national inquiry into the widespread and severe violence faced by Indigenous women and girls in Canada.

AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT AVICC/UBCM encourage member local governments to work together, in collaboration with Indigenous women's organizations, to institute a comprehensive response to the widespread and severe violence faced by Indigenous women and girls.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

TAXATION

R7 Increasing Corporate Income Tax Rates

Cowichan Valley Regional District

WHEREAS local governments are heavily reliant on property taxes and need to diversify their revenue sources;

AND WHEREAS income tax sharing arrangements are common between senior and local government in other jurisdictions and British Columbia has the second lowest corporation tax rate of all provinces and territories;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of British Columbia be urged to increase the corporation tax rate by 1% on large corporations as defined by the Province and transfer any revenue from that tax increase to the local government level.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

ENVIRONMENT

R8 Vancouver Island Coordinated Solid Waste Strategy

**City of Campbell River,
Strathcona Regional District**

WHEREAS regional districts on Vancouver Island are struggling with the financial implications of managing solid waste, and the demand for diversion programs is increasing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities undertake an assessment to determine the feasibility of a Vancouver Island-wide solid waste service.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended to include "Vancouver Island **and Coastal Communities**".

The resolution then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities undertake an assessment to determine the feasibility of a Vancouver Island and coastal communities solid waste service.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

R9 Warning Labels for All Fossil Based Liquid Fuels

City of Colwood

WHEREAS there is evidence that combustion of petroleum products such as gas and diesel used in vehicles contribute to greenhouse gas emissions that affect natural systems in ways that are injurious to human health and to the natural environment upon which we all depend for food and life;

AND WHEREAS sea level rise resulting from greenhouse gas emissions will cause significant harm to coastal communities

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities support, and will implement where possible, legislation to require retailers of petroleum products to provide plastic sleeves (nozzle toppers) with warning labels on pump handles for all fossil based liquid fuels.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R10 Environmental Bill of Rights

City of Victoria, Town of Ladysmith

WHEREAS municipalities and regional districts are the governments nearest to people and the natural environment, and therefore share a deep concern for the welfare of the natural environment and understand that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the health of individuals, families, future generations and communities;

AND WHEREAS fostering the environmental well-being of the community is a municipal purpose under section 7(d) of the Community Charter and a regional district purpose under section 2(d) of the *Local Government Act*;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia enact a provincial environmental bill of rights to fulfill the right of every resident to live in a healthy environment by ensuring access to information, public participation in decision making, and access to effective remedies, and without limitation to allow a resident to:

- comment on environmentally significant government proposals,
- ask a ministry or local government to review an existing law, policy, or program,
- ask a ministry, crown agency, or local government to investigate harm to the natural environment,
- appeal, or ask a ministry or local government to review, a decision under an enactment,
- propose a new law, regulation, policy, or program to protect the natural environment,
- use courts or tribunals to protect the environment, and
- have whistleblower protection.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R11 Declaration Of The Right To A Healthy Environment

**District of Saanich
District of Central Saanich**

WHEREAS the David Suzuki Foundation Blue Dot Tour has inspired many Canadians to request that the right to a healthy environment be enshrined in the Charter of Rights and Freedoms through support of the following motion;

AND WHEREAS the District of Saanich understands that people are part of the environment and that a healthy environment is inextricably linked to the well-being of our community;

AND WHEREAS the Saanich Official Community Plan provides a strong policy foundation to pursue actions and initiatives that contribute toward a healthy environment;

AND WHEREAS Saanich has the opportunity to endorse the Declaration of the Right to a Healthy Environment, joining other Canadian cities in re-affirming our commitment to social, environmental and economic sustainability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AVICC endorse the following declaration:

That all people have the right to live in a healthy environment, including:

- The right to breathe clean air;
- The right to drink clean water;
- The right to consume safe food;
- The right to access nature;
- The right to know about pollutants and contaminants released into the local environment;
- The right to participate in decision-making that will affect the environment

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the endorsed declaration be provided to the Union of BC Municipalities for consideration at their 2015 convention.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

HEALTH

R12 Rural Out-Patient Accommodation

Village of Tahsis

WHEREAS health care services for smaller, rural and remote communities witness the transportation of patients to hospitals in larger urban centres by ambulance and those patients, once discharged, must make other arrangements to return to their communities and therefore require temporary accommodation.

AND WHEREAS a broad spectrum of patients from remote communities undergoing chemotherapy treatment, day surgery, child birth, and the like, are also in need of temporary accommodation; and given that BC Ministry of Health goals include the key action to “work with rural communities, including First Nations, to implement a renewed approach to providing quality health care services across rural and remote areas.”

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities appeal to the provincial government to make every effort in providing support, whether through direct funding, initiatives or policy, to organizations that are undertaking the development of lands and other hard assets in the establishment of rural out-patient accommodation.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

The Convention adjourned briefly at 10:00 a.m. for a refreshment break sponsored by Private Forest Landowners Association and reconvened at 10:20 a.m. with President Barbara Price in the Chair. She was joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members Director Jessie Hemphill, Acting Director Edwin Grieve, Acting Director Josie Osborne, and Parliamentarian Lorena Staples.

SELECTED ISSUES

R13 Smart Meters Fire Hazard

Village of Tahsis

WHEREAS smart meters appear to have a significant fire hazard risk as reported from jurisdictions all over North America, particularly in areas susceptible to high precipitation, and for that reason are under moratorium or are even being removed in many places, and also given that a progressive installation and study was overlooked in favour of a blanket rollout installation in British Columbia,

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Minister responsible provide statistical evidence proving beyond any doubt that the smart meters currently in use in BC are equal to or superior to analog meters in accuracy, cause no harmful radiation, meet or exceed Canadian Safety Standards, in no way cause or contribute to an increased risk of fire under less than ideal conditions and are in fact, as safe as, or safer than analog meters,

AND FURTHER THAT if the Minister is unable to do so, that BC Hydro be required to provide the option of retrofit with an analog meter, at no cost to the customer, in order to mitigate any safety hazards/concerns, without delay.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution be amended to remove “**proving beyond any doubt**” was endorsed.

The motion then read:

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that the Minister responsible provide statistical evidence proving that the smart meters currently in use in BC are equal to or superior to analog meters in accuracy, cause no harmful radiation, meet or exceed Canadian Safety Standards, in no way cause or contribute to an increased risk of fire under less than ideal conditions and are in fact, as safe as, or safer than analog meters,

AND FURTHER THAT if the Minister is unable to do so, that BC Hydro be required to provide the option of retrofit with an analog meter, at no cost to the customer, in order to mitigate any safety hazards/concerns, without delay.

ON MOTION, as amended, was DEFEATED

R14 Proposed Site C Hydroelectric Dam

City of Victoria

WHEREAS the proposed Site C hydroelectric dam project on the Peace River has raised issues including the potential impact on BC Hydro ratepayers and provincial taxpayers, as well as the potential impacts on agricultural, environmental, aboriginal and municipal interests;

AND WHEREAS the District of Hudson's Hope and Peace River Regional District have requested a proper review of the project before any construction or development activities proceed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province of British Columbia refer the proposed Site C hydroelectric dam project to the BC Utilities Commission for review and consultation prior to any construction and development activities proceeding.

ON MOTION, 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, duly moved and seconded, that all of the resolutions be removed from the block was endorsed.

LEGISLATIVE

R15 Regional District Charter

Regional District of Nanaimo

WHEREAS the Final Report from the Regional District Task Force entitled "Enhancing the Tools for Problem Solving in Regions" was presented to the members of the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and to the Province in January 2010;

AND WHEREAS one of the recommendations of the Task Force was "that the Province consider the Task Force consultation finding that a number of RD elected officials are requesting an "RD Charter";

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province be urged to continue the work started with the enactment of the *Community Charter* and proceed with a full review of Regional District legislation with a goal to enact a Regional District Charter or incorporate Regional District legislation fully within the *Community Charter*.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R16 Modernization of *Local Government Act*

Cowichan Valley Regional District

WHEREAS enactment of the Community Charter in 2003 has created an imbalance of powers and authorities between municipalities and the regional districts in which they participate; and

WHEREAS many of the regional district powers and authorities provided by the *Local Government Act* do not adequately address the current realities and complexities of regional governance in BC;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC and Union of BC Municipalities strongly encourage the Province to act upon its commitment to modernize and harmonize the legislation governing regional districts.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R17 Provincial Government – Re-examine Log Export Policy Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

WHEREAS Coastal log exports increased 65% by volume from 2010 levels to 6,348,674 m3 in 2013 and the Coast represents 90.6% of total log export volume in the province of BC;

AND WHEREAS the coastal forest industry has grown dependent upon log exports with unintended consequences to the manufacturing sector;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities request the Provincial Government re-examine the Log Export Policy and the impact this policy has on the Coastal Forest Industry, and that the Provincial Government investigate options for modifying the Log Export Policy in light of the increased Coastal Log Exports over the last several years.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

FINANCE

R18 Provincial Sales Tax Revenue Rebates For Local Governments Town Of Lake Cowichan

WHEREAS local governments depend almost wholly on property taxation to fund municipal services and are currently facing infrastructure deficits of enormous proportions;

AND WHEREAS local governments and their taxpayers are unnecessarily burdened with sales tax charges on the purchase of all goods and services that include emergency equipment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Province be petitioned to provide local governments full rebates of sales taxes on all purchases made as are provided by the Federal Government for the goods and services taxes(GST) paid by local governments with no commensurate reduction of current revenue sharing programs.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R19 Establishment of a Provincial Fund to Support Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District Search and Rescue

WHEREAS capital and non-operational funding for Search and Rescue in BC is not consistent, equitable, or rationally allocated and SAR organizations bear the large administrative burden of applying to myriad sources, including local governments, on an annual basis;

AND WHEREAS a 2012 Coroner's Inquest jury recommended that Emergency Management BC review and evaluate funding models to better support SAR operations, and in 2013 the BC Search and Rescue Association recommended a new funding model to EMBC that would provide adequate, predictable and sustainable funding through the establishment and management of a provincial fund;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM urge the Province to support BCSARA's proposal for the development of a provincial SAR fund and that the Province undertake necessary consultation with local governments and other stakeholders to develop, establish, and implement the fund as soon as possible.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R20 Provincial Funding for Police-Based Victim Services

Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

WHEREAS the Province does not fully fund police-based victim service programs due to its position that programs should be cost-shared with local governments in communities that contribute to their policing costs;

AND WHEREAS the property taxation system does not provide an equitable method of funding victim services and local governments have no funding formula to allocate funds in a coordinated manner that is responsive to demand for victim services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM continue to lobby the Province to fully fund police-based victim service programs, using a model that equitably and fairly distributes funding across the province.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

REGIONAL DISTRICTS

R21 Tree Protection Bylaws in Identified Urban Expansion Areas

City of Courtenay

WHEREAS Regional Districts are prohibited by law from creating Tree Protection Bylaws;

AND WHEREAS unincorporated areas of Regional Districts include working forests, which are regulated provincially both on public and private land, precluding local/regional regulation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities lobby the Province to permit Regional Districts to institute Tree Protections Bylaws in identified urban expansion areas.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

The Second Resolution Session was then adjourned at approximately 11:23 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 Sue Powell, City of Parksville and Councillor Darren Inkster, District of Sechelt were nominated. Those nominated at the close of the nominations for Director at Large were:

Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy
Councillor Darren Inkster, District of Sechelt
Councillor Carl Jensen, District of Central Saanich
Mayor Josie Osborne, District of Tofino
Director Colin Palmer, Powell River Regional District
Councillor Sue Powell, 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. President Stanhope then advised that the polls would be available and balloting would occur from 12:45-1:30 p.m. in the Upper Foyer noting that results would be communicated at 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

PRESENTATION BY FORTIS BC

Past President Joe Stanhope provided some background on the natural gas operating agreement file for the benefit of the newly elected delegates. He noted that the Association has been working on the file for more than three years including advocating on behalf of members on two BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) applications with the result of reducing natural gas costs in the region by greater than 20% and currently working through the final BCUC application to approve the pro forma operating agreement that will allow members to implement

operating fees. Members were again thanked for their advocacy with the following key staff being recognized: Steve Ricketts, City of Nanaimo, Paul Murray, formerly of District of Saanich and Jerry Berry, Consultant hired by FortisBC to work with local governments. He then introduced Gord Schoberg, Senior Manager, Municipal and Aboriginal Relations, and thanked FortisBC for their continued sponsorship of the Delegates' Luncheon. Gord Schoberg then provided some highlights FortisBC is working on in the region including initiatives to lower gas rates, bring in higher revenues for municipalities and create a more efficient and safer natural gas system. Electoral Area Representative Marcotte thanked Mr. Schoberg with a gift and announced that lunch will be served immediately.

The Convention adjourned for lunch shortly after 12:00 noon.

DELEGATES LUNCHEON

The Delegates Luncheon was sponsored by FortisBC. Dessert and coffee was served from 12:45 – 1:30 p.m. in the Native Sons Hall to allow delegates one final opportunity to visit the Tradeshow. The polling station for election of the positions of Directors-at-Large opened from 12:45–1:30 p.m. in the Upper Foyer.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Six one hour concurrent workshops were held between 1:30-4:00 p.m. with a refreshment break scheduled from 2:30-3:00 p.m.:

- #1 Why Municipal Support is Necessary: Building Strong Communities Through Affordable Housing (*Front of Main Hall*)
- #2 Wastewater Treatment/Resource Recovery Advances (*Back of Main Hall*)
- #3 & #4 Open Space Workshop (*Rotary Hall*)
- #5 Planning for Island-wide Intermodal Transportation (*Front of Main Hall*)
- #6 Converting Waste to Energy: How does it work? What does it cost? What are the impacts? (*Back of Main Hall*)

The handouts from the Powerpoint presentations can be downloaded from <http://avicc.ca/2015-minutes/>.

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

ANNUAL BANQUET

The Annual Banquet for delegates and guests was held at the Main Hall of the Florence Filberg Centre. Delegates and their guests, gathered from 6:15-7:15 p.m. in the Courtenay Museum for the pre-banquet reception sponsored by the Vancouver Island Health Authority.

Shortly before 7:30 p.m., approximately 250 delegates and guests took their seats in the Filberg Main Hall. Pipe Major Bill Quig led the parade of AVICC Executive and honoured guests into the front of the Main Hall where delegates and guests were gathered. President Barbara Price thanked Pipe Major Stanfield for contributing to the ceremonies of the Convention and welcomed delegates and guests. The Vancouver Island Health Authority was thanked for sponsoring the Pre-Banquet Reception, as was BC Transit and the Comox Valley Regional District for providing the bus transportation.

Following dinner, President Barbara Price thanked the Tria Fine Catering chef and staff for the dinner service and for the Friday evening Welcome Reception. The Association of Mineral Exploration BC and Geoscience BC was thanked for their sponsorship of the Annual Banquet wine service.

Young adult singer/songwriter Keisja Cox was introduced. Keisja performed for approximately 30 minutes and received a resounding ovation. President Price thanked her for her contribution to the evening's program.

President Price then introduced the following life members in attendance:

- Ron Webber, past president from Courtenay in 1992-93
- Gillian Trumper, past president from Port Alberni in 1985-86

- Mary Ashley, past president from Campbell River in 2004-05
- Christopher Causton, past president from Oak Bay in 2011
- Larry Cross, past president from Sidney in 2014

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

President Price again thanked Mayor Jangula and Courtenay Council for hosting the 2015 AVICC AGM & Convention. Susan Karvalics and John Ward, as host community staff, were thanked and presented with thank you gifts.

President Price then thanked the BC Lottery Corporation for their continued sponsorship of the Annual Banquet Entertainment. BCLC Director of Public Affairs Greg Walker was introduced. He then took a moment to say a few words on behalf of BCLC before introducing John Reynolds, the evening's main entertainer. Mr. Reynolds, a comedian, singer and songwriter, then performed for approximately 50 minutes. The evening program wrapped up at approximately 10:30 p.m. Delegates and guests were shuttled back to their hotels with the complimentary service provided by BC Transit and the Comox Valley Regional District.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2015

A hot breakfast sponsored by Municipal Insurance Association was served in the Filberg Centre's Rotary Hall and Evergreen Lounge from 7:15 - 8:15 a.m.

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

FOURTH REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR

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

Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy
Councillor Carl Jensen, District of Central Saanich
Mayor Josie Osborne, District of Tofino

Past President Joe Stanhope then called for nominations from the floor for the position of Electoral Area Representative. Nominated at the close of nominations for Electoral Area Representative was:

Director Noba Anderson, Strathcona Regional District
Director Julian Fell, Nanaimo Regional District
Director Ian Morrison, Cowichan Valley Regional District

At the conclusion of nominations, Past President Stanhope declared that an election would be required and that polls would be open in the Upper Foyer from 10:15-10:45 a.m. Each nominee was then provided with 2 minutes to address delegates.

ADDRESS BY BURNABY COUNCILLOR SAV DAHLIHAL, PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES

Acting Director Carl Jensen then introduced UBCM President Sav Dahliwal who spoke for approximately 20 minutes. President Dahliwal's remarks are annexed to these minutes as Appendix A. Acting Director Collin Palmer thanked President Dahliwal for his address with a gift.

FINAL RESOLUTIONS AND LATE RESOLUTIONS SESSION

Resolutions resumed at 9:00 a.m., with Past President Joe Stanhope in the Chair. He was joined at the head table by Resolutions Committee members: Electoral Area Representative Mary Marcotte, Acting Director Colin Palmer, Acting Director Carl Jensen, and Parliamentarian Lorena Staples.

ENVIRONMENT

R22 Expansion of Oil Tanker Traffic in Coastal BC Waters

District of Sooke

WHEREAS the result of the District of Sooke assent voting opportunity (community opinion) on November 15, 2014 was in the affirmative that the District of Sooke should join other municipalities in renewing and restating its opposition to the expansion of oil tanker traffic through British Columbia's coastal waters;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that District of Sooke renew and restate its opposition to the expansion of oil tanker traffic through British Columbia's coastal waters;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities request the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and Federation of Canadian Municipalities to continue to petition the provincial and federal governments to stop the expansion of oil tanker traffic through British Columbia's coastal waters.

The friendly amendment to change "**District of Sooke**" to "**the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities**" was accepted.

The motion then read:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities renew and restate its opposition to the expansion of oil tanker traffic through British Columbia's coastal waters;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities request the Union of British Columbia Municipalities and Federation of Canadian Municipalities to continue to petition the provincial and federal governments to stop the expansion of oil tanker traffic through British Columbia's coastal waters.

ON MOTION, as amended, was ENDORSED

R23 Trans Mountain Expansion Project

Township of Esquimalt

WHEREAS the Union of BC Municipalities endorsed Victoria's emergency resolution (LR2) in September 2014 calling on the Environmental Assessment Office of the Province of British Columbia to undertake its own Environmental Assessment process of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project and withdraw from the 2010 Equivalency Agreement with the National Energy Board (NEB), but no response has been received to date from the Province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Esquimalt Municipal Council affirms support for the 2014 UBCM resolution (LR2) calling on the Province of British Columbia to withdraw from the 2010 Equivalency Agreement with the NEB and undertake its own Environmental Assessment process of the Trans Mountain Expansion Project, with meaningful participation by First Nations, municipalities and all interested British Columbians;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities endorse UBCM motion LR2 and call for a prompt response and action by the Province.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R24 Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) Funding

Islands Trust

WHEREAS the UBCM members previously endorsed resolution 2013-B104 requesting that the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations adequately resource the Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership; and

WHEREAS in 2015 the Partnership will issue a 30-year Conservation Strategy for the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone, the most at risk zone in British Columbia, but has insufficient resources to implement the Strategy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC and the UBCM petition the provincial government to provide core, multi-year funding to the Partnership to assist its members to implement the Conservation Strategy with the Province, First Nations, local governments, the federal government, stakeholders, and the general public.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

R25 Management of Ungulate Populations

District of Oak Bay

WHEREAS the resources, authority and responsibility to manage ungulate populations is with the Province of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the combination of favourable habitats, no natural predators, and the inability to allow hunting have contributed to expanding urban deer populations and exacerbated the problem of human-deer conflict in urban areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities request that the Province of British Columbia provide resources, including Conservation Officers and Urban Wildlife Biologists, and build the necessary partnerships with Health Canada and local governments to address deer over population.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

SELECTED ISSUES

R26 Rural Tier Two Hydro Rates

Regional District of Mount Waddington, District of Port Hardy

WHEREAS BC Hydro has adopted a two tiered rate structure to encourage energy consideration with the lower rate threshold based on approximately 90% of the provincial median household consumption of electricity and this average is weighted from the consumption patterns of two-thirds of BC households that are able to use natural gas for their heating, hot water and cooking energy requirements;

AND WHEREAS the BC Utilities Commission (BCUC) reduced the upper price threshold charged by BC Hydro from the requested 1600 kilowatt hours to 1350 kilowatt hours for the bi-monthly billing period and most households in rural and remote communities do not have access to natural gas and cannot reduce their consumption by conservation measures sufficiently to avoid the higher tiered rate;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities request the BC Utilities Commission to review the BC Hydro residential electrical tariff structure and increase the amount of kilowatt hours that qualify for the lower rate in all areas that do not have natural gas service.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

PART 3 – LATE RESOLUTIONS

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the Late Resolutions Report be received was endorsed.

AVICC RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT ON RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE

A. LATE RESOLUTIONS: ADMIT FOR PLENARY DEBATE

LR1 Ministry of Energy and Mines Permitting

B. LATE RESOLUTIONS: NOT APPROPRIATE FOR DEBATE

None

LR1 Ministry of Energy and Mines Permitting

Cowichan Valley Regional District

WHEREAS the Ministry of Energy and Mines considers and approves applications for the purpose of ‘EXTRACTING’ sand and gravel resources;

AND WHEREAS local governments regulate land uses, such as ‘PROCESSING’ of resources, as authorized by the *Local Government Act* and *Community Charter*;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Minister of Energy and Mines direct the Ministry to require compliance with local government zoning bylaws as a permit condition, and order Ministry staff to cancel any permits and deny any applications that contravene duly authorized local government zoning bylaws.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

RESOLUTIONS OFF THE FLOOR

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution titled “Oil Spill Preparedness – English Bay Response” distributed to all members in attendance be admitted for discussion was endorsed.

OF1 Oil Spill Preparedness – English Bay Response

District of Sechelt

Whereas the oil spill event of April 8 2015, into English Bay, and the Salish Sea, demonstrated a clear lack of capacity to respond to oil spill events in British Columbia.

Whereas the long-term viability and economies of BC coastal communities are dependent, in part, upon the protection and preservation of the local marine environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the AVICC request that the Province of British Columbia order an independent audit of the current state of oil spill preparedness in BC.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the resolution titled “Increase Community Health Supports for Mental Health” distributed to all members in attendance be admitted for discussion was endorsed.

OF2 Increase Community Health Supports for Mental Health

WHEREAS support for community health services, such as integrated mental health diagnoses and treatment, have failed to keep pace with the needs of our communities; and

WHEREAS intervening and responding to mental health crises places a growing demand on policing services, which are funded by local governments in many communities, and which are not structured or intended to be used as health care providers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities and the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province of British Columbia increase the funding to health organizations to provide additional community health resources, and work with policing bodies to implement integrated response plans for mental health crises.

ON MOTION, was ENDORSED

Chair Stanhope thanked Parliamentarian, Lorena Staples for her advice and assistance; the scrutineers for their service; and delegates for their patience. The Third Resolutions Session was adjourned at approximately 9:30 am.

ADDRESS BY NDP MLA JOHN HORGAN

Director Jessie Hemphill introduced Mr. John Horgan, Juan de Fuca MLA and Leader of the Official Opposition. Mr. Horgan then addressed delegates followed by a brief opportunity for delegates to ask questions. Acting Director Edwin Grieve thanked Mr. Horgan with a gift.

The Convention adjourned at 10:15 a.m. for a refreshment break and reconvened at 10:45 a.m.

WHO'S COVERING YOUR ASSETS?

Acting Director Collin Palmer introduced Tom Barnes, CEO and General Counsel for the Municipal Insurance Association and thanked the Municipal Insurance Association for being long-time sponsors of the AVICC Convention. Mr. Barnes presented for approximately 45 minutes. The handouts of the Powerpoint presentation are posted on <http://avicc.ca/2015-minutes/>. Delegates had the opportunity to pose some questions. Acting Director Carl Jensen thanked Mr. Barnes with a gift.

FINAL BUSINESS SESSION

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

Past President Joe Stanhope, Chair of the Nominating Committee advised that Strathcona Regional District Director Noba Anderson was elected as Electoral Area Representative.

All those letting their names stand for election were thanked for their willingness to serve. Acting Director Collin Palmer was thanked for his service as interim director.

A motion, duly moved and seconded, that the ballots for Director-at-Large and Electoral Area Representative be destroyed, was endorsed.

Past President Joe Stanhope introduced the 2015-16 Executive and extended congratulations to them:

President	Councillor Barbara Price, Town of Comox
First Vice President	Director Mary Marcotte, Cowichan Valley Regional District
Second Vice President	Director Edwin Grieve, Comox Valley Regional District
Electoral Area Representative	Director Noba Anderson, Strathcona Regional District
Directors at Large	Councillor Jessie Hemphill, District of Port Hardy
	Councillor Carl Jensen, District of Central Saanich
	Mayor Josie Osborne, District of Tofino
Past President	Chair Joe Stanhope, Nanaimo RD

THE PRESIDENT ELECT'S REMARKS

President Barbara Price thanked the assembly for their support, noting that it was a privilege to represent AVICC members. She advised that she looked forward to working with her fellow executive and that they

formed a strong team. It was hoped that members had enjoyed the Convention and that they had learned something new and met someone new. She noted that the Executive has been listening to members' views and wishes for the future. Members were thanked for giving their time to participate in the Convention this year and wished them a safe trip home.

CONVENTION CLOSING

A final thank you was extended to the sponsors and the host community.

Councillor Doug Hillian, representative to the City of Courtenay's Centennial Committee, then thanked delegates for attending Convention noting that they had expressly intended to coincide with their centennial celebrations. He further advised that the main centennial event was homecoming week which is scheduled for June 26-July 5 highlighting the events being planned for the week inviting members to come back and help celebrate the occasion.

BC Ferries was thanked for their sponsorship in providing the Grand Prize Award of a Trip for Two for the Inside Passage Cruise Aboard BC Ferries. The winner was Esquimalt Councillor Linda Hundleby. The remaining door prize draws were also drawn and distributed, as was the draw for the Fit Bit for those that participated in the Saturday afternoon physical activity led by Mayor Josie Osborne.

President Barbara Price then presented AVICC Executive Coordinator Iris Hesketh-Boles with a bouquet of flowers thanking her for the work on this Convention and her work on behalf of AVICC.

Past President Joe Stanhope then invited Nanaimo Mayor Bill McKay to the podium. A short video presentation highlighting the City of Nanaimo was played for delegates. Mayor McKay noted the fantastic job done by previous host communities, noting that the City of Nanaimo was looking forward to working with staff over the next year, and encouraging delegates to plan to attend the 2016 Convention.

President Barbara Price then closed the 66th Annual Convention. The Convention adjourned at approximately 11:55 a.m.

Certified Correct

Iris Hesketh-Boles
AVICC Executive Coordinator

APPENDIX A – ADDRESS BY UBCM PRESIDENT

UBCM President Sav Dahliwal's Address to AVICC Delegates

Thank you Carl and good morning delegates.

Let me begin by offering congratulations to Central Saanich, North Saanich and Sidney for Panorama Rec Centre being named "*Hockeyville 2015*". That's a credit to the high level of engagement in your communities with the recreational services you provide.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide an update on the work of UBCM. It's good to see many familiar faces from the elected officials seminars just a few months ago.

Some of us today are attending our first area association annual meeting. AVICC is one of five associations within UBCM. The associations strengthen UBCM's capacity to address regional issues through the resolutions endorsed by each, local advocacy and representation on our Executive.

At present, AVICC has three members on our Executive currently: Councillor Barbara Price, Mayor Nils Jensen and Director Jim Abram. Together they provide a voice for your region on our deliberations between conventions.

It's early in the day and you have a full agenda ahead of you, so I will get right to it.

Auditor General for Local Government

Four years ago the government introduced legislation to create the office of the Auditor General for Local Government. Business advocacy groups had been calling for the establishment of such an office for some time. You may also recall that Liberal leadership hopeful Christy Clark introduced the concept as part of her platform during a speech to the BC Chambers of Commerce.

Following her successful campaign, Premier Clark made the creation of a local government auditor general a priority. UBCM learned the idea was moving toward implementation when we were tipped off that consultations with business groups were underway. From the start, local governments were playing catch up.

When the province began meeting directly with local governments to seek input, the briefing materials provided were quite limited. To address this gap, UBCM prepared a context paper and shared it with our membership.

Governance was one of the issues we identified with the model the province was considering. At the time, none of the local government auditor generals in Canada had jurisdiction over more than one local government. This is in keeping with a principle typically followed for auditors general: they report to the jurisdiction they audit.

The province, though, would not accept a local government auditor general reporting to local governments. Again, pressure from the business lobby was a factor here, as was confirmed to UBCM by the Canadian Federation of Independent Business.

UBCM worked with the Ministry on the issue of governance and reporting. Eventually the province settled on a model in which the office reported to an independent audit council, which in turn was accountable to Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

UBCM also drew attention to the challenge of conducting performance audits for 191 separate government jurisdictions. This aspect of the office introduced a level of complexity that no other auditor general in Canada had to contend with – a point that very few understand.

The policy base for local government varies considerably from one community to the next. Each community is free to set levels of service that best meet the needs of the community.

Take the example of household solid waste management. Your community can have collection every two weeks or once a week. The service can be contracted out, or undertaken by staff. You can offer curbside

recycling and compost collection or not. These are policy decisions by elected officials accountable to the electorate.

UBCM worked with the province to ensure that matters of policy were excluded from the scope of the auditor general for local government's office. Without this exclusion there was a risk that an office in Surrey would be dictating which levels are appropriate to every community in B.C. – an outcome that would be a blow to the whole concept of local government.

Fast forward to a month ago. The opposition began to question the Minister about the slow delivery of reports. According to the Auditor General herself, it was taking more time than expected to complete performance audits because of the diversity among communities – very much what UBCM had advised at the outset.

Through a leaked document it was revealed that there were internal issues impacting the effectiveness of the office. Among these were complaints by staff that changing mandates were wasting the office's resources – an irony for an office whose sole purpose was to support local government efficiency.

Eventually it was revealed that there was conflict between the auditor general for local government and the Audit Council over how the office would be reviewed. This ultimately led to the Auditor General being fired and an interim appointed. Throughout all of this there were numerous calls from the opposition and journalists to simply disband the office or fold it into the provincial auditor general.

So what now? One would hope the province - given the rocky consultation process leading into the creation of the office – would redouble its efforts to engage with UBCM to find a way ahead. Unfortunately, that has not been the case.

UBCM has yet to formally hear from Minister Oakes with regard to any of the events concerning the Auditor General for Local Government that transpired since January.

The Ministry notified UBCM that an independent review of the office was proceeding by providing a government news release shortly before it was distributed. The scope for the review, which to my knowledge has not been made public, indicates that consultation with local governments is optional. The Audit Council retained Chris Trumpy to complete the review by next week. Mr. Trumpy has a distinguished career in public service, but he will have his work cut out for him to complete the review in the time allotted.

UBCM's policy as endorsed by the membership back in 2011 disagrees with the necessity of the office but directs us to continue negotiating with the province. From day one we have worked to make the best of the province's determination to implement this office.

We will be meeting with Minister Oakes next week and will have some questions for her about the road ahead. For those of you that want to look into the issue in greater detail, please have a look at the context paper and policy paper on our website.

Expense Limits

Many of you are aware that an all-party committee of the legislature is preparing a report with recommendations for local government election expense limits. The deadline for the report to come before the Legislative Assembly is June 12.

UBCM provided a written submission to the Committee for Phase One consultations last fall. We supported the establishment of expense limits and provided the following principles to guide their development:

- Expense limits should be high enough to allow everyone to mount a reasonable campaign but not high enough to allow a few participants to dominate the campaign;
- They need to work for different sized communities; a formula based solely on the number of electors will not work; and
- Expense limits for elector organizations should have a neutral effect on the decision to create elector organizations.

We will also make a presentation to the all-party committee as part of its phase 2 consultations. We are finding ourselves between a rock and hard place though because the data analysis from the 2014 election is not yet available.

Part of the rationale for not including election expenses in the legislation introduced last was the opportunity to draw upon the data from the 2014 Election. If we want the final recommendations to reflect the current local election environment, we should be using the most recent data.

Unfortunately, the contractor hired to do this work is still processing the data, and it is not clear if or when it will be made publicly available. We understand the work is to be completed by mid-April. The Special Committee, though, will be wrapping up its public consultation process on April 17th.

Once the committee's recommendations are released, I encourage everyone to review them to see how they will play out in your community. If the committee finds the right formula, I believe expense limits will safeguard election fairness and increase accessibility to the democratic process. UBCM is keeping watch and we will provide an update through our weekly newsletter, the Compass, once the recommendations are available.

Strong Fiscal Futures

Two years ago UBCM released a report, *Strong Fiscal Futures*, which examined the state of local government finance in BC. Our message was that while the finance system was currently stable, looming pressures from infrastructure replacement and increasing service demands threatened to make the property tax unaffordable for many British Columbians.

We proposed a joint process with the province to look at the system as a whole. Our aim was to bring together multiple provincial ministries to look at ways to contain costs. We also wanted to identify revenue sources that respond to economic growth to ease the burden on property taxpayers.

We met with the Premier back in 2013 to discuss the report. Although receptive to the report, the Premier declined to provide direction to advance a joint working group. We also discussed the need for a joint process with Minister Oakes on several occasions. Minister Oakes responded by offering of a piece meal approach to address matters of provincial concern. The Minister has also indicated on two occasions a lack of provincial resources to support such a project.

Executive discussed the Province's responses at our last meeting. We agreed that we couldn't advance *Strong Fiscal Futures* without significant provincial involvement. We wrote to the Premier a second time to invite a meeting, but she declined, directing us instead to work with the Minister. As I mentioned earlier, we will be meeting with Minister Oakes next week. Following the meeting, Executive will take stock of our options.

BC Ferries

Yesterday Director Colin Palmer and Councillor Alison Morse led a session on the future of ferry services in BC. It was a pleasure for UBCM to work with AVICC to develop last year's report on the socio-economic impacts of ferry fare increases. As Colin said, ferry fare increases have multiple impacts on all communities in your region and the BC economy as a whole.

Recent recommendations by the ferry commissioner indicate that the rate of fare increases is being pulled back closer to the rate of inflation. However, given the decline in ridership that has already taken place, continuing increases are unlikely to significantly reverse that trend.

I think we can take pride in the ferry fares report. The research has broadened the discussion of ferry fares to include the question: "*how do these policies impact our communities?*" The report will also serve as a yardstick for measuring the actions of the ferry commissioner, BC Ferries and the province over the coming years. AVICC has provided excellent leadership on this issue, and I look forward to hearing about your next steps.

Advocacy Days

To conclude, I want to highlight UBCM's Advocacy Days, which will get underway next week.

Once again this year, the April meeting of UBCM Executive will be held in Victoria. Members of Executive will meet with MLAs from both sides of the House to raise awareness around local government issues. Our aim this year is to connect with 30 Ministers and MLAs.

Meetings have already been set with Ministers Oakes, Bennett, Lake, Anton, Stone, Cadieux, Rustad, Virk, Stilwell, Polak, Bond and Thomson.

We are also scheduled to sit down with MLAs Robinson, Bernier, Throness, Weaver, Sultan, James, Doug and Bill Routley, Eby, Heyman, Fraser, Krog, Herbert, Simpson, Ralston and Pimm.

This year we will focus three issues:

- First, we will be discussing the availability of funds for local governments under the \$1.1 billion BC share of the New Building Canada Fund. We want the province to confirm that an equitable portion of funds will be dedicated to local infrastructure.
- Second, we want to provide an overview on the impact of mental health issues on local government policing costs. There is a need for greater provincial support in dealing with individuals with mental health issues in our communities.
- Finally, we are also going to talk about elements necessary for the Province to develop a "world class" land based spill preparedness and response framework. The proposed framework is one of the five conditions set out by the province with regard to Northern Gateway.

There are several features we are looking for in order to protect communities:

- an oversight organization that is provincially led and industry funded;
- a BC based contingency fund that is 100% industry funded that ensures a 100% cost recovery for local governments who have expended their own resources to clean up spills;
- response plans for high risk areas;
- an increase in emergency response staff; and
- industry funded wildlife and ecosystem restoration.

Next week looks like it will be quite busy; we will provide an update in the Compass after to tell you how things went.

Conclusion

Thank you for your attention this morning. Your feedback is important to me, so if you have comments or questions, please speak me later in the morning. You can also reach me by contacting either office of UBCM.

This year's convention will be held in Vancouver September 21-25; I hope to see you there.

Financial Statements of

**ASSOCIATION OF
VANCOUVER ISLAND AND
COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

Year ended December 31, 2014



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, 2014, 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, 2014, 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.



Page 2

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.

KPMG LLP

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 12, 2015

Victoria, Canada

ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2014, with comparative information for 2013

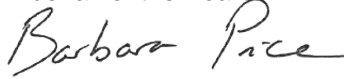
	2014	2013
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$ 195,934	\$ 181,713
Prepaid expenses	-	2,250
Accounts receivable	1,024	458
	<u>\$ 196,958</u>	<u>\$ 184,421</u>

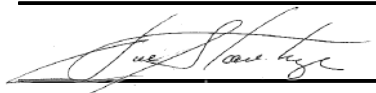
Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 8,010	\$ 9,784
Deferred contributions (note 3)	50,415	50,832
	<u>58,425</u>	<u>60,616</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	138,533	123,805
Contractual commitments (note 4)		
	<u>\$ 196,958</u>	<u>\$ 184,421</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, 2014, with comparative information for 2013

	2014	2013
Revenue:		
Annual meeting - sponsorships	\$ 44,001	\$ 36,300
Annual meeting - registration	46,477	46,223
Association dues	74,979	76,132
Interest	2,231	2,134
Other	6,175	458
	<u>173,863</u>	<u>161,247</u>
Expenses:		
Annual meeting	67,139	71,493
Communication and staff travel	2,452	1,316
Executive meetings	8,154	9,249
Other meetings	2,693	1,858
Postage, office and miscellaneous	4,535	10,585
Professional fees	6,090	6,090
Union of BC Municipalities contract fees	53,850	53,850
Consulting fees	14,222	-
	<u>159,135</u>	<u>154,441</u>
Excess of revenue over expenses	14,728	6,806
Net assets, beginning of year	123,805	116,999
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 138,533</u>	<u>\$ 123,805</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2014, with comparative information for 2013

	2014	2013
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 14,728	\$ 6,806
Change in non-cash operating working capital:		
Decrease (increase) in prepaid expenses	2,250	(250)
Increase in accounts receivable	(566)	(319)
(Decrease) increase in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,774)	2,184
(Decrease) increase in deferred contributions	(417)	4,167
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	14,221	12,588
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	181,713	169,125
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 195,934	\$ 181,713

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2014

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, 2014

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 2014 there were no capital expenditures (2013 - \$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, 2014

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:

	2014	2013
Cash	\$ 30,181	\$ 22,776
MFA Money Market Funds	165,753	158,937
	\$ 195,934	\$ 181,713

3. Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions consist of \$44,665 (2013 - \$44,665) of provincial grants restricted for the facilitation of the activities of the treaty advisory committee in addition to \$5,750 (2013 - \$6,167) 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 and has committed to pay \$78,000 in 2015 in respect of this contract by way of quarterly payments. The amounts are subject to adjustment each January.

APPENDIX C

AVAILABLE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION HANDOUTS

A number of session presenters used Power Points. The handouts for these presentations are available for download from <http://avicc.ca/2015-minutes/>

- Pre-Convention Reconciliation in Action Workshop
- Pre-Convention Hospitals Project Tour
- Future of Ferries Plenary Presentation
- Regulation of Forest Management Activities on Private Managed Forest Land Saturday Morning Breakfast Presentation
- Why Municipal Support is Necessary: Building Strong Communities Through Affordable Housing Concurrent Workshop
- Converting Waste to Energy Concurrent Workshop
- Who's Covering Your Assets? Plenary Presentation

PRESENTATION DESCRIPTORS

Keynote Speaker - Tonia S. Winchester, Former Deputy Campaign Director, Washington State Initiative 502

Marijuana legalization is an important topic facing Vancouver Island and its surrounding communities. With Washington state just across the border implementing a state-wide recreational marijuana system and the launch of Canada's nationwide medical marijuana mail-to-order program, MMPR, the issue is even more pressing. What are the challenges of implementing full legalization, and how should communities start addressing the topic? What worked in Washington State, and how does the current system in Canada actually operate? Tonia will provide an overview of the Washington state campaign, the current MMPR model, and will answer your questions about what your community needs to be thinking about as you approach the Canadian federal elections this year.

Tonia is a former Seattle Prosecutor who worked as Deputy Campaign Director, Washington State Initiative 502 that successfully legalized marijuana in Washington State by a 56-44 margin in November of 2012. Her role included forging alliances and getting endorsements from many groups traditionally seen as hostile to marijuana reform, as well as speaking across the state advocating for a new approach to Washington State's marijuana laws.

Most recently Tonia led the initial operational team that established and managed the Tilray medical marijuana production facility in Nanaimo, British Columbia - one of the largest medical marijuana production facilities in all of Canada. Tonia continues to speak across both the US and Canada advocating for the responsible and regulated legalization of cannabis, as well as working to help ethical and progressive businesses get established within the cannabis industry.

Tonia received her B.A. from the University of Washington and graduated cum laude from Seattle University School of Law.

Regulation of Forest Management Activities on Private Managed Forest Land

The Managed Forest Council will discuss its role as the regulator of forest management practices on private managed forest land. The session will provide delegates with specific knowledge on the Managed Forest Program, its provincial mandate and the effectiveness of its professional reliance model in protecting five key resource areas on private managed forest land. The presentation is designed to answer questions elected officials may have around Council regulatory standards and how an owner's performance around these standards are evaluated through its ongoing inspection and investigation program.

Presenter: Rod Davis, Chair, Managed Forest Council

APPENDIX C

Plenary Presentations

Future of Coastal Ferry Services

For decades, local governments have been concerned about the negative impacts of coastal ferry fare increases on their communities. In 2014, concerns intensified with fare increases, the implementation of provincially-mandated service cuts to lifeline ferry routes, and the release of the UBCM report *Boatswains to the Bollards: A Socioeconomic Impact Analysis of BC Ferries* that documented the serious socioeconomic impacts caused by high ferry fares. This session will provide an overview of the BC Ferry Commissioner's preliminary decision for price caps that will apply to coastal ferry fares for 2016-2020 and resulting potential implications. It will also provide background on the Coastal Regional District Chairs Group's work and recent meetings with the Minister and the Ferry Commissioner. This session is intended to stimulate a lively discussion about visions for the coastal ferry service from 2016 forward, and next steps for local government to consider as the provincial government reviews the Commissioners Report and the Coastal Ferry Services Contract with BC Ferries from April to June 30.

Presenters: Colin Palmer, Director of the Powell River Regional District, Chair of the Regional District Coastal Ferry Group and AVICC Director and Alison Morse, Bowen Island Municipal Councillor, Island Trust Trustee and Co-Chair of the Ferry Advisory Committee Chairs

Who's Covering Your Assets?

Local governments' linear assets are the foundation on which our communities are built. The immediate and long-term successful recovery and rebuilding efforts following a natural catastrophe are critical to health, safety and community wellbeing. There is no insurance to cover the cost of repairs, so reliance is currently placed on funding from senior levels of government. Yet funding gaps in disaster programs will produce significant unfunded liabilities at the local government level. These gaps can be addressed with measured funding and established risk financing techniques. This session will focus on identifying those funding gaps, assessing their magnitude, and implementing mitigation techniques.

Presenter: Tom Barnes, CEO and General Counsel, Municipal Insurance Association

Concurrent Workshop Sessions

Why Municipal Support is Necessary: Building Strong Communities Through Affordable Housing

With greater proportions of our population living in core housing need (221,470 of British Columbia households in Core Housing Need in 2006 and 23% of all British Columbia households are paying more than 50% of their income on rent in 2014), compounded by limited funds and shrinking federal government support for housing, non-profit organizations are experiencing increased pressure to service our vulnerable sector with inadequate support. This session is a push for action by local governments to positively utilize their planning power to advance affordable housing initiatives. This session will provide an overview of why effective collaboration between municipal governments and non-profits is necessary, and will highlight specific ways municipal governments can support non-profits in developing affordable housing.

Presenters: Kevin Albers, CEO and Kaela Schramm, Director of Projects and Planning, M'akola Development Services

Wastewater Treatment/Resource Recovery Advances

An advanced wastewater treatment facility, Sechelt's Water Resource Centre (WRC) is designed to process wastewater into dewatered biosolids suitable for composting and high quality effluent water suitable for a wide range of reuses. State of the art technology and innovation in design reduce both pollutant discharge and operating costs. With noise and odour minimization, a compact footprint and appealing design, the WRC is integrated into a park space that complements the adjacent nature reserve and residential community. Removal of hormones and pharmaceuticals from effluent water using biochar made from the biosolids is slated to be tested at the WRC in 2015.

Presenter: Paul Nash, Project Coordinator, Sechelt Water Resource Centre

APPENDIX C

Planning for Island-wide Intermodal Transportation

Whether the focus is rapid transit in Greater Victoria, container shipping in Nanaimo, LNG in Port Alberni, passenger/cargo rail, export capacity, BC Ferry schedules, new road proposals, airport expansions, public transit efficiencies, foot passenger ferries, peak session shipping capacity, or barging solid waste, it is time for a comprehensive intermodal transportation plan to turn what is widely viewed as an 'Island liability' into an economic advantage. Our panel of experts will engage your ideas as we work toward a prioritized plan to improve connectiveness, efficiency and accessibility.

Panel Members: George Hanson, President, VIEA; Dave Willie, VIEA Director, Member of VIEA Transportation Committee, and former Qualicum Beach Councillor; Josie Osborne, Tofino Mayor and Alberni-Clayoquot RD Chair; Fred Bigelow, CEO, Comox Airport Commission; and Bernie Dumas, President & CEO, Nanaimo Port Authority

Converting Waste to Energy: How does it work? How does it fit? What does it cost? What are the impacts?

This information session will provide a high-level overview of energy extraction from the residual waste stream after recycling. Firstly, technologies will be discussed, from the conventional burning for heat, through the making of fuel from the waste, to the less conventional conversion of waste into burnable gas. We will see how waste to energy fits into an integrated waste management program, and how it might add value and what it could cost. Potential impacts, such as air pollution and ash disposal will be looked at as well as the greenhouse gas balance. Finally we hope to help you answer the question: Should this be something we believe is good for our community and society?

Presenter: Konrad Fichtner, P. Eng., Morrison Hershfield

Open Space Workshop

Open Space is an interactive opportunity for conference participants to seize control of the agenda and talk about the topics that matter to you - so come armed with ideas, questions, and an open mind, and follow the law of two feet: *If you find yourself in a situation where you are not contributing or learning, move somewhere where you can.*"

Facilitator: AVICC Director and Port Hardy Councillor Jessie Hemphill

2015-16 AVICC EXECUTIVE

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Councillor Barbara Price
Town of Comox

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Director Mary Marcotte
Cowichan Valley Regional District

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Director Edwin Grieve
Comox Valley Regional District

ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Director Noba Anderson
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