

UBCM Resolutions Process Review

Why review resolutions?

- We aren't finishing resolutions debates at convention
- resolution 2019-B176 raised the issue
- UBCM Executive amended 2019/20 priorities and workplan to include resolutions process review
- COVID
- 10 years since significant review
- procedures already optimized as much as possible

Previous reviews of resolutions process

- 2009/10:
 - Convention policy paper 2009
 - 2010 area association consultation, interviews with former UBCM presidents and staff
 - Resolutions Committee report to Convention in 2010
 - amendments to UBCM Bylaws, procedures
- 2015: Executive determined no further change needed

UBCM approach to resolutions

Grassroots focus:

- any member may bring an issue forward for consideration by full membership
- individual members trust full membership to set UBCM priorities
- UBCM responds to member needs
- all members of UBCM are equal

UBCM approach to resolutions

Member-driven policy practice:

1. Convention will include debate of resolutions
2. any UBCM member may submit any number of resolutions, on any topic

Pros + Cons of UBCM process

Pros

- UBCM advocacy aligns with member priorities
- gives all members a voice
- can communicate broad range of information to other orders of government/organizations

Pros + Cons of UBCM process

Cons

- too many resolutions
- cannot complete debate
- inconsistent level of research and policy development
- difficult to discern policy priorities, decreased effectiveness of advocacy efforts
- potential negative impact on relationship with Province

Other provincial/territorial associations

5-year average, annual number of resolutions (2015-2019)

Association(s)	Annual Average
Union of BC Municipalities	205
Association of Manitoba Municipalities	45
Rural Municipalities of Alberta	37

Other provincial/territorial associations

- not all use a resolutions process— including Ontario and Quebec, 2 of the largest in Canada
- 1 in 4, or 25 per cent, do not pursue policy change through resolutions

No simple solutions

- Is there an ideal number of resolutions?
How to calculate?
- many different criteria could be applied to
limit number of resolutions
- be cautious when imposing limits

Area Associations

- important partner in resolutions process
- first kick at the can
- deadline challenges due to spring Area Associations

Proposed steps

- workshop with UBCM Executive
- presentation and consultation at area association conferences
- recommended changes presented for consideration at 2022 Convention

Questions and Comments