



## 2024 AGM & CONVENTION

# RESOLUTIONS NOTICE REQUEST FOR SUBMISSIONS

The AVICC Executive is calling for resolutions to be considered at the 2024 AGM and Convention that, subject to public health order restrictions, will be held in Victoria at the Victoria Conference Centre as an in-person event from April 12-14, 2024.

Members are asked to submit resolutions that meet the requirements outlined in the following pages.

### **DEADLINE FOR RESOLUTIONS**

AVICC must receive all resolutions by: **4:30 pm, Thursday, February 7, 2024**

### **IMPORTANT SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

To submit a resolution to the AVICC for consideration please send a copy of the resolution as a **word document** by email to [info@avicc.ca](mailto:info@avicc.ca) by the deadline. AVICC staff will confirm receipt of the submission via email. If confirmation is not received within 3 business days, the resolution sponsor should follow up by phone at 236-237-1202. A mailed hard copy of the resolution is no longer required.

AVICC's goal is to have resolutions that can be clearly understood and that have specific actions. If a resolution is endorsed, its "therefore clause" will form the basis for advocacy work with other levels of government and agencies. Detailed guidelines for preparing a resolution follow, but the basic requirements are:

- Resolutions are only accepted from AVICC member local governments and must have been endorsed by the Board or Council.
- Members are responsible for submitting accurate resolutions. AVICC recommends that local government staff assist in drafting the resolutions, in checking the accuracy of legislative references, and be able to answer questions from AVICC & UBCM about each resolution. If necessary, please contact AVICC staff for assistance in drafting the resolution.
- Each resolution **must include a separate backgrounder** that is a maximum of 3 pages and specific to a **single** resolution. Each resolution submitted must have a separate backgrounder; do not combine backgrounders into a single document. The backgrounder may include links to other information sources and reports.
- Sponsors should be prepared to speak to their resolutions at the Convention.
- Resolutions must be relevant to other local governments within AVICC rather than specific to a single member government.
- The resolution must have at least one "whereas" clause and should not contain more than two "whereas" clauses. Each whereas clause must have only **one sentence**.

## **LATE AND OFF THE FLOOR RESOLUTIONS**

- a. A resolution submitted after the regular deadline is treated as a "Late Resolution". Late Resolutions must be received by AVICC by noon on **Wednesday, April 10th, 2024**.
- b. Late Resolutions are not included in the Resolutions Package sent out to members before the Convention. They are included in the Report on Late Resolutions that is distributed on-site.
- c. The Resolutions Committee only recommends Late Resolutions for debate if the topic was not known prior to the regular deadline date, or if it is emergency in nature.
- d. Off the Floor Resolutions are considered after all resolutions in the Resolutions Book and all Late Resolutions have been considered. Off the Floor Resolutions must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Resolutions Session as soon as practicable, and copies must be made available to all delegates no later than 9:00am on Sunday morning. Contact AVICC staff for more information about how to organize an Off the Floor Resolution for consideration.
- e. The full Convention Rules, including detailed information about the process for Late and Off the Floor Resolutions, will be published and distributed to members in advance of the Convention.

## **AVICC RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURES**

UBCM urges members to submit resolutions to their Area Association for consideration. Resolutions endorsed at the AVICC annual meeting, except those that are considered to be regional in nature by UBCM (see below) are submitted automatically to UBCM for consideration.

A resolution deemed by UBCM to be specific to the AVICC region is considered a Regional Resolution and will not be automatically submitted to UBCM for consideration at the UBCM annual meeting, and instead will remain with AVICC, where it may be actioned.

UBCM has observed that submitting resolutions first to an Area Association results in better quality resolutions overall. Local governments may submit Council- or Board-endorsed resolutions directly to UBCM prior to June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Detailed instructions are available on the UBCM website.

### **RESOLUTIONS PROCESS**

1. Members submit resolutions to AVICC for debate. All resolutions submitted to AVICC are forwarded to UBCM staff for analysis, comment, and recommendations.
2. For some resolutions, which focus on issues specific to the AVICC region, UBCM will indicate that they are considered a Regional Resolution and that it won't be admitted to UBCM for debate should it be endorsed. AVICC will work with local governments to address issues identified by UBCM staff to ensure the resolution reflects the intention of the local government.

3. The AVICC Resolutions Committee reviews and finalizes the recommendations, and the Resolutions Book is published and sent to members in advance of the annual meeting.
4. AVICC conveys any Regional Resolutions endorsed at their annual meeting to the appropriate level of government, or takes other action as determined by the AVICC Executive.
5. AVICC submits all other resolutions endorsed at its Convention to UBCM.
6. The UBCM Resolutions Committee reviews the resolutions for submission to its Convention.
7. Resolutions endorsed at the UBCM Convention are submitted by UBCM to the appropriate level of government for response.
8. UBCM will forward the response to the resolution sponsor for review.

## **AVICC & UBCM RESOLUTIONS GUIDELINES**

### **The Construction of a Resolution:**

All resolutions contain a preamble – the whereas clause(s) – and an enactment clause. The preamble describes ***the issue*** and the enactment clause outlines ***the action being*** requested of AVICC and/or UBCM. A resolution should answer the following three questions:

- a) **What is the problem?**
- b) **What is causing the problem?**
- c) **What is the best way to solve the problem?**

### **Preamble:**

The preamble begins with "WHEREAS" and is a concise sentence about the nature of the problem or the reason for the request. It answers questions (a) and (b) above, stating the problem and its cause, and should explain, clearly and briefly, the reasons for the resolution.

The preamble should contain no more than two "WHEREAS" clauses. Supporting background documents can describe the problem more fully if necessary. Do not add extra clauses.

Only one sentence per WHEREAS clause.

### **Enactment Clause:**

The enactment clause begins with the phrase "Therefore be it resolved" and is a concise sentence that answers question (c) above, suggesting the best way to solve the problem. **The enactment should propose a specific action by AVICC and/or UBCM.**

Keep the enactment clause as short as possible, and clearly describe the action being requested. The wording should leave no doubt about the proposed action.

## **HOW TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION**

### **1. Address one specific subject in the text of the resolution.**

Because your community seeks to influence attitudes and inspire action, limit the scope of a resolution to one specific subject or issue. If there are multiple topics in a resolution, the resolution may be sent back to the sponsor to rework and resubmit.

### **2. For resolutions to be debated at UBCM, focus on issues that are province-wide.**

The issue identified in the resolution should be relevant to other local governments across BC. This will support productive debate and assist UBCM to represent your concern effectively to the provincial or federal government on behalf of all BC municipalities and regional districts. Local governments are welcome to submit resolutions that address issues specific to the AVICC region. A resolution that addresses a topic specific to the AVICC region may not be entered for debate during the UBCM Convention but may be actioned by the AVICC Executive if endorsed.

### **3. Use simple, action-oriented language.**

Explain the background briefly and state the desired action clearly. Delegates can then debate the resolution. Resolutions that are unclear or that address multiple topics may end up with amendments at the Convention.

### **4. Check legislative references for accuracy.**

Research the legislation on the subject so the resolution is accurate. Where necessary, identify:

- the correct jurisdictional responsibility (responsible ministry or department, and whether provincial or federal government); and
- the correct legislation, including the title of the *Act* or regulation.

### **5. Provide factual background information.**

Even a carefully written resolution may not be able to convey the full scope of the problem or the action being requested. Provide factual background information to ensure that the intent of the resolution is fully understood for the purpose of debate and UBCM (or AVICC for Regional Resolutions) can advocate effectively with other levels of government and agencies.

Each resolution **must include a separate backgrounder** that is a maximum of 3 pages and specific to a single resolution. Do not submit a single backgrounder relating to multiple resolutions. The backgrounder may include links to other information sources and reports.

Resolutions submitted without background information **will not be considered** until the sponsor has provided adequate background information. This could result in the resolution being returned and having to be resubmitted.

### **6. Construct a brief, descriptive title.**

A title identifies the intent of the resolution. It is usually drawn from the "enactment clause" of the resolution. For ease of printing in the Annual Report and Resolutions Book and for clarity, a title should be no more than three or four words.

## **TEMPLATE FOR A RESOLUTION**

Whereas << *this is the area to include an issue statement that outlines the nature of the problem or the reason for the request* >> ;

And whereas << *if more information is useful to answer the questions - what is the problem? what is causing the problem?>> :*

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC & UBCM << *specify here the action(s) that AVICC & UBCM are being asked to take on, and what government agency the associations should be contacting to solve the problem identified in the whereas clauses* >>.

*If absolutely necessary, there can be a second enactment clause (the “therefore” clause that specifies the action requested) with the following format:*

And be it further resolved that << *specify any additional actions needed to address the problem identified in the whereas clauses* >>.