

2024 RESOLUTIONS

PART 1 – REGIONAL RESOLUTIONS

The following are the resolutions received by the February 7, 2024 resolutions deadline, and are resolutions that are considered regional in nature. Should any of these regionally focused resolutions be endorsed, they will not be forwarded to UBCM for consideration at their Annual Convention. Rather these resolutions will remain with AVICC where they may be actioned.

Part 1 - Section “A”

This section contains **regionally focused** resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or, Not Endorse.

LAND USE

- | | | |
|----|--|---------------------------|
| R1 | Bamberton Quarry Expansion Project Adjacent To The Saanich Inlet | District of North Saanich |
| R2 | Conservation of Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region | City of Parksville |

Part 1 - Section “B”

This section contains **regionally focused** resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse. There were no Regional Resolutions submitted by the deadline that support existing policy and are recommend Endorse.

PART 2 – RESOLUTIONS

The following are the resolutions received by the February 7, 2024 resolutions deadline. Should any of these resolutions be endorsed, they will be forwarded to UBCM for consideration at their Annual Convention.

Part 2 - Section “A”

This section contains resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation, Not Endorse, or No Action Required

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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|----|--|------------------------|
| R3 | Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV) Vaccine | District of Port Hardy |
| R4 | Pre-Hospital Care - Demands on Local Governments | City of Port Alberni |
| R5 | Grants to Named Health Facilities | Comox Valley RD |
| R6 | Addressing the Impact of Provincial Policy on Local Governments, Taxation Equity, and Interim Policing Cost Support | City of Langford |
| R7 | Urging Legal Action for Constitutional Accountability: Addressing Provincial Failures in Healthcare, Criminal Rehabilitation, and Public Safety Responsibilities | City of Langford |

HOUSING

R8	Provincial Housing Coordinator	City of Nanaimo
R9	Emergency Shelters and Compliance with BC Building Code and BC Fire Code	City of Nanaimo
R10	Housing Authority Feasibility Study Work	Comox Valley RD City of Courtenay Village of Cumberland City of Powell River
R11	Development Cost Charges for Affordable Housing	Comox Valley RD
R12	BC Secondary Suite Incentive Program	North Coast RD

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R13	Equitable Funding of Police Services	City of Port Alberni
R14	Modernize the Police Cost Sharing Formulas	Town of View Royal
R15	Fail to Appear Charges	City of Duncan
R16	Automated Licence Plate Recognition Funding	City of Langford

ENVIRONMENT

R17	Composting Toilet and Greywater Practice	Islands Trust
R18	Ban on Rodent Glue Traps	Town of View Royal District of Saanich

LAND USE

R19	Amendments to the <i>Land Title Act</i>	City of Courtenay
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TRANSPORTATION

R20	Ports Prioritization	Sunshine Coast RD
R21	Ports Maintenance	Sunshine Coast RD
R22	Derelict Vehicles on Remote Communities	North Coast RD

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R23	Halt Reductions to the Annual Allowable Cut	City of Campbell River
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SELECTED ISSUES

R24	Provincial Employee Support	Village of Zeballos
R25	Wellbeing of Future Generations Act	District of Saanich
R26	UBCM First Nation Membership	Village of Zeballos

Part 2 - Section "B"

This section contains resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R27	First Responder Calls by Fire Rescue Departments	District of Tofino
R28	Provincial Cost Recovery for Emergency Medical Services Provided by Fire Departments	RD of Nanaimo
R29	Pre-Hospital Care - Demands on Local Governments	City of Port Alberni
R30	Mental Health Liaison Officers	City of Nanaimo
R31	Investment in Complex Care Beds	City of Nanaimo
R32	Seniors' Support Assisted Living	District of Saanich
R33	Implementing <i>Accessibility BC Act</i> Recommendations	City of Parksville

HOUSING

R34	Funding for Seniors Housing in Rural Areas	Village of Gold River
R35	Extreme Weather Response Shelter System	City of Courtenay Comox Valley RD Village of Cumberland City of Powell River
R36	BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax	North Coast RD
R37	Development Cost Charges for Fire Protection Facilities	District of Lantzville

ENVIRONMENT

R38	Heavy Duty Vehicle Climate Emissions	District of Central Saanich
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FINANCE

R39	Provincial Core Funding for Evolving Public Libraries	City of Nanaimo District of Oak Bay City of Powell River qathet RD
R40	Sustainable and Equitable Funding of Library Services	City of Port Alberni
R41	Increased Funding for Local Government Infrastructure	Town of Comox
R42	Rethinking Local Government Taxation for Equitable and Effective Crisis Response	City of Langford

LAND USE

R43	Addressing Shoreline Erosion Concerns in Coastal Communities	North Coast RD
R44	Drought	Alberni-Clayoquot RD
R45	Groundwater Protection in the Province of British Columbia	District of Metchosin
R46	Rainwater Management in Road Rights of Way	Comox Valley RD

TRANSPORTATION

R47	Highway Active Transportation	District of Central Saanich
R48	Active Transportation Within Provincial Highway Rights of Way	City of Langford
R49	Improved Road Design for Vulnerable Road Users	Sunshine Coast RD
R50	Funding for Rural Road Maintenance	Sunshine Coast RD
R51	Emergency Routes	Alberni-Clayoquot RD
R52	Engagement with Local Governments with Respect to Road Network Planning	Sunshine Coast RD
R53	Free Transit for Students	Sunshine Coast RD

LEGISLATIVE

R54	Legislative Changes Consultation Process	Village of Zeballos
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ASSESSMENT

R55	New Assessment Classification for Vacant Residential Lands	Village of Gold River
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COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R56	Enhancing Communications for Municipal Fire Departments Responding to Motor Vehicle Incidents	City of Port Alberni
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SELECTED ISSUES

R57	Increased Funding for Rural Colleges	City of Port Alberni
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PART SR – SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

We do not anticipate any Special Resolutions as defined under the Societies Act

PART ER – EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

We do not anticipate resolutions from the AVICC Executive at this time

PART 1 – REGIONAL RESOLUTIONS

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Part 1 - Section “A” – This section contains **regionally focused** resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse.

LAND USE

R1) Bamberton Quarry Expansion Project Adjacent To The Saanich Inlet District of North Saanich

Whereas the BC Provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy decided in late June 2023 that there would be no complete environmental review of this project under the *Environmental Assessment Act*, but rather an “enhanced review” pursuant to the *Mines Act*;

And whereas that given the major industrial nature of the quarry expansion, including the proposal to store soil material; and the highly sensitive nature of the Saanich Inlet with its unique topographical and marine peculiarities, marine and fish life, (including the Goldstream salmon run), this decision will adversely affect the Inlet and its marine life;

And whereas that in Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy of BC, Honourable George Heyman’s response to District of North Saanich Mayor and Council on September 11, 2023, he states in paragraph 3, “I acknowledge that the project as proposed may have potential effects on the environment...”:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC requests that:

1. the BC Provincial Government should not proceed further with this extensive expansion of the Bamberton Quarry, and storage of soil material, unless and until the necessary, full environmental review and oversight is put into motion and accomplished pursuant to the *Environmental Assessment Act*;
2. this resolution be forwarded to the attention of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Federal Department of Environment and Climate Change to review and address without delay this critical environment and urgent marine issue; and
3. the BC Provincial Government inform interested parties, such as First Nations, local governments, and the Saanich Inlet Protection Society of the progress/results of the enhanced permit review process for the project.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the Bamberton Quarry was purchased by the Malahat First Nation, and that a request was made from the Malahat Investment Corporation to the B.C. Provincial Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy to expand the quarry, to renew the foreshore lease on the Saanich Inlet, and to expand soil deposition on the site. In response, the Saanich Inlet Protection Society submitted a request to the Minister to designate the expanded rock quarry and related projects, as a ‘reviewable project’ under section 11 of the Environmental Assessment Act. The [‘Reasons for Decision of the Minister’](#) is available on the Environmental Assessment Office’s website.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution making the following requests: 1. the BC Provincial Government should not proceed further with this extensive expansion of the Bamberton Quarry, and storage of soil material, unless and until the necessary, full environmental review and oversight is put into motion and accomplished pursuant to the Environmental Assessment Act; 2. this resolution be forwarded to the attention of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans, and the Federal Department of Environment and Climate Change to review and address without delay this critical environment and urgent marine issue; and 3. the BC Provincial Government inform interested parties, such as First Nations, local governments, and the Saanich Inlet Protection Society of the progress/results of the enhanced permit review process for the project.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions on related topics, including:

- 2021-EB44 which asked the Province in their consideration of these (forestry and mining) projects, include a referral to affected local governments and undertake risk assessments to identify and assess any potential threats to the natural assets that communities rely on to provide essential services such as drinking water and flood mitigation; and*
- 2014-B116 which asked the Province to amend the Mines Act to first require a mines permit applicant to confirm such mining activity is within an area designated by a local official community plan permitting such mining activity.*

The Committee would suggest that this resolution is regional in nature, and advocacy would best be undertaken by the Area Association.

R2) Conservation of Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region

City of Parksville

Whereas the UNESCO-designated Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region (MABR) includes five watershed regions and the Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime biogeoclimatic subzone, which is the smallest and most at-risk zone in BC and is of conservation concern;

And whereas habitat loss and fragmentation due to human development and unsustainable consumption and production patterns are among the major causes of diminishing biodiversity within the MABR:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC urge the Province to conserve through purchase thirty percent of lands within the MABR to meet the thirty percent of BC's land by 2030 provincial conservation target;

And be it further resolved that AVICC urge the Province, in accordance with the Tripartite Framework Agreement on Nature Conservation signed between Canada, British Columbia and the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC), to include land conservation policies within the MABR.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to conserve through purchase thirty percent of lands within the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region (MABR) to meet the thirty percent of BC's land by 2030 provincial conservation target. Nor have they considered the request that the Province include land conservation policies within the MABR.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions such as:

- 2023-EB55, 2021-SR2, 2019-B36, 2017-B66, 2016-C27 all of which sought protection of old growth forest areas in BC;
- 2021-EB44, 2020-EB61, 2019-B36, 2019-B155, 2018-B34, 2017-B65, 2017-B115, 2016-B25 all of which sought better land use planning that ensure decision making takes into account the cumulative effects on the environment, such as watersheds;
- 2015-B24 which asked the Province to provide core, multi-year funding to the Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership to assist its members to implement the conservation strategy; and
- 2013-B104 which asked the Province to provide adequate resources to the Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership.

The Committee would note that the Province has undertaken a number of conservation related measures related to protection of Old growth and has also released its Draft Framework on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Health in November 2023, with the Minister responsible noting that it “is an important step towards the provincial government’s commitment to prioritize the conservation and management of ecosystem health and biodiversity, including the conservation and recovery of species at risk, which will align all existing related initiatives and set the path for co-development and implementation of new policies, legislation, and strategies.”

The Committee would suggest that this resolution is regional in nature, and advocacy would best be undertaken by the Area Association.

Part 1 - Section “B” – This section contains **regionally focused** resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse.

There were no Regional Resolutions submitted by the deadline that support existing policy and are recommend Endorse.

PART 2 – RESOLUTIONS

The following are the resolutions received by the February 7, 2024 resolutions deadline. Should any of these resolutions be endorsed, they will be forwarded to UBCM for consideration at their Annual Convention.

Part 2 - Section "A" – This section contains resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation, Not Endorse, or No Action Required

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R3) Respiratory Syncytial virus (RSV) Vaccine

District of Port Hardy

Whereas in 2024, the availability of Arexvy, a vaccine approved by Health Canada in August for adults aged 60 and over, marks a significant milestone in protecting older adults against the respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). Arexvy has demonstrated nearly 83 per cent efficacy in preventing lower respiratory tract disease caused by RSV and a 94 per cent efficacy in preventing severe RSV-associated illness, according to the FDA's analysis of data;

And whereas the authorization of Arexvy for use in Canada addresses the critical need for preventing RSV in older adults, who may face greater risks of severe outcomes, including hospitalization. The potential overwhelming of the hospital system, as experienced during the pandemic, underscores the importance of safeguarding the health of older adults by preventing RSV infections:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia to treat the RSV vaccine as an essential preventative measure, similar to other critical vaccines, and work towards subsidizing its cost to eliminate the burden of a \$300 per full dose on individuals seeking protection against RSV.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to work towards subsidizing the cost of a Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) cost to eliminate the burden of a \$300 per full dose on individuals seeking protection against RSV.

R4) Pre-Hospital Care - Demands on Local Governments

City of Port Alberni

Whereas the provision of pre-hospital care is a critical aspect of health care in British Columbia and Fire Departments, funded by local governments, have traditionally played a significant role in delivering pre-hospital care and that pre-hospital care falls under the jurisdiction of the provincial government;

And whereas the increasing workload related to pre-hospital care, particularly in the area of medical first response, has put significant pressure on local governments arising from the need to allocate additional resources for training, fuel, vehicle maintenance, consumables, and staffing:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urgently appeal to the Province of British Columbia to take immediate steps to adequately staff and operate pre-hospital care services autonomously,

assuming full responsibility for pre-hospital care, alleviating the burden on local governments and ensuring the provision of efficient and effective emergency medical services.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that while the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolutions asking for the provincial government to staff and operate pre-hospital care services autonomously; the UBCM membership did endorse resolution 2023-EB4, which asked the provincial government to develop a funding model to compensate local governments who provide emergency medical services through their fire and rescue services fulfilling the responsibility of the provincial government with consideration given to community population and the fire department's authorized level of emergency medical response.

More generally, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14, 2004-B26).

R5) Grants to Named Health Facilities

Comox Valley RD

Whereas regional hospital districts are empowered to direct capital funding grants only to hospitals and hospitals facilities named by the Ministry of Health;

And whereas rural, remote and Indigenous communities often rely upon community health clinics for medical care in the absence of any nearby health-authority owned and operated facilities:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the Province of BC review the *Hospital District Act* to provide enhanced authority to regional hospital districts to direct capital and operational grants to non-profit community health clinics and centres in rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting the Province to review the Hospital District Act to provide enhanced authority to regional hospital districts to direct capital and operational grants to non-profit community health clinics and centres in rural, remote and Indigenous communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2017-B96 which asked the Province to review and update the Hospital District Act expeditiously and invite input from the regional hospital districts in British Columbia in order to clarify the mandate and role of hospital districts.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2013-B122 which asked for the Hospital District Act be amended to provide enabling legislation authorizing regional hospital districts to requisition funds to support the capital costs of hospice societies and centres located within a regional hospital district.

**R6) Addressing the Impact of Provincial Policy on Local Governments,
Taxation Equity, and Interim Policing Cost Support**

City of Langford

Whereas the City of Langford acknowledges the vital role of health care, mental health care, and social services in building a resilient and safe community;

And whereas the Province's failure to meet its commitments in these areas has unfairly burdened local governments, straining local resources and compromising public safety, thus exacerbating social inequity through heightened property taxes:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM strongly urge increased provincial funding and support for health care, mental health care, and comprehensive housing initiatives to alleviate the strain on local government resources and enhance public safety;

And be it further resolved that the AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to demonstrate good faith by covering the heightened share of policing costs, recognizing the provincial responsibility in shifting these public safety costs to local governments due to inadequate provision of social services and health care.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution seeking increased provincial funding and support for health care, mental health care, and comprehensive housing initiatives to alleviate the strain on local government resources and enhance public safety, as well as asking the Province to cover the heightened share of policing costs.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking action and funding from the Province to address:

Health Care:

- *resourcing and strengthening of Primary Care Networks, Clinics and Health Centres (2023-EB7, 2022-EB15, 2022-NR6, 2021-EB63, 2016-B44);*
- *recruitment and retention of medical practitioners (2022-SR1, 2022-EB17, 2017-B42, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162); and*
- *additional resources for health care in rural and remote communities in BC (2023-SR1).*

Mental Health Care:

- *improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2023-EB1, 2022-SR2, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).*

Housing:

- *provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2023-EB11, 2023-NR21, 2022-EB24, 2022-EB25, 2022-EB26, 2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128, 2003-B40).*
- *improve shelter aid for elderly renters (SAFER) (2023-EB16, 2022-EB28, 2013-E53);*
- *review provincial permitting processes that relate to local government development and infrastructure projects and investigate opportunities to streamline those processes (2023-EB12, 2021-LR3, 2020-EB52, 2019-B153);*

- *request that the Province invest in a new supportive housing model, along with an integrated approach to housing supports and regional health services (2020-EB80);*
- *request for increased funding levels from the Province to BC Housing in order to mandate and assure that community outreach services and the stability of an adequately skilled staff are components of supportive housing developments that are vital in local communities (2020-EB82); and*
- *ensure all forms of social services (mental health services, addiction services, social assistance services, employment services, etc.) also referred to as “wrap-around services” are available to individuals housed in homeless housing at the housing site or within a short walking distance (2019-B68).*

Criminal Rehabilitation/Public Safety:

- *crime prevention and harm reduction solutions in communities across the province (2022-EB44, 2020-EB7, 2015-B54, 2011-B15, 2008-B67, 2005-B3);*
- *consider public safety and fairness when dealing with prolific offenders, and furthermore that guidelines be developed as to what constitutes “the public interest” with respect to pursuing charges for criminal offences (2022-NR36);*
- *improve capacity in the provincial court system by funding, province-wide, coordinated and collaborative alternatives to the court system (2021-EB11);*
- *enact legislative and regulatory changes to the criminal justice system to apply stricter penalties and ensure adequate incarceration of prolific criminals, as well as the consistent use of electronic monitoring when individuals are released on conditions (2021-NR3);*
- *ensure prolific offenders are “sentenced effectively,” and supported by credible programs to address underlying challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness (2015-B54);*
- *amend or create laws or policies that will prohibit offenders labeled high risk, following their release from prison, from residing in the community or the vicinity of the community where they committed their crime(s) (2007-A2);*
- *escalate sentences for chronic offenders as part of a national integrated crime reduction strategy that also seeks to re-emphasize the protection of society and the responsibility of individuals for their criminal behaviour (2007-B89); and*
- *change the law with respect to “repeat offenders,” including conditions around release into the community, treatment programs and rehabilitation benchmarks (2006-B137).*

Policing Costs:

- *RCMP cost sharing agreements (2023-NR34, 2022-NR33, 2020-EB5, 2016-B75); and*
- *ensure that adequate funding, or provincially funded police resources, be provided to the host local government in order to offset the additional operational impacts that certain provincial facilities (such as mental health and addictions centres, correctional facilities, shelters, and transitional and supportive housing) have on policing services in that community (2022-NR34).*

R7) Urging Legal Action for Constitutional Accountability: Addressing Provincial Failures in Healthcare, Criminal Rehabilitation, and Public Safety Responsibilities

City of Langford

Whereas the Province, as outlined in the *Constitution Act, 1867*, bears constitutional responsibilities for essential services, including healthcare, including mental healthcare, and the administration of justice, including the administration of criminal rehabilitation through prisons;

And whereas it is observed that the Province has failed to adequately fulfill these constitutional responsibilities, resulting in an ineffectual and inequitable downshift of the associated

responsibilities and costs to municipalities, particularly impacting their ability to address social issues related to healthcare, mental health care, and public safety:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM direct its members to explore the viability of initiating a legal proceeding against the Province to address the failure of the Province to meet its constitutional responsibilities, specifically in the areas of healthcare, mental healthcare, and the administration of criminal rehabilitation through correctional facilities, leading to an undue burden on municipalities and compromising public safety.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution looking to explore the viability of legal proceedings against the Province to address the failure of the Province to meet its constitutional responsibilities, specifically in the areas of healthcare, mental healthcare, and the administration of criminal rehabilitation through correctional facilities.

While these are significant issues for local governments, UBCM has always promoted a spirit of consultation and cooperation with the provincial government and would advise caution around the approach that has been proposed by the sponsor.

The Committee would note that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking action and funding from the provincial government to improve the provision of health care, mental health care and correctional facilities.

HOUSING

R8) Provincial Housing Coordinator

City of Nanaimo

Whereas the number of people experiencing homelessness or housing instability across the Province has been increasing at an unprecedented rate;

And whereas the Province has invested considerable funds in supportive housing, the majority of which operate as low barrier facilities making it challenging for individuals in recovery to secure housing options that support an addiction-free lifestyle:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province to establish a Provincial Housing Coordinator to work directly with those persons who are experiencing homelessness and who are not in need of supports, to find suitable housing.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to establish a Provincial Housing Coordinator to work directly with those persons who are experiencing homelessness and who are not in need of supports, to find suitable housing.

However, the Committee notes that the membership supported special resolution 2020-SR10 titled Minimal Barrier Shelter Standards, which asked the Province to direct BC Housing to ensure that its

policies support adequate shelter space throughout the province for those individuals needing to be sheltered in a safe, clean and sober environment.

More generally, the membership has also endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128).

R9) Emergency Shelters and Compliance with BC Building Code and BC Fire Code City of Nanaimo

Whereas many communities are experiencing a crisis-level influx of homeless individuals and the existence of emergency shelters is critical to addressing the safety of people experiencing homelessness;

And whereas due to the urgent nature of the need and the lack of suitable building stock in many communities, emergency shelters are frequently operating from buildings that do not meet the major occupancy classification requirements of the BC Building Code, nor the requirements of the BC Fire Code, placing local governments at risk of incurring liability if they do not enforce the codes and risking shutting down emergency shelters if they do enforce the codes:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province work with the Building Safety Standards Branch to establish some reasonable variances to the BC Building Code and BC Fire Code to enable emergency shelters to remain open.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to work with the Building Safety Standards Branch to establish some reasonable variances to the BC Building Code and BC Fire Code to enable emergency shelters to remain open.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed wide ranging resolutions calling for increased supports in the provision of shelter for homeless and vulnerable individuals, including 2020-SR10, 2022-NR64, 2023-EB18.

R10) Housing Authority Feasibility Study Work

**Comox Valley RD
City of Courtenay
Village of Cumberland
City of Powell River**

Whereas non-market housing is in critical need throughout the province, and the provision of such housing is currently severely challenged by supply conditions, lack of adequate funding, and lack of capacity by local governments to support the provision and management of such housing;

And whereas some municipalities and regional districts in British Columbia have created entities, such as housing authorities, which successfully increase the supply of non-market housing by providing and managing such housing, the process of planning and then creating these entities involves significant staff time and other costs:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM petition the Province of BC to provide grant funding for municipalities and regional districts to plan and create entities that provide and manage non-market housing in their communities.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that while UBCM membership has supported wide ranging policy calling for more supports and funding for housing, the membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide grant funding for municipalities and regional districts to plan and create entities that provide and manage non-market housing in their communities.

The Committee notes that while housing has historically been the responsibility of federal and provincial governments, local governments continue to seek innovative ways to address the housing crisis, including via the creation of housing authorities.

R11) Development Cost Charges for Affordable Housing

Comox Valley RD

Whereas municipalities and regional districts are able to levy development cost charges (DCC) on new development to help pay for the capital costs of growth-related infrastructure;

And whereas local governments are challenged with both adequately funding infrastructure and providing waivers or exemptions to development cost charges for certain types of supportive and rental housing:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to further increase funding levels to BC Housing and mandate the inclusion of funding to pay for development costs charges as part of all capital grants for affordable housing projects.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to further increase funding levels to BC Housing and mandate the inclusion of funding for development costs charges as part of all capital grants.

However, the Committee notes that the members supported resolution 2019-SR2 which asked that the Province conduct a comprehensive review of existing funding mechanisms for financing growth-related infrastructure services, including Development Cost Charges and Amenity Agreements.

More generally, the membership has also endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128), and wide ranging resolutions calling for increased infrastructure funding (2023-EB11, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35).

R12) BC Secondary Suite Incentive Program

North Coast RD

Whereas the BC government aims to create more housing in all of BC through the introduction of the pilot Secondary Suite Incentive Program (SSIP);

And whereas eligibility for the Secondary Suite Incentive Program does not include properties within many regional district electoral areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM advocate to the BC government to expand the Secondary Suite Incentive Program to include all electoral areas thereby reducing inequities and barriers to participation.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Not Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to expand the Secondary Suite Incentive Program to include electoral areas thereby reducing inequities and barriers to participation.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial and federal governments to work to provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2022-EB26, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128, 2003-B40). In particular, resolution 2022-EB26 asked for tax exemptions for all income derived from the rental of secondary suites as a measure to encourage the provision of safe and affordable housing.

The Committee also notes that the Province has indicated the intent to review expansion of the program, in part based on whether or not building permit/inspection services are in place:

“Fifteen of B.C.’s 27 regional districts have the necessary building bylaws, and building-permit and inspection services across their electoral areas that make them eligible for the SSIP pilot. The Province will review whether it can add some of the remaining regional districts in years 2 or 3 of the SSIP, as either they do not have building bylaws and permit/inspection services or they are only provided to some areas.” (<https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2024HOUS0015-000107>)

The Committee also notes that not all of B.C.’s regional districts have the necessary building bylaws, and building-permit and inspection services across their electoral areas and that expanding the program would not provide those without the necessary services the ability to benefit from the SSIP pilot in its current form.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R13) Equitable Funding of Police Services

City of Port Alberni

Whereas the City of Port Alberni funds the greatest number of RCMP members and pays significantly higher police costs per capita and per household compared to other local governments in the Alberni Valley, placing a significant burden on its taxpayers under the current Police Services funding model for British Columbia that does not take into account the financial commitment or funding contribution of each jurisdiction;

And whereas systemic social issues outside of a local government's mandate, such as poverty, addiction, and mental health challenges, contribute to increased call volumes and demands on police services, creating high police services costs that are further exacerbated by the need to respond to and manage the impacts of these systemic social issues:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urgently appeal to the Province of British Columbia to develop an equitable Police Services funding program for all BC municipalities and regional districts that takes into account the financial capacity and population size of each jurisdiction, as well as the additional demands placed on police services due to systemic social issues outside of a local government's mandate.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to develop an equitable police services funding model for all BC local governments that takes into consideration the financial capacity and population of each jurisdiction, as well as additional demands placed on police services due to systemic social issues outside of a local government's mandate.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported numerous resolutions related to police funding and resources, including those seeking changes to the RCMP cost-sharing formula (2023-NR34, 2022-NR33, 2020-EB5, 2016-B75); as well as, requests for police resource allocation in rural areas and/or increases to the authorized strength of the provincial police force (2020-EB7, 2019-A3, 2018-B88, 2017-B6, 2016-B82, 2014-B6, 2013-B7, 2012-A4, 2012-B1).

In 2020, the Province announced its intent to review the Police Act, subsequently creating the all-party Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (SCRPA). As part of its submission to the SCRPA, UBCM recommended that the Province undertake a comprehensive, cross-departmental and cross-governmental public safety review to ensure necessary resources are available in all services areas (e.g., policing, healthcare, housing, etc.). In its final report, the SCRPA recommended that the Province "create and appropriately fund a continuum of response to mental health, addictions and other complex social issues." The Special Committee also recommended that the Province create a fair and equitable funding model for local governments that includes "consideration of local needs, health and social supports, and the geography of a service delivery area." UBCM continues to work with the

Province, through the Local Government Policing Modernization Roundtable, to address these and other policing modernization priorities.

R14) Modernize the Police Cost Sharing Formulas

Town of View Royal

Whereas inflation, officer burnout, rising equipment costs, and rapidly increasing officer salaries have made the existing cost sharing formulas and RCMP policing costs unsustainable for local governments;

And whereas the Province's housing legislation, including Bill 44 and Bill 47, could potentially lead to increased policing costs, while Bill 46 will allow for police facilities to be funded through development cost charges, but will not help address the issue of police capacity:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to work with local governments to develop a new RCMP funding framework that gradually increases the cost-share rate for local governments at the 5,000, 10,000, 20,000 and 40,000 population thresholds.

And be it further resolved that the above amendments be implemented immediately, prior to the 2026 federal census.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking changes to the RCMP cost-sharing formula (2023-NR34, 2022-NR33, 2020-EB5, 2016-B75), but have not considered a request that the new cost sharing framework be implemented prior to the 2026 federal census.

The cost-sharing models for municipalities over 5,000 in population are outlined in the 20-year Municipal Police Unit Agreement (MPUA) that these municipalities have signed with the Province, and which do not expire until March 31, 2032. The provisions in these Agreements, including the cost-sharing model, may be reviewed through the Five Year Review process (see article 21.0 of the MPUA). During each of the first two Five Year Reviews (2017 and 2022), UBCM has sought input from the membership through The Compass and other forums.

In 2020, the Province announced its intent to review the Police Act, subsequently creating the all-party Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act (SCRPA). In its final report, the SCRPA recommended that the Province create a fair and equitable funding model for local governments that includes "exploring options to phase in or incrementally increase the municipal share of policing costs." UBCM continues to work with the Province, through the Local Government Policing Modernization Roundtable, to address these and other policing modernization priorities.

The Committee notes that Bill 44 and Bill 47 refer to the Housing Statutes (Residential Development) Amendment Act, and the Housing Statutes (Transit-Oriented Areas) Amendment Act, respectively, both of which are intended to increase housing supply in part through densification. Bill 46 refers to the Housing Statutes (Development Financing) Amendment Act, 2023, which updates the

development financing regime by establishing a framework for 'Amenity Cost Charges' and expanding eligible categories for development cost charges.

R15) Fail to Appear Charges

City of Duncan

Whereas 100% of Fail to Appear charges at provincial courthouses are assigned to the policing statistics of the local government in which the courthouse is located, having a disproportionate impact on the policing costs assigned to small municipalities with courthouses that serve a much broader area outside their jurisdiction;

And whereas this inflates the Criminal Code case load for all local governments with courthouses within their jurisdiction and results in an unfair burden to the taxpayers of those local governments, especially considering that Fail to Appear cases have no effect on the workload of the local detachment:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to direct that Fail to Appear charges be excluded from the policing statistics of local governments with courthouses.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to exclude charges for failure to appear in court from the policing statistics of local governments with courthouses.

R16) Automated Licence Plate Recognition Funding

City of Langford

Whereas the City of Langford recognizes the importance of safety and compliance to the *Motor Vehicle Act* for all road users;

And whereas the discontinuation of vehicle licence plate validation decals in British Columbia has negatively impacted law enforcement officers in their ability to detect and enforce uninsured motor vehicle violations:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM petition to the Province and ICBC to provide local governments and police agencies with the required funds to procure Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) hardware for all law enforcement vehicles in British Columbia.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province and ICBC to provide local governments and police agencies with the required funding to procure Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) hardware for all law enforcement vehicles in British Columbia.

ALPR technology is currently being used in a limited capacity by BC police agencies to remove unlawful drivers from the road, and to identify Motor Vehicle Act infractions and criminal activity.

ENVIRONMENT

R17) Composting Toilet and Greywater Practice

Islands Trust

Whereas there have been barriers to uptake of alternatives to plumbed sewage disposal systems despite their allowance under the Sewerage System Regulation and the 2016 Manual of Composting Toilet and Greywater Practice;

And whereas these barriers to uptake may include overly conservative requirements (and their application) for onsite application criteria for residuals in the Manual of Composting Toilet and Greywater Practice:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia's Ministry of Health to review the Manual of Composting Toilet and Greywater Practice to update the onsite application criteria for residuals based on current scientific knowledge; and provide funding for demonstration projects and for practitioners' professional development on composting toilets and greywater practices.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Ministry of Health to review the Manual of Composting Toilet and Greywater Practice to update the onsite application criteria for residuals based on current scientific knowledge; and provide funding for demonstration projects and for practitioners' professional development on composting toilets and greywater practices.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR44 which asked the Province to enact legislation to empower local governments to require water conservation and grey water use in relation to plumbing and drainage requirements for new buildings or the retrofitting of old buildings. The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2012-B145 which sought the use of reclaimed or non-potable water (greywater) sources in plumbing systems.

The Committee also advises that the membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2018-B125 which sought to conserve water usage in new buildings by requesting an update to the Building Code to make the installation of waterless urinals mandatory in all new dwellings built.

R18) Ban on Rodent Glue Traps

**Town of View Royal
District of Saanich**

Whereas glue traps are an ineffective method for controlling rodents as they fail to address the root causes of an infestation, including access to food and shelter, and they cause fear, pain and distress

for captured animals, including rodents and non-target animals like birds, bats, small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and household pets;

And whereas most users are not capable of humanely killing trapped animals, leaving them to suffer for hours, and even days, before dying of suffocation, dehydration, starvation, exhaustion, or exposure:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to implement a province-wide ban on the sale, purchase, and use of glue traps.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to implement a province-wide ban on the sale, purchase, and use of rodent glue traps.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported other resolutions addressing rodents, including:

- *2021-NR40 which called on the Province to allow local governments to enact bylaws regulating rodenticide use in the newly created Urban Interface Areas;*
- *2020-LR2 (UBCM Executive endorsed) which called on the Province to implement a province-wide ban on the sale, purchase and use of anticoagulant rodenticides, and call for the Minister of Health to initiate a special review of the regulation of anticoagulant rodenticides; and*
- *2017-B108 which sought the development and funding of a strategy to reduce and/or control the rat population in BC.*

LAND USE

R19) Amendments to the *Land Title Act*

City of Courtenay

Whereas the BC Government is committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 16% below 2007 levels by 2025, 40% by 2030, and 80% by 2050;

And whereas the *Land Title Act*, RSBC 1996, c 250, permits the registration of a building scheme that imposes restrictions consistent with a general scheme of development;

And whereas these building schemes have been used to prohibit or restrict the installation of roof top solar panels;

And whereas such prohibitions or restrictions are a barrier to the generation of renewable energy and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urge the Ministry of Attorney General to consider amendments to the *Land Title Act* similar to its existing section 222 that would prohibit and render

void any building schemes that purport to prohibit or restrict the installation of roof top solar panels, or any other renewable energy systems.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province for amendments to the Land Title Act similar to its existing section 222 that would prohibit and render void any building schemes that purport to prohibit or restrict the installation of roof top solar panels, or any other renewable energy systems.

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions that seek to financial incent and make it easier to add solar panels to homes (2022-NR18 and 2009-B166).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for provincial assistance and programs to support and incent energy retrofits of buildings to, in-part, help lower GHG emissions (2019-B152, 2018-B31, 2014-B28, 2014-B64, 2012-B25).

TRANSPORTATION

R20) Ports Prioritization

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas public wharves and docks are critical transportation links for people, supplies, and emergency services in coastal communities, and there is a lack of coordinated provincial and federal priority setting and funding to support and maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline;

And whereas the federal government divested government wharves, and the responsibility for maintenance and management of public ports has fallen entirely on local taxpayers and nonprofit groups, and the provincial government does not have a ministry responsible for dealing with for the complex issues involving public ports, especially in unincorporated areas:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial and federal governments, review BC's marine network as a whole and identify ports that are vulnerable to long-term funding concerns as well as extreme weather events for more sustained public support to maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline to meet the long term economic, social, and emergency needs of coastal residents;

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the provincial and federal governments to review BC's marine network and commit to greater support for ports that are vulnerable to long-term funding concerns and extreme weather events.

However, the Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2014-B52, which called on the federal government to retain, operate, and manage its infrastructure—including coastal infrastructure such as ports and wharves.

The Committee further notes that at the time of the federal government's Ports Divestiture program, the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions asking the federal government to maintain fiscal responsibility for dock facilities, and minimize the cost impacts to local governments, including:

- annual federal funding for essential dock facilities in BC to be maintained to safe public access and cargo transportation standards (2001-B25); and*
- federal review of the intent and relevance of the National Marine Policy (1995), with particular focus on the record of the divestiture process, the effects of its implementation on coastal communities, and its cumulative costs (2000-A16).*

The Committee acknowledges that these are dated references.

R21) Ports Maintenance

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas public wharves and docks are critical transportation links for people, supplies, and emergency services in coastal communities, and there is a lack of coordinated provincial and federal priority setting and funding to support and maintain critical connectivity along BC's 25,000 kilometres of coastline;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is responsible for maintaining the roads leading to public ports and continues to approve subdivision applications for water-only access residential developments;

And whereas evolving transportation technology and climate change requires a complete reconsideration of the design of small ports to meet future needs:

Therefore, be it resolved that the provincial government fund the creation of engineering best practices for building ports to meet future transportation needs and climate resilience and provide financial support for the primary access ports.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for the provincial government to develop engineering best practices for building ports to meet future transportation needs and climate resilience, and provide financial support for the primary access ports.

However, the Committee notes that members endorsed resolution 2014-B52, which called on the federal government to retain, operate, and manage its infrastructure—including coastal infrastructure such as ports and wharves.

The Committee further notes that at the time of the federal government's Ports Divestiture program, the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions asking the federal government to maintain fiscal responsibility for dock facilities, and minimize the cost impacts to local governments, including:

- annual federal funding for essential dock facilities in BC to be maintained to safe public access and cargo transportation standards (2001-B25); and*
- federal review of the intent and relevance of the National Marine Policy (1995), with particular focus on the record of the divestiture process, the effects of its implementation on coastal communities, and its cumulative costs (2000-A16).*

The Committee acknowledges that these are dated references.

R22) Derelict Vehicles in Remote Communities

North Coast RD

Whereas remote communities in BC are struggling with the accumulation of numerous derelict vehicles;

And whereas disposal facilities in remote communities have limited capacity and a lack of infrastructure to internally manage derelict vehicles or ship to end-markets:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM advocate to the Province of BC for grant funding to be made available for remote communities to undertake cleanup of derelict vehicles.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province specifically for grant funding to be made available for remote coastal communities to undertake cleanup of derelict vehicles.

The issue of derelict and abandoned vehicles on provincial roads in unincorporated areas is not new. The Committee would observe that in endorsing previous resolutions on this topic, the UBCM membership asked for funding for provincial agencies or the RCMP provincial police force to take responsibility for cleanup of abandoned vehicles on provincial roads (2021-EB17, 2020-EB10).

This resolution from North Coast Regional District proposes that the provincial government fund local governments to undertake removal of derelict vehicles from provincial roads. The request in this resolution suggests downloading of a provincial responsibility onto local governments, and is contrary to the resolutions previously endorsed by the UBCM membership.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R23) Halt Reductions to the Annual Allowable Cut

City of Campbell River

Whereas forestry is, and continues to be, a critical industry across British Columbia, providing not only well-paying jobs to both urban and rural remote communities, including approximately 1200

direct jobs in Campbell River, but significant tax contributions to fund key municipal infrastructure and provincial services;

And whereas value added manufacturing will be unable to thrive unless primary forestry partners can have predictable, sustainable levels of harvesting land base:

Therefore be it resolved that that AVICC and UBCM Executive call on the Ministry of Forests to immediately halt any further reductions to the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) and meet with industry to better understand the impacts of a reduced AAC to the entire forest industry.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to immediately halt any further reductions to the Annual Allowable Cut (AAC) and meet with industry to better understand the impacts of a reduced AAC to the entire forest industry.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR88 which called upon the Province to streamline and expedite the necessary approvals for forestry practices, including cutting permits (CPs), annual allowable cut (AAC), and necessary First Nations consultation within BC's Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act, and to strictly follow stated approval timelines.

Alternatively, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed late resolution 2023-LR1 which called on the Province to immediately defer its current land base initiatives until a comprehensive inventory is conducted after the 2023 wildfire season, in order to understand if the current land base initiatives remain in the best interest of the Province.

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported special resolution 2021-SR2 which asked the Province to engage and consult with local governments and Indigenous communities as it moves forward to implement recommendations within the Modernizing Forest Policy in BC Intentions Paper, including matters related to old growth designations and deferrals, recognizing that there will be implications and impacts for workers and communities that will require economic transition support.

SELECTED ISSUES

R24) Provincial Employee Support

Village of Zeballos

Whereas the Province of British Columbia implements changes to legislation in anticipation of providing benefit to all British Columbians;

And whereas not all rural, remote communities are provided with capacity to fulfill new legislative requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the Province provide subject specific provincial employees on a regional level to support local governments with the increased legislative changes.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide subject specific provincial employees on a regional level to support local governments with the increased legislative changes.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported numerous resolutions seeking additional staffing help in a variety of areas, including:

- sought more judicial resources (judges and crown counsel lawyers) (2018-B60, 2018-B89, 2011-B9);*
- more health care workers in rural and remote communities (2023-SR1);*
- managing recruitment and retention of paramedics, maintaining adequate staffing levels and delivery of service in rural communities (2022-EB5, 2022-EB7, 2021-EB61, 2021-EB62, 2020-EB74, 2017-B133); and*
- increasing police resource allocation in rural areas and/or the need to increase the authorized strength of the provincial police force (2023-NR35, 2020-EB7, 2019-A3, 2018-B88, 2017-B6, 2016-B82, 2014-B6, 2013-B7, 2012-A4, 2012-B1).*

As well, members endorsed resolutions seeking more public sector housing for essential service personnel (2021-NR55).

The Committee would note that after communicating with the sponsor, they were able to explain that the “increased legislative changes” referred to in the enactment clause includes: Wildfire recovery, Accessibility legislation, BC Emergency Health Services, NextGen 911, Emergency and Disaster Management Act, Drinking Water Guidelines, Housing legislation, Asset Retirement requirements, Declaration Act requirements, Climate Action reporting, Pre-Tax Sales requirements and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy requirements.

R25) Wellbeing of Future Generations Act

District of Saanich

Whereas there currently is no provincial legislation to address the need for strategic foresight by requiring public bodies to plan and take action in pursuit of economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing in their areas and for interconnected objectives;

And whereas short-term thinking, fragmented decision-making, siloed approaches, and a lack of emphasis on the long-term consequences of these decisions have led to the persistence of social, environmental, and economic issues and inequities:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM lobby the provincial government to develop a “Wellbeing of Future Generations Act” that requires public bodies to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other, and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the AVICC membership has never considered this resolution, and that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, the same resolution from the same sponsor last year: 2023-NR93.

The Committee would advise that this resolution is requesting the establishment of an Act that would seek to legislate public bodies to “think about the long-term impact of their decisions”; “work better with people, communities and each other”; and “prevent persistent problems such as poverty health inequalities and climate change.” While the objectives raised by the sponsor are laudable it is not clear how these types of behavioural actions could be enshrined in provincial legislation and monitored in a manner that would allow these objectives to be evaluated.

R26) UBCM First Nation Membership

Village of Zeballos

Whereas First Nation representation within the Union of BC Municipalities membership are underrepresented;

And whereas the Province of BC has adopted the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM provide an outreach program to British Columbia's First Nations on becoming full UBCM members.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Action Required**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution that requests UBCM to provide an outreach program to BC's First Nations on becoming full UBCM members.

However, the Committee notes that resolution 2016-B101 was referred to the UBCM Executive, who upon consideration, chose to endorse this resolution. 2016-B101 asked that the UBCM membership formally recognize the ability for all First Nation governments (both treaty and non-treaty) to join UBCM as members, so long as they meet the UBCM membership criteria of a) elected representation; b) ability to tax; and c) ability to exercise regulatory power or provide local services. The resolution also asked UBCM to inform First Nations of UBCM membership criteria and advise those that meet UBCM criteria and agree to pay annual dues, that they may join UBCM.

To fulfill the intent of second part of the 2016 resolution, awareness of UBCM membership eligibility, UBCM wrote to First Nations Summit to make them aware of the resolution but also to share the fact that UBCM membership was open to both treaty and non-treaty First Nations, who met the eligibility criteria for membership. We encouraged First Nations Summit to share the information with their membership as an awareness raising exercise to the broader First Nations community. The First Nations Summit was UBCM's contact point as we have a long-standing working relationship with the organization by way of a Protocol on Consultation and Cooperation since 2001, as well as through the co-management of the Community to Community (C2C) funding program, and co-host of the Province-wide C2C Forum for local governments and First Nations. Due to these efforts the Committee is offering a recommendation of No Action Required.

UBCM is pleased to advise that our First Nations membership currently includes both treaty and non-treaty First Nations; and we welcomed our most recent non-treaty First Nation member in February 2024, Skwłax te Secwépemcúlecw. AVICC has extended an invitation for First Nation participation at our AGM & Convention to the First Nation Chiefs from communities in our region.

Part 2 - Section "B" – This section contains resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R27) First Responder Calls by Fire Rescue Departments

District of Tofino

Whereas BC fire rescue service departments, operating under career, composite, or volunteer models, are experiencing increased demands in emergency medical response calls in support of the BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) system;

And whereas the fire departments that provide these services, authorized under the Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA) first responder program, currently do not receive remuneration or funding for their critical support within the BCEHS system:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM endorse and advocate to the Province for the establishment of a remuneration system for BC fire rescue service departments providing medical care in conjunction with the BCEHS system, with considerations for the cost of personnel, training, and replacement of consumed supplies.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14, 2004-B26).

**R28) Provincial Cost Recovery for Emergency Medical Services Provided
by Fire Departments**

RD of Nanaimo

Whereas BC fire rescue service departments, operating under career, composite, or volunteer models, are experiencing increased demands in emergency medical response calls while there is inadequate funding for the BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) system;

And whereas the fire departments that provide these services, authorized under the Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA) first responder program, currently do so on a community-by-community basis creating an inconsistent provincial approach to emergency medical assistance:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM endorse and advocate to the Province for the establishment of a cohesive financial emergency medical assistant framework, with considerations for the cost of personnel, training, province-wide consistency, and the replacement of consumed supplies for fire rescue service departments, as part of advocacy for a modernized financial framework for local governments in BC.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14, 2004-B26). But the membership has not considered the request as a part of advocacy for a modernized financial framework for local governments in BC.

R29) Pre-Hospital Care – Cover Costs of Local Governments

City of Port Alberni

Whereas the provision of pre-hospital care is a critical aspect of health care in British Columbia and Fire Departments, funded by local governments, have traditionally played a significant role in delivering pre-hospital care and that pre-hospital care falls under the jurisdiction of the provincial government;

And whereas the increasing workload related to pre-hospital care, particularly in the area of medical first response, has put significant pressure on local governments arising from the need to allocate additional resources for training, fuel, vehicle maintenance, consumables, and staffing:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urgently appeal to the Province of British Columbia to take immediate steps to provide adequate funding to local governments to cover the cost of Fire

Department First Responder programs to help alleviate the financial strain on local governments and ensure the continued provision of essential pre-hospital care services.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking fair compensation for local government provision of first responder services (2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2022-NR2, 2019-SR3, 2019-B11, 2018-B141, 2014-A2, 2012-A6, 2009-B14, 2004-B26).

R30) Mental Health Liaison Officers

City of Nanaimo

Whereas RCMP members continue to respond to a significant number of calls for service for individuals dealing with mental health challenges and Mental Health Liaison Officers have proven to be an effective resource for assisting vulnerable citizens requiring support;

And whereas local governments are not provided funding to pay for healthcare and social services and there has been no increase in the Provincial funding model to support these officers responding to chronic/crisis mental health calls:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM advocate for the Province to fund RCMP Mental Health Liaison Officers within local detachments.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has previously endorsed resolutions on this issue, including:

- *2022-EB8 which asked the Province to support an integrated Car 40 Program with appropriate and sustainable funding;*
- *2021-EB60 which asked the Province to provide an integrated health care regional model for a Mobile Crisis Response Car Program; and*
- *2020-SR8 which called for the development of integrated teams of health, police, and other officials on a twenty-four (24) hour basis to manage individuals with mental health issues.*

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2022-EB9, 2022-NR4, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB59, 2021-EB60, 2020-SR8, 2020-EB79, 2020-NR62, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2014-B70, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

R31) Investment in Complex Care Beds

City of Nanaimo

Whereas in 2022, the BC Emergency Health Services reported a 75% total increase in annual overdose/poisoning events since the toxic drug crisis was declared a public health emergency in 2016

and the BC Provincial Overdose Cohort reports that brain injury is 15 times more likely among people who had experienced drug poisoning than those who had not;

And whereas the number of supports available for individuals requiring complex care due to health challenges related to substance use disorder has proven grossly inadequate for the ever-increasing demand in communities all across British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the Province to increase investment in complex care beds to address the growing demand from those who have suffered serious health impacts from substance use disorder.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking care beds for those suffering with substance use disorder, including:

- *2020-SR8 which asked, in part, to introduce additional long-term care beds to deal specifically with mental illness cases.*
- *2019-B61 which asked to fund significantly more licensed rehabilitation facilities and beds in every local government to enable all those who seek assistance in recovering from addictions an opportunity to beat addictions; and*
- *2010-B145 which asked, in part, for more harm reduction services, including detox and treatment beds.*

More generally, the membership has endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2022-EB9, 2022-NR4, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB59, 2021-EB60, 2020-SR8, 2020-EB79, 2020-NR62, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2014-B70, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

R32) Seniors' Support Assisted Living

District of Saanich

Whereas Statistics Canada reports confirm that both the number and percentage of seniors will grow significantly during the next two decades, both in numbers and overall proportion of the population;

And whereas most serious illnesses requiring either assisted living options and/or hospital care occur later in life and there is a significant shortage of supportive assisted living spaces for seniors, affecting both hospital availability/accessibility and housing options for vulnerable seniors:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM lobby the provincial government to increase the number of supportive assisted living units across British Columbia in a manner aligned with the demographic data to ensure that all seniors can be housed in dignity as they age and to reduce the pressures of the hospital system by so doing.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking additional supportive assisted living units (care beds and facilities) including (2021-EB65, 2009-B52, 2005-B45, 2004-B127).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed other related resolutions, including requests for:

- *adequate funding for home care, home support and assisted living, through to and including critical care (2023-NR5, 2009-B52, 2007-B191, 2006-B155, 2005-B48, 2004-B129);*
- *enhanced coordinated health and social support programs for seniors across BC (2022-EB12, 2018-B53, 2017-B51, 2012-B41, 2011-A4, 2011-B63, 2007-B152, 2006-B162);*
- *creation of a new tax credit program to encourage home renovations for, in part, aging in place projects (2016-B46); and*
- *restoration of long-term care facilities throughout the province, sufficient to meet the needs of citizens in their communities (2006-B159).*

R33) Implementing Accessibility BC Act Recommendations

City of Parksville

Whereas the *Accessible British Columbia Act* passed by the provincial government in 2021 requires local governments to develop accessibility plans to identify, remove and prevent barriers;

And whereas local governments have limited financial abilities and staff resources to implement accessibility recommendations on an ongoing basis:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the Province create an annual funding model (accessibility fund) designed to assist local governments to implement accessibility recommendations.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2023-NR3 which asked the Province to establish a granting stream with UBCM to support local governments in the development and implementation of their accessibility plans.

Staff note that the Province has created a funding program for local governments through SPARC BC. Funds can be used for the development and implementation of accessibility plans. The Resolutions Committee notes that the SPARC BC Local Community Accessibility Grant Program provides one-time funding, and is not an annual funding model.

HOUSING

R34) Funding for Seniors Housing in Rural Areas

Village of Gold River

Whereas seniors, in the increasing demographic of those over 65, in rural BC have limited range of options for housing;

And whereas rural BC local municipalities have limited financial resources to support seniors housing options that allow seniors to age in place in their home community due to financial, social, health and housing vulnerabilities experienced by this increasing demographic:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the provincial government to provide BC Housing with additional funding and support to facilitate new affordable seniors' housing in rural areas.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions seeking more affordable seniors' housing across BC (2018-B55, 2014-B45).

More generally, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking more housing in rural areas (2022-EB24, 2021-EB65, 2021-EB75, 2019-B183).

R35) Extreme Weather Response Shelter System

**City of Courtenay
Comox Valley RD
Village of Cumberland
City of Powell River**

Whereas the Extreme Weather Response (EWR) shelter system was developed more than a decade ago to support community organizations in providing life-saving warm, safe places for unhoused community members to sleep in cold and wet weather, the EWR model does not provide any funding for facility rental costs, security, equipment or resource purchases, nor does it provide any funds for these community organizations to plan for, develop, and deliver EWR shelters in their communities;

And whereas since the EWR program was developed the number of community members experiencing homelessness has grown substantially, and the needs of those community members have, often due to addiction and mental health challenges, become increasingly complex, community organizations in many communities have been unable to provide life-saving EWR shelters with the limited resources available:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to recognize that the EWR program is insufficient to address current social challenges and community capacity to meet those challenges; and that a provincially driven solution be determined in collaboration with community leaders to ensure that:

1. service delivery by existing provincial agencies that are tasked with providing social service supports, including shelter spaces and wrap-around services, is strengthened; and
2. funds are available to rent facilities, provide security and necessary equipment such that the community organizations that are tasked to deliver this program are appropriately resourced.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed similar resolutions that asked the Province to provide adequate funding for, and work with local governments, to open extreme weather response (EWR) shelters and warming and cooling centers under specific circumstances (2023-EB18, 2023-NR28, 2022-EB11, 2021-EB73, 2012-B94).

In particular, resolution 2023-EB18 requests that BC Housing, The Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness and health authorities ensure that they support local governments with commitments to provide resourcing for dedicated predetermined long-term locations for warming/cooling centres as well as appropriately qualified professionals experienced in managing community members with high health needs including mental health and substance use disorders.

The provincial government's website offers a list of expenses and their eligibility for reimbursement during an extreme weather emergencies:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/public-safety-and-emergency-services/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/embc/policies/514_eligibility_assessment_addendum.pdf

To ensure costs will be reimbursed, an expense authorization form must be submitted to the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) for pre-approval.

R36) BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax

North Coast RD

Whereas the BC government implemented a BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax to turn vacant homes into housing for BC residents;

And whereas the BC government continues to expand the BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to include new communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM advocate to the provincial government that all BC communities, including electoral areas, be given the option to opt-in to the BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax program.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province that all BC communities, including electoral areas, be given the option to opt-in to the BC Speculation and Vacancy Tax program.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions which asks the Province to empower local governments to collect a levy on vacant residential properties (2023-EB14, 2021-EB19, 2020-NR69).

R37) Development Cost Charges for Fire Protection Facilities

District of Lantzville

Whereas the provincial government has passed Bill 46 *Housing Statutes (Development Financing) Amendment Act*, 2023 amending Section 559, subsection (2)(a) of the *Local Government Act* to include "fire protection facilities" in the collection of Development Cost Charges (DCCs), but does not specifically define "fire protection facilities";

And whereas many smaller local governments have a limited number of brick-and-mortar fire protection buildings, but a large number of other capital expenses related to fire protection, such as vehicles and equipment:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM advocate with the Ministry of Housing and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs that "fire protection facilities" be specifically defined in the relevant documentation and/or legislation to include the purchase and maintenance of all capital items related to fire protection including, but not limited to, fire trucks, duty vehicles, hoses, breathing apparatuses, communications equipment and all other capital expenditures that may be required to equip and maintain fire protection services.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported two resolutions that sought to allow Development Cost Charges to be used to fund the cost of fire halls and fire fighting equipment. Resolution 2012-B9 sought to allow development cost charges to be imposed to assist local governments in funding the capital costs of fire halls and fire suppression equipment and other purposes deemed appropriate by the local government that are required as a result of increased development. Resolution 2005-B95 sought a change in legislation allowing municipalities to collect Development Cost Charges for major protective services capital projects (such as fire fighting equipment).

More generally, the membership has supported resolutions that call for the expanded application of Development Cost Charges beyond their current allowable usages to a variety of specific usages including solid waste infrastructure and sport related park infrastructure (2021-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2019-SR2, 2018-B21, 2016-SR1, 2015-B21, 2012-B54, 2011-B35, 2010-B23, 2007-B37).

In addition to 2019-SR2, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that call for the expanded application of Development Cost Charges (DCC) beyond their current allowable usages to a variety of specific usages including solid waste infrastructure, fire halls and fire suppression equipment and sport related park infrastructure (2021-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2018-B21, 2016-SR1, 2015-B21, 2012-B9, 2012-B54, 2011-B35, 2010-B23, 2007-B37, 2005-B95).

ENVIRONMENT

R38) Heavy Duty Vehicle Climate Emissions

District of Central Saanich

Whereas many local governments in BC have set Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission reduction targets;

And whereas like other local governments, the District of Central Saanich has made progress in reducing emissions, yet has findings to indicate that heavy-duty truck emissions have increased, while there are few available local government legislative or financial powers to change this trajectory:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the Province to use its financial and legislative powers to take further action to reduce the emissions from the heavy-duty trucks, which may include requiring a higher mixture of biodiesel, electrification, or further incentives to decarbonize heavy-duty vehicle fleets.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed an earlier resolution which sought to reduce emissions from heavy-duty vehicles, 2020-EB27 asked the Province to enact zero-emission vehicle sales requirements for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

FINANCE

R39) Provincial Core Funding for Evolving Public Libraries

**City of Nanaimo
District of Oak Bay
City of Powell River
qathet RD**

Whereas core funding for public libraries in British Columbia has remained unchanged since 2009, limiting their ability to expand and evolve their programming as demand for their services increases;

And whereas the operational requirements of public libraries increasingly require significant and diverse resources to provide front-line community services, including supporting patrons with mental health and addiction issues as well as barriers to housing, providing critical locations of refuge during extreme weather events, providing services to new Canadians, and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC call on the provincial government to recognize the evolving and challenging situation for public libraries as well as their unique role as community spaces, and increase annual core funding for libraries to \$30 million in keeping with the request made by the BC Public Library Partners and the recommendation of the province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services;

And be it further resolved that this increase in core funding be increased on a yearly basis in keeping with cost of living and inflationary pressures.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution seeking an increase in annual core funding for libraries to \$30 million.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to maintain and increase its funding for public libraries (2023-EB54, 2022-EB59, 2020-EB41, 2019-B28, 2019-B29, 2018-B24, 2017-B60, 2016-B95, 2014-B17, 2012-B71, 2011-B27, 2010-B46, 2008-B57, 2007-B56, 2006-B55, 2006-B56).

R40) Sustainable and Equitable Funding of Library Services

City of Port Alberni

Whereas public libraries play a vital role in communities by providing access to resources, promoting literacy, supporting job seekers and small businesses, advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and promoting equity and inclusion;

And whereas public libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by levies paid by local governments, and provincial funding for libraries has remained stagnant; while the costs to deliver library services and the demand for library services have increased exponentially over time:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM appeal to the Province of British Columbia to provide long-term sustainable funding for public libraries in BC;

And be it further resolved that the Province ensures that BC libraries receive regular increases to Provincial Government funding in subsequent years.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the Province to maintain and increase its funding for public libraries (2023-EB54, 2022-EB59, 2020-EB41, 2019-B28, 2019-B29, 2018-B24, 2017-B60, 2016-B95, 2014-B17, 2012-B71, 2011-B27, 2010-B46, 2008-B57, 2007-B56, 2006-B55, 2006-B56).

R41) Increased Funding for Local Government Infrastructure

Town of Comox

Whereas local governments across BC are facing infrastructure funding shortfalls to maintain current infrastructure and as a result are implementing significant municipal tax increases;

And whereas continued population growth and housing demand is resulting in the need for local governments to expand their recreation, fire, police, parks, and administration services at a level greater than can be accomplished through the use of the newly introduced Amenity Cost Contribution authority:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to provide increased funding to support capital expansions of local government service infrastructure.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions calling for increased infrastructure funding (2023-EB11, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2012-A1).

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions that call for the expanded application of Development Cost Charges (DCCs) and legislative authority and consistency for Amenity Contributions (2020-NEB6, 2019-SR2, 2016-SR1, 2015-B21, 2012-B9, 2012-B54, 2011-B35, 2007-B37, 2005-B95). In 2023 the Province passed legislation through Bill 46 addressing, in part, these member resolutions, but as of March 2024 has not yet provided clarity through regulation or policy manual on the implementation of the new legislation.

In 2021 the UBCM membership endorsed the Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency report that included a working partnership between the Province and UBCM to strengthen the local government finance system. UBCM signed an MOU with the Minister of Finance and Minister of Municipal Affairs in 2022 that led to the formation of the Local Government Financial Review Working Group. This group has representatives from UBCM and both ministries with a work plan that includes reviewing the funding of growth-related infrastructure. The Working Group agreed to a shared problem statement recognizing the difficulties local governments report regarding infrastructure capital costs.

R42) Rethinking Local Government Taxation for Equitable and Effective Crisis Response

City of Langford

Whereas local governments, often on the front lines, bear the brunt of addressing shared crises such as climate issues, housing affordability, inequality, public health, and infrastructure challenges;

And whereas the burden on local governments has intensified due to provincial shortcomings in fulfilling their responsibilities, leaving many local governments grappling with insufficient revenue sources, resulting in an over reliance on regressive property taxation:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urge the Province to promptly fulfill its responsibilities in providing health care, including mental health care, as well as social services and the management of criminal rehabilitation through correctional facilities;

And be it further resolved that in the absence of immediate provincial action, the AVICC and UBCM advocate for a comprehensive and immediate review of local government taxation and revenue sources recognizing the pivotal role of local governments, which, despite these being provincial responsibilities, are left to deal with the repercussions without adequate support from the Province.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to fulfill its responsibilities in providing health care, including mental health care, as well as social services and the management of criminal rehabilitation through

correctional facilities. As well as advocate for a comprehensive and immediate review of local government taxation and revenue sources.

However, the Committee notes that in 2021, the UBCM membership endorsed UBCM's Ensuring Local Government Financial Resiliency report that recognized the historic downloading of jurisdictional responsibility for mental health and addiction services and for supporting attainable housing. The report called for UBCM to work with the Province to develop a comprehensive strategy to address mental health and addictions, and develop and implement a province-wide homelessness strategy.

UBCM signed an MOU with the Minister of Finance and Minister of Municipal Affairs in 2022 that led to the formation of the Local Government Financial Review Working Group. This group has representatives from UBCM and both ministries with a work plan that includes reviewing the current local government property tax system and opportunities for sharing taxation/revenues to strengthen the local government finance system.

The Resolutions Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to create revenue sharing programs as a way of establishing new revenue sources for local governments (2015-B82, 2011-B28, 2011-B29, 2011-B30, 2010-B24, 2010-B76, 2009-B30, 2009-LR9, 2008-B119, 2006-B24, 2005-B18, 2005-B20, 2005-B106, 2004-A6, 2004-A8, 2004-B11, 2004-B111).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking action and funding from the Province to address:

Health Care:

- resourcing and strengthening of Primary Care Networks, Clinics and Health Centres (2023-EB7, 2022-EB15, 2022-NR6, 2021-EB63, 2016-B44);*
- recruitment and retention of medical practitioners (2022-SR1, 2022-EB17, 2017-B42, 2017-B43, 2016-B44, 2015-B70, 2015-B68, 2008-B162); and*
- additional resources for health care in rural and remote communities in BC (2023-SR1).*

Mental Health Care:

- improved resourcing and facilities for mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2023-EB1, 2022-SR2, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B70, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).*

Housing:

- provide affordable housing for all Canadians (2023-EB11, 2023-NR21, 2022-EB24, 2022-EB25, 2022-EB26, 2022-NR14, 2021-EB75, 2019-B30, 2018-B55, 2018-B56, 2017-B17, 2015-B47, 2013-B53, 2011-B67, 2011-B175, 2008-B158, 2006-A2, 2006-B162, 2005-B48, 2005-B50, 2004-B128, 2003-B40).*

Criminal Rehabilitation/Public Safety:

- crime prevention and harm reduction solutions in communities across the province (2022-EB44, 2020-EB7, 2015-B54, 2011-B15, 2008-B67, 2005-B3);*

- *consider public safety and fairness when dealing with prolific offenders, and furthermore that guidelines be developed as to what constitutes “the public interest” with respect to pursuing charges for criminal offences (2022-NR36);*
- *improve capacity in the provincial court system by funding, province-wide, coordinated and collaborative alternatives to the court system (2021-EB11);*
- *enact legislative and regulatory changes to the criminal justice system to apply stricter penalties and ensure adequate incarceration of prolific criminals, as well as the consistent use of electronic monitoring when individuals are released on conditions (2021-NR3);*
- *ensure prolific offenders are "sentenced effectively," and supported by credible programs to address underlying challenges such as substance abuse or mental illness (2015-B54);*
- *amend or create laws or policies that will prohibit offenders labeled high risk, following their release from prison, from residing in the community or the vicinity of the community where they committed their crime(s) (2007-A2);*
- *escalate sentences for chronic offenders as part of a national integrated crime reduction strategy that also seeks to re-emphasize the protection of society and the responsibility of individuals for their criminal behaviour (2007-B89); and*
- *change the law with respect to “repeat offenders,” including conditions around release into the community, treatment programs and rehabilitation benchmarks (2006-B137).*

LAND USE

R43) Addressing Shoreline Erosion Concerns in Coastal Communities

North Coast RD

Whereas coastal communities in BC are experiencing the detrimental effects of climate change, including rising sea levels, adverse weather events, and eroding shorelines:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM urge the BC government to dedicate more resources toward mitigating the impacts of climate change and shoreline erosion in coastal communities.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to dedicate more resources toward mitigating the impacts of climate change and shoreline erosion in coastal communities.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions that seek better land use planning that ensures decision making takes into account the cumulative effects on the environment from land use (2020-EB61, 2019-B36, 2019-B155, 2018-B34, 2017-B65, 2017-B115, 2016-B25). In particular, resolution 2020-EB61 notes erosion control in its first whereas clause.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions that seek to increase the funding, resources, and tools available to local governments to prepare for and adapt to the impacts of climate change (2023-EB31, 2023-NR45, 2022-EB45, 2022-NR41, 2021-EB39), including

several resolutions specifically related to flood protection (2022-SR3, 2021-EB6, 2020-NR16, 2019-B12).

R44) Drought

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas climate change is causing increasingly unpredictable and extended summer droughts throughout Vancouver Island and the Coastal Region;

And whereas water is a shared resource required by all residents, industry sectors, agriculture and the environment to both sustain life and conduct business:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM request the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship conduct a current inventory of surface and groundwater availability, as well as projected future needs, in order to facilitate planning of freshwater storage requirements to supply all residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, Indigenous, emergency and environmental needs to a minimum 50-year threshold.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship to conduct a current inventory of surface and groundwater availability, as well as projected future needs, in order to facilitate planning of freshwater storage requirements to supply all residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, Indigenous, emergency and environmental needs to a minimum 50-year threshold.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds; most notably as part of the recent Watershed Security Strategy and related Watershed Security Fund (2023-EB37, 2023-EB38, 2023-EB56, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to establish standards and funding around drinking water, including:

- Province to assist regional districts by developing a means by which sustainable funding can be provided for very small water systems, so as to ensure these systems are built, operated, and maintained in a sustainable and safe manner (2022-EB81);*
- Province to provide funding opportunities that reflect the true cost of the upgrades to aging drinking water infrastructure particularly in the rural areas of the province of British Columbia (2011-B107);*
- Province to standardize water quality and treatment regulations across BC and develop a funding strategy for their implementation (2009-B51);*
- Province to establish province-wide standards on potable water to be applied universally and implemented consistently in order to protect public health and public confidence in local and regional potable water systems (2007-B123); and*

- *Province to ensure that funding is available to develop the infrastructure required to meet the Province's drinking water standards (2006-B90).*

R45) Groundwater Protection in the Province of British Columbia

District of Metchosin

Whereas over one million British Columbians rely on groundwater for daily use and that groundwater presents significant challenges in terms of monitoring, defining (classifying/characterizing), and demonstrating water viability, including water-use budgets/allocations;

And whereas the impacts of climate change, population growth and industrial activity are intensifying, and all three factors can negatively impact groundwater sustainability and sources:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the provincial government prioritize the following:

1. Renew the work to identify aquifers at risk in terms of productivity and vulnerability to contamination, climate change, population growth and other criteria;
2. Continue to build in the province's groundwater monitoring capacity, including installation of additional observation wells for high risk aquifers;
3. Develop a regular reporting process on the health and viability of high-risk aquifers; and
4. Develop a funding program for local governments to support local monitoring of groundwater resources.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution making the following four requests of the Province:

1. *Renew the work to identify aquifers at risk in terms of productivity and vulnerability to contamination, climate change, population growth and other criteria;*
2. *Continue to build in the province's groundwater monitoring capacity, including installation of additional observation wells for high risk aquifers;*
3. *Develop a regular reporting process on the health and viability of high-risk aquifers; and*
4. *Develop a funding program for local governments to support local monitoring of groundwater resources.*

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds; most notably as part of the recent Watershed Security Strategy and related Watershed Security Fund (2023-EB37, 2023-EB38, 2023-EB56, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions asking the Province to establish standards and funding around drinking water, including:

- *Province to assist regional districts by developing a means by which sustainable funding can be provided for very small water systems, so as to ensure these systems are built, operated, and maintained in a sustainable and safe manner (2022-EB81);*
- *Province to provide funding opportunities that reflect the true cost of the upgrades to aging drinking water infrastructure particularly in the rural areas of the province of British Columbia (2011-B107);*
- *Province to standardize water quality and treatment regulations across BC and develop a funding strategy for their implementation (2009-B51);*
- *Province to establish province-wide standards on potable water to be applied universally and implemented consistently in order to protect public health and public confidence in local and regional potable water systems (2007-B123); and*
- *Province to ensure that funding is available to develop the infrastructure required to meet the Province's drinking water standards (2006-B90).*

R46) Rainwater Management in Road Rights of Way

Comox Valley RD

Whereas residential development in portions of unincorporated areas designated as suitable for increased dwelling density through regional growth strategies and official community plans will enhance the supply of housing in British Columbia;

And whereas a key constraint in increasing dwelling density in these areas is locating adequately sized green infrastructure such as rain gardens and infiltration swales that protect stream systems and overall watershed health, and reduce risk to downstream property:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the Province of BC investigate options to permit green infrastructure and low impact development rainwater management measures for private property and public roads within provincial public highway rights of way in alignment with policy direction set out in the March 2023 Intentions Paper for the Watershed Security Strategy.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to investigate options to permit green infrastructure and low impact development rainwater management measures for private property and public roads within provincial public highway rights of way in alignment with policy direction set out in the March 2023 Intentions Paper for the Watershed Security Strategy.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking improved stormwater (rainwater) management (2022-EB63, 2020-EB62, 2012-B90).

The Committee also notes that there has been support for the use of green infrastructure, including UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR16 which sought flood risk mitigation through green infrastructure and natural assets. As well as resolution 2021-EB44 which sought to undertake

risk assessments to identify and assess any potential threats to the natural assets that communities rely on to provide essential services such as drinking water and flood mitigation.

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions that seek better land use planning that ensures decision making takes into account the cumulative effects on the environment, such as watersheds (2021-EB44, 2020-EB61, 2019-B36, 2019-B155, 2018-B34, 2017-B65, 2017-B115, 2016-B25).

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking funding from the Province and authority for local governments to manage the use and activities in their communities' watersheds; most notably as part of the recent Watershed Security Strategy and related Watershed Security Fund (2023-EB37, 2023-EB38, 2023-EB56, 2021-EB28, 2021-EB45, 2020-EB51, 2017-B115, 2016-B25, 2015-B32, 2014-B88, 2013-B32, 2013-B37, 2013-B195, 2011-B50, 2011-B57, 2011-B100, 2011-B129, 2009-B136, 2008-B35, 2007-B26, 2007-B42, 2007-B122).

TRANSPORTATION

R47) Highway Active Transportation

District of Central Saanich

Whereas the Province has jurisdiction over provincial highways, many of which are critical active transportation corridors and provide connections to services, workplaces, ferries, parks and recreation areas, and neighbouring communities;

And whereas many provincial highways require new or upgraded active transportation infrastructure to enable local governments to realize comprehensive, interconnected, safe, active transportation networks for residents:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the Province to assess all provincial highways with active transportation corridors in accordance with the British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide, and in consultation with municipalities, regional districts, and Indigenous Nations, develop a provincially-funded plan or program to address gaps and shortfalls, and local active transportation priorities on provincial highways.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to assess all provincial highways with active transportation corridors in accordance with the British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide, and in consultation with local and Indigenous governments, develop a provincially-funded plan or program to address gaps and shortfalls, and local active transportation priorities on provincial highways.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support the increased use of active transportation:

- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99);*

- *tax exemption or financial incentive for purchase of electric bicycles (2020-EB29, 2019-B44, 2016-B130); and*
- *improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57, 2012-B63, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B110, 2006-B140).*

R48) Active Transportation Within Provincial Highway Rights of Way

City of Langford

Whereas according to CleanBC's Roadmap to 2030, transportation is our largest single source of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) which accounts for approximately 40% of our annual total, and to address this the Province has committed to doubling the proportion of trips using active transportation by 2030;

And whereas given the urgency of the climate crises, the fast-approaching 2030 deadline and the fact that safe active transportation infrastructure provides economically accessible transportation for more individuals of all ages and abilities, there is a pressing need for the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to provide stronger leadership, accountability, and equitable investment in infrastructure for all modes of transportation:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to take on the responsibility for the development, operation and maintenance of all active transportation infrastructure within provincial highway rights of way to align with active transportation planning of Indigenous and local governments, thus ensuring equitable commitment to active transportation infrastructure commensurate with infrastructure focused on motor vehicles.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR24, which asked the Province to assume responsibility for the development and operation of active transportation infrastructure within highway rights of way.

More generally, the Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions that support active transportation infrastructure, including:

- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2020-EB24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99); and*
- *improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57, 2012-B63, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B110, 2006-B140).*

R49) Improved Road Design for Vulnerable Road Users

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure road design standards prioritize the efficient movement of motor vehicles over the safety of vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, transit users, and cyclists;

And whereas narrow road rights-of-way and topographic challenges in rural areas often make it impossible for active transportation infrastructure to be built to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's Active Transportation Design Guide of separated paths along road corridors;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure will not approve, fund, or maintain any road improvements that don't meet their Active Transportation Design Guide:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province instruct the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to prioritize the safety of vulnerable road users in their road design standards;

And be it further resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure recognize the practical challenges of active transportation in rural areas and approve, fund and maintain minor road improvements that increase safety for vulnerable road users, such as paved shoulders and crosswalks.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to prioritize safety measures for vulnerable road users, including relevant amendments to the Motor Vehicle Act (2021-EB16, 2018-B12, 2018-B102).

The Committee further notes that more generally, members have consistently endorsed resolutions that support the increased use of active transportation:

- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 2019-B16, 2018-B15, 2013-B99);*
- *tax exemption or financial incentive for purchase of electric bicycles (2020-EB29, 2019-B44, 2016-B130); and*
- *improvements to cycling infrastructure (2016-B9, 2016-B57, 2012-B63, 2010-B17, 2009-B83, 2008-B108, 2007-B14, 2007-B99, 2006-B110, 2006-B140).*

R50) Funding for Rural Road Maintenance

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas secondary roads in unincorporated areas of BC are typically maintained on a break/fix basis despite deteriorating conditions and increasing traffic;

And whereas there is no publicly available plan for the upgrade and replacement of rural roads, culverts, and bridges:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province direct and fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to establish a capital asset management plan for secondary road networks across the province.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to establish a capital asset management plan for secondary road networks across the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking improved road and highway maintenance, including:

- MOTI to consult with local governments and be more transparent and share Road Maintenance Plans and Infrastructure priorities with local governments (2023-EB62, 2021-EB14);*
- improved maintenance and funding for roads and bridges (2022-EB69, 2020-EB23, 2020-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2017-B12, 2015-B75, 2014-B53, 2014-B54, 2013-B13, 2008-B110);*
- improved service level standards and maintenance funding for secondary provincial roads (2020-EB18, 2015-B74, 2014-B54, 2010-B19, 2009-B16, 2008-B17, 2003-B7);*
- improved maintenance of rural and resource roads (2020-EB20, 2020-EB22, 2017-B58, 2017-B59, 2015-B74, 2013-B128, 2010-B19, 2008-B17);*
- improved maintenance and funding for roads and bridges (2022-EB69, 2020-EB23, 2020-EB25, 2020-NR23, 2017-B12, 2015-B75, 2014-B53, 2014-B54, 2013-B13, 2008-B110); and*
- regular provincial government audits and performance assessment of highway maintenance services, and communication of the audit findings to local governments (2017-B10, 2008-B113).*

R51) Emergency Routes

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas on June 6, 2023, Highway 4 was closed at Cameron Lake Bluff, near Koen Road, due to a wildfire, and that a detour route from Port Alberni through Lake Cowichan via Bamfield, using forest-service and privately owned industrial roads was established by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) on Wednesday, July 7, 2023, and was actively maintained until August 31, 2023;

And whereas the highway closure that occurred between June 6, 2023, and August 31, 2023, resulted in significant negative impacts on our residents' health, safety, and well-being, and it had devastating economic impacts resulting in the loss of jobs and permanent closure of local businesses, and that similar communities having only one access road in and out of their community experienced similar negative impacts during emergency activations:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure and the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness work with communities, that have only one access road in and out of their community, to ensure the permanent establishment and maintenance of alternative or emergency transportation routes for use in the event of an emergency;

And be it further resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, coordinate with the Ministry of Transportation, the Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness, and appropriate local governments to conduct an inventory of active forestry roads that could be maintained for emergency evacuation purposes, and that the

roads meeting the criteria for emergency evacuation purposes be maintained for these purposes by the Province in perpetuity.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolutions asking the provincial government to identify resource roads that are essential for community access or egress, and commit to maintaining these as public roads, including:

- review forest service roads to determine which ones are critical for the public's access/egress and develop a plan to maintain them as public roads (2020-EB22); and*
- work with communities and stakeholders to identify key resource roads no longer required for industrial use, and designate these roads as recreational roads that require provincial oversight and funding for ongoing maintenance in support of, in part, emergency uses (2017-B58).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling for provincial maintenance of resource roads so that they can be used for emergency purposes:

- establish defined standards for construction, maintenance, and enforcement for resource roads that serve as the primary or secondary access roads for communities, funded similarly to the public highway system (2020-EB19);*
- explore by policy the ways and means and criteria to distinguish resource road classes defined as high community or public use resource roads, along with flexible, result-oriented definitions for their maintenance (2020-EB20); and*
- additional funding and improved maintenance of resource roads (2015-B74, 2010-B19, 2008-B17).*

The Committee is aware that the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund (CEPF), a program intended to enhance the resiliency of local governments, First Nations, and communities in responding to emergencies, includes a funding stream to support the development of evacuation route plans. The Province allocated \$110 million in 2021/22 in new funding to the CEPF.

R52) Engagement with Local Governments with Respect to Road Network Planning

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure lacks the funding, staffing and mandate to plan overall road networks in unincorporated areas and to proactively deal with transportation and development planning issues in the "fringe" interface areas of municipalities and regional districts;

And whereas problems with runoff from roads and development are increasingly severe across the province, and are significantly impacted by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure decisions around subdivision approvals and road infrastructure;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure does not proactively engage with local governments on future planning and maintenance of numbered routes that run through local governments and often through downtown cores:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province direct and fund the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to engage with local governments on overall road network planning and subdivision planning in order to improve decision-making to reduce cumulative negative impacts on communities.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to engage with local governments on overall road network planning and subdivision planning in order to improve decision-making to reduce cumulative negative impacts on communities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking improved engagement with MOTI and the Province regarding roads and highways, including:

- *share road maintenance plans and infrastructure priorities with local governments (2023-EB62); and*
- *require the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to engage in meaningful consultation with local governments throughout the planning stages, prior to undertaking works on highways (2021-EB14).*

R53) Free Transit for Students

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas the BC Government's fare-free transit program for youth aged 12 and under grade 6 saves families money while offering youth low-carbon transportation that helps the province and municipalities reach carbon neutrality targets;

And whereas expanding eligibility to those in grade 12 and under would promote equitable access to transit despite economic disparity amongst youth and families in BC:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province to expand the fare-free transit program for youth in grade 12 and under.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that AVICC Members endorsed the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2020-NEB4 which sought, in part, free public transit across BC for youth under 19 years of age.

The resolution sponsored by Sunshine Coast Regional District, which identifies youth "in grade 12 and under", seeks free public transit for an age range equivalent to the "under 19 years of age" specified in non-endorsed resolution 2020-NEB4.

The Committee advises that due to time constraints, resolution 2020-NR26 was not considered at Convention but was referred automatically to the UBCM Executive. Resolution 2020-NR26 sought fare-free public transit services. Upon consideration, the UBCM Executive did not endorse resolution 2020-NR26.

The Committee further advises that AVICC Members endorsed two resolutions which asked the Province to work with local governments on fare-free public transit services (fare-free for all) where supported by communities, but that UBCM members considered, but did not endorse these resolutions (2022-NEB2, 2021-NR17).

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse resolution 2022-NR58 which sought fare-free transit for youth aged 13 and under (grade 7). At present, youth aged 12 and under can ride transit in BC fare-free.

LEGISLATIVE

R54) Legislative Changes Consultation Process

Village of Zeballos

Whereas the Province of British Columbia implements changes to legislation in anticipation of providing benefit to all British Columbians;

And whereas not all rural, remote communities are provided with capacity to fulfill new legislative requirements:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the Province provide a more fulsome consultation process with local governments of all sizes prior to making sweeping legislative changes.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions requesting greater consultation and engagement with the Province on policy, programs and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments. In 2019 members endorsed SR1 which asked that the Province ensure that the principles of mutual respect, consultation and cooperation as outlined in s. 2 of the Community Charter be adhered to and implemented as it moves forward with future initiatives. And in 2022, EB75 was endorsed which asked the Province to consult with local governments that will be impacted by provincial policy.

The membership has also endorsed several resolutions seeking more and improved consultation and communication between the Province and local governments on a variety of specific topics including:

- 2023-EB8 which asked the Province to improve the communication between the Ministry of Health and local levels of government to ensure the health care system meets the needs of all residents of BC;*
- 2023-EB62 which asked the Province to require the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) to engage in meaningful consultation with local governments throughout the planning stages, prior to undertaking works on highways;*

- 2021-SR2 which asked the Province to engage and consult with local governments and Indigenous communities as it moves forward to implement recommendations within the Modernizing Forest Policy in BC Intentions Paper;
- 2021-EB5 which asked the Province to find ways/means to have accurate and more timely community-based information that can be shared with local governments and their residents during declared local and provincial states of emergency;
- 2021-EB43 which sought improved government to government collaboration with local governments regarding land use planning initiatives on crown land; and
- 2021-EB72 which asked the Province to consult with local governments when planning new housing and facilities to support homeless people.

The membership has endorsed additional resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

The Committee would note that after communicating with the sponsor, they were able to explain that the “sweeping legislative changes” referred to in the enactment clause includes: Wildfire recovery, Accessibility legislation, BC Emergency Health Services, NextGen 911, Emergency and Disaster Management Act, Drinking Water Guidelines, Housing legislation, Asset Retirement requirements, Declaration Act requirements, Climate Action reporting, Pre-Tax Sales requirements and Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy requirements.

ASSESSMENT

R55) New Assessment Classification for Vacant Residential Lands

Village of Gold River

Whereas there is a housing crisis in British Columbia that affects all local governments in varying degrees;

And whereas there are limited tools to discourage speculation and encourage development of undeveloped property:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to create a new assessment classification for undeveloped residential properties to allow local governments to establish a different tax rate for vacant residential land.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed a similar resolution, 2016-B13, which asked the Province to create a new prescribed class of property for vacant land and vacant contaminated land that allows for a different tax rate.

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported some resolutions addressing the taxation of vacant lands, including:

- 2023-NR69 which asked the Province to provide local governments with an option to introduce a vacant property tax applicable to both commercial and industrial properties;
- 2021-EB19 requesting a review of the Community Charter to grant municipal councils' authority to add a 'vacant land' property tax;
- 2020-NR69 which asked the Province for a vacancy tax for residential and commercial properties, but was amended to remove the reference to commercial properties; and
- 2019-B181 was endorsed with an amendment by the UBCM Executive which asked the Province to impose a vacancy tax only on residential properties.

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions that ask the Province to empower local governments to make adjustments to tax rates to address vacant and derelict properties (2017-B14, 2012-B130, 2007-B72); and collect a levy on vacant residential properties (2020-EB33, 2020-NR69, 2019-B19, 2019-B181, 2018-A3, 2017-B91).

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R56) Enhancing Communications for Municipal Fire Departments Responding to Motor Vehicle Incidents

City of Port Alberni

Whereas fire departments play a crucial role in responding to motor vehicle incidents outside of fire protection boundaries on behalf of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) and that both EMCR and the local government have a shared responsibility for the health and safety of responders;

And whereas one of the significant challenges faced by local fire departments is the lack of adequate [or any] communications infrastructure in the areas they respond to, making it difficult for responders to coordinate their efforts, request additional resources, or seek assistance from other agencies and hampering the effectiveness and efficiency of response operations, potentially compromising the safety of both responders and the public:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urgently request the Province of British Columbia to provide modern and reliable communications, such as Starlink, to responding agencies that are handling motor vehicle incidents on the Province's behalf to ensure seamless communication and enhance the safety and effectiveness of responders;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia collaborate with telecommunication providers to improve overall communications infrastructure in areas where motor vehicle incidents occur frequently including expanding coverage, improving network reliability, and exploring innovative solutions to address communication challenges in remote and underserved areas.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse with Proposed Amendment**

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urgently request the Province of British Columbia to provide modern and reliable communications, such as ~~Starlink~~ **low-earth orbit satellite internet**, to responding agencies that are handling motor vehicle incidents on the province's behalf to ensure seamless communication and enhance the safety and effectiveness of responders;

And be it further resolved that the Province of British Columbia collaborate with telecommunication providers to improve overall communications infrastructure in areas where motor vehicle incidents occur frequently including expanding coverage, improving network reliability, and exploring innovative solutions to address communication challenges in remote and underserved areas.

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to provide modern and reliable communications, such as low-earth orbit satellite internet, to responding agencies that are handling motor vehicle incidents on provincial roads.

Regarding the second enactment clause, the Committee notes that UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions calling on the provincial government to ensure the availability of cellular coverage along all transportation corridors in BC, and in partnership with other orders of government, oblige service providers to close such gaps in cellular service (2020-EB70, 2019-B72, 2018-B57, 2012-B45, 2010-B50, 2009-B57, 2008-B54, 2007-B57).

The Resolutions Committee would propose an amendment to identify the potential technological solution, rather than state the name of a service provider. The Committee understands that Starlink as a service provider might not necessarily be approved for use in all Canadian public service contexts.

SELECTED ISSUES

R57) Increased Funding for Rural Colleges

City of Port Alberni

Whereas colleges in rural British Columbia play a crucial role in providing accessible and high-quality education and training opportunities for students across the province, including a closer to home education for those who otherwise cannot access training or education to provide necessary skills for employability;

And whereas rural colleges face increasing demands and challenges, including rising operating costs, growing student populations, and the need to adapt to changing industry needs;

And whereas adequate funding is essential to ensure that rural colleges can continue to provide quality education, support student success, and meet the evolving needs of students and industries, while being challenged by distance and numbers when trying to meet the same requirements as colleges in more heavily populated areas:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM appeal to the Province of British Columbia to increase funding for rural colleges in British Columbia to support their operations, programs, and services and develop a standard of college funding more closely reflecting the real costs of providing required training and education to the population of rural British Columbia.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed resolution 2012-B96 which asked the Province to develop a standard of college funding more closely reflecting the real costs of providing training and education in rural and northern BC.

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2008-B46, which called on the Province to make increased investments (capital and operating funding) in educational institutions and facilities, in order that they will be able to provide the retraining programs and services needed to enable individuals to make labour force transitions, as well as provide access to the skilled workers employers will need to work in new and emerging sectors. As well, it called for the Province to establish a new funding framework to ensure the ongoing long-term sustainability of the community college system in BC.

The membership has also endorsed resolution 2004-B141 which called for the development of alternative or additional funding models that would assist in enhancing existing programs and allow the development of new, relevant, and innovative training opportunities at rural and remote colleges and training institutes.

PART SR - SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

SR 1 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

AVICC Executive

We do not anticipate any Special Resolutions as defined under the Societies Act

PART ER – EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

ER 1 Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

AVICC Executive

We do not anticipate resolutions from the Executive at this time.