

2025 AVICC RESOLUTIONS

PART 1 – SPECIAL & EXTRAORDINARY RESOLUTIONS

SR – Special Resolutions

Special Resolutions address priority issues of the membership and are typically sponsored by the AVICC Executive.

ER – Extraordinary Resolutions

Extraordinary resolutions are resolutions sponsored by the AVICC Executive and are seeking membership approval to amend AVICC Bylaws.

There are no Special or Extraordinary Resolutions to consider for 2025.

PART 2 – REGIONAL RESOLUTIONS

The following are the resolutions received by the February 6, 2025 resolutions deadline, where the issue addressed is specific to the AVICC Region and/or the enactment clause directs only the AVICC area association (and not UBCM) to consider taking action. Endorsed AVICC Region-specific Resolutions will not be forwarded to UBCM for consideration by the UBCM membership but will instead remain with AVICC where they may be actioned.

Part 2 - Section “A” – This section would contain **AVICC Region-specific** resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

There are no Regional Resolutions with a recommendation of Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

Part 2 - Section “B” – This section contains **AVICC Region-specific** resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse.

LAND USE

R1 Addressing Local Community Concerns with Private Managed Forest Lands Cowichan Valley RD

TRANSPORTATION

R2 Island Rail Corridor Alberni Clayoquot RD

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R3 Power Supply Investment North Island District of Port Hardy

PART 3 – RESOLUTIONS

The following are the resolutions received by the February 6, 2025 resolutions deadline. Should any of these resolutions be endorsed, they will be forwarded to UBCM for consideration at their Annual Convention.

Part 3 - Section “A” – This section contains resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment (to be considered as a block).

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R4	Mental Health and Addictions Resources	City of Parksville
R5	Volunteer Fire Department Funding Model	Sunshine Coast RD

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R6	Fire Inspections and Investigations	Comox Valley RD
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ENVIRONMENT

R7	Non-migratory Resident Canada Geese	District of Metchosin
R8	Financial Incentives for Residential Rainwater Catchment Systems	District of Tofino
R9	Conserving BC Landfill Capacity	RD Nanaimo
R10	Sustainable Funding for Landfill Gas Regulation Compliance	Comox Valley RD
R11	Legislating the BC Coastal Marine Strategy	City of Langford & District of Saanich
R12	Provincial Circular Economy Strategy	RD Nanaimo
R13	Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems	Comox Valley RD

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION

R14	Funding Indigenous Governments' Engagement in Local Government Planning Activities	Cowichan Valley RD
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FINANCE

R15	Sustainable Growing Communities Fund	City of Parksville & RD Nanaimo
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TAXATION

R16	BC Port Tax Cap	North Coast RD
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TRANSPORTATION

R17	EV Charging Strategy for Remote Communities	qathet RD
R18	Support and Resourcing for Active Transportation Projects	Cowichan Valley RD
R19	BC Ferry Advisory Committees	North Coast RD
R20	Emergency Road Network Planning	Sunshine Coast RD

LEGISLATIVE

R21	Provincially Funded WorkSafe BC	Village of Daajing Giids
R22	Provincial Consultation on Legislative Changes	City of Parksville

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R23	Forestry Industry and Fibre Decline	City of Port Alberni
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Part 3 - Section “B” – This section contains resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R24	Mental Health Support for Elected Officials	Islands Trust
R25	Free Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy as part of Postpartum Care in British Columbia	City of Langford
R26	Child Care Licensing Regulations	District of Oak Bay

HOUSING

R27	Tiny Homes and RVs	RD Nanaimo
R28	Mandatory Good Neighbour Agreement	District of Sechelt

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R29	Province-Wide Ban on Fireworks	District of Metchosin
R30	Fire Resilient Forest Practices	RD Nanaimo
R31	Sharing Fentanyl Precursors Information with Law Enforcement	Town of Qualicum Beach
R32	Provincial Disaster Debris Plan	RD Nanaimo
R33	Major Planned Events Advocacy	Comox Valley RD

ENVIRONMENT

R34	Hybrid Wolfdogs	RD Nanaimo
R35	Provincial Support for Addressing Feral Rabbits	District of Saanich
R36	Provincial Waste Hauler Licensing	RD Nanaimo
R37	Solid Waste Management Approvals	RD Nanaimo

FINANCE

R38	Infrastructure and Capital Projects Requiring Elector Approval	City of Nanaimo
R39	Improvement Districts Policy Revision	qathet RD

LAND USE

R40	Private Managed Forest Lands	Nanaimo RD
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TRANSPORTATION

R41	Transit Fees for Seniors	District of Oak Bay
R42	Traffic Controls at Inactive Railroad Crossings	Town of Qualicum Beach

LEGISLATIVE

R43	Payment In Lieu of Works and Services for Land Development	City of Nanaimo
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COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R44	Forestry Industry - Sustainable Fibre	City of Port Alberni
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SELECTED ISSUES

R45	BC Human Rights Tribunal	District of Sooke
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Extraordinary resolutions are resolutions sponsored by the AVICC Executive and are seeking membership approval to amend AVICC Bylaws.

There are no Special or Extraordinary Resolutions to consider for 2025.

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Part 2 - Section “A” – This section would contain **AVICC Region-specific** resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

There are no Regional Resolutions with a recommendation of Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment.

Part 2 - Section “B” – This section contains **AVICC Region-specific** resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse.

LAND USE

Cowichan Valley RD

R1) Addressing Local Community Concerns with Private Managed Forest Lands

Whereas population growth within the Cowichan Valley Regional District, like much of Vancouver Island, is concentrated in the fertile lower portions of our watersheds and is reliant upon surface and groundwater originating in the undeveloped upper watersheds;

And whereas while the entire Cowichan Valley Regional District lies on unceded First Nations territory, the majority of the land in the upper watersheds on eastern Vancouver Island is privately managed forest lands over which local governments have little or no authority regarding forest management activities which impact the hydrologic cycles and the availability of water to meet community and ecological needs:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC request that the Province of BC and the Ministry of Forests complete the currently stalled Private Managed Forest Land Program Review and reform the *Private Managed Forest Lands Act* to ensure that forest management on private lands prioritizes the protection of ecological values while providing economic benefits to communities and allowing for local government input to resource harvesting activities within the watersheds that support their communities.

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

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the AVICC membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to complete the Private Managed Forest Land Program Review and reform the Private Managed Forest Lands Act to prioritize the protection of ecological values, and local government input on resource harvesting activities within community watersheds.

*However, the Committee notes that AVICC and UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions asking the Province to regulate private land logging in the same manner as crown land, and to ensure that local governments are consulted in advance of harvesting to prevent damage to watersheds and other infrastructure –bolded items are those originating from AVICC members (**2023-NR40** , **2021-EB29**, **2020-EB48**, 2020-EB65, 2019-B38, 2019-B46, 2019-B48, **2019-B49**, **2018-B41**, 2018-B42, **2011-B50**, **2010-B26**, **2008-B34**, **2006-B102**, **2005-B27**).*

*In addition, the AVICC and UBCM members have endorsed a number of resolutions asking that the Province enact legislation requiring private managed forest lands to be regulated and managed to the same standards as crown managed forest lands; referencing challenges with water quality and safety of drinking water in community watersheds – bolded items are those originating from AVICC members (**2023-NR67**, **2021-EB29**, **2020-EB48**, 2019-B48, **2019-B49**, **2018-B41**, **2011-B50**, **2008-B34**).*

TRANSPORTATION

R2) Island Rail Corridor

Alberni-Clayoquot RD

Whereas wildfires and other emergencies have, and may again, present an ongoing threat to communities on Vancouver Island, including the closure of Highway 4;

And whereas the Island Corridor includes a West to East section of rail that connects the City of Port Alberni to the City of Parksville and Eastern communities of Vancouver Island, providing an alternative transportation route for both the movement of people and goods in the event of a highway closure and offer a greater ability to attack wildfires in that part of the region;

And whereas a minimal investment to the West to East Rail connection would be required to facilitate the use of Hi-Rail busses, trucks, and firefighting equipment at low speeds on this section of the rail line:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC request that the province of British Columbia prioritize funding the minimum required upgrades to the West to East section of the Island Rail Corridor to allow for its use in the event of a wildfire or highway closure.

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

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the AVICC membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to prioritize funding the minimum required upgrades to the West to East section of the Island Rail Corridor to allow for its use in the event of a wildfire or highway closure. UBCM indicates that, because the Island Rail Corridor is an issue specific to the AVICC region, that this item should remain with AVICC.

The Committee notes that the the AVICC membership has consistently endorsed resolutions addressing Island Corridor rail service, but are often referred back from UBCM to AVICC for action 2022-RR37 submitted directly to UBCM and endorsed; 2019-R8 (UBCM 2019-C55)2017-R7 (UBCM 2017-C9), 2016-R3 (UBCM 2016-C24),and UBCM: 2009-C14, 2009-C34, 2008-LR4).

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R3) Power Supply Investment North Island

District of Port Hardy

Whereas reliable and sustainable power supply is critical to supporting economic diversification, enhancing infrastructure, and ensuring the growth of rural communities in the North Island (North of Campbell River);

And whereas increased power capacity will support economic investment in industries transitioning to sustainable practices, such as aquaculture, mining exploration, and other economic investment, while encouraging the development of green energy projects in the region:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC requests that the provincial government commit to upgrading the power supply infrastructure on the North Island, including those communities North of Campbell River, ensuring sustainable and reliable energy delivery that supports economic growth, green energy projects, and the region's transition to a diverse and resilient economy.

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

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the AVICC membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province commit to upgrading the power supply infrastructure on the North Island, north of Campbell River.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions calling on the Province and BC Hydro to implement remote community electrification, and upgrade existing power supply infrastructure in rural and remote communities, including (below are UBCM resolutions from other area associations – no resolutions have been considered by AVICC in the past):

- 2023-NR43 which asked the Province, BC Utilities Commission and BC Hydro to coordinate regarding the need for communities to understand BC Hydro's readiness to meet electrification requirements and to support electrification in retrofits in order for communities to meet climate action goals;*
- 2016-B38 which asked BC Hydro to reinstate and adequately fund the BC Hydro Remote Community Electrification program to sustain the economic and social well-being of remote and rural communities throughout BC; and*
- several resolutions asking the Province and BC Hydro to support extensions of electrical power infrastructure to specific areas of the province that are currently underserved or not presently serviced (2012-B36, 2008-B45, 2004-B25).*

PART 3 – RESOLUTIONS

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HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R4) Mental Health and Addictions Resources for Youth

City of Parksville

Whereas increasing mental health and addiction issues amongst youth (18 - 28 years), combined with a lack of mental health and addictions resources and services, is a growing problem in local governments across British Columbia;

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for youth mental health and addictions services throughout the province;

And be it further resolved that the province report out on deliverables and results of expenditures on mental health and addictions supports for youth with an analysis of the effectiveness of implemented programs.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered resolutions focused only on youth, and with the specific requests that the Province provide improved resourcing and facilities for youth mental health and addictions services throughout the province; and to report out on deliverables and results of expenditures on mental health and addictions supports for youth.

However, the Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide improved resourcing and facilities for child and youth mental health and substance use collaboration beyond 2017 (2017-B70) as well as mental health and addictions services throughout the province (2024-EB1, 2024-EB2, 2024-EB3, 2024-EB5, 2024-EB6, 2024-EB7, 2024-NR3, 2024-NR6, 2023-SR3, 2023-EB1, 2022-EB9, 2021-EB54, 2021-EB55, 2021-EB56, 2021-EB57, 2020-EB79, 2020-SR8, 2019-B60, 2019-B61, 2019-B171, 2019-B172, 2018-B52, 2017-B71, 2016-B43, 2015-A2, 2014-B34, 2013-B52, 2010-B42, 2008-A1, 2007-B89, 2007-B153, 2006-B50, 2006-B51, 2005-B3).

R5) Volunteer Fire Department Funding Model

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas volunteer fire departments in rural and remote areas are burdened with longer and more frequent call outs to attend downed powerlines, motor vehicle incidents and other emergency calls until BC Hydro or BC Ambulance arrives on scene;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province to review the funding model for volunteer fire departments to include reasonable and proportional funding from BC Hydro, BC Ambulance, and ICBC to reduce the burden on local tax payers.

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 (2024-EB9, 2023-EB4, 2023-EB5, 2023-EB6, 2023-EB24, 2022-EB40, 2022-EB41, 2022-NR2, 2020-EB9, 2019-SR3, 2019-B9, 2019-B11, 2018-B5, 2018-B141, 2015-B17, 2014-A2, 2014-B15, 2013-B8, 2012-A6, 2011-B4, 2011-B5, 2010-B6, 2009-B14, 2009-B28, 2009-B69, 2009-B88, 2007-B10).

In particular, resolution 2023-EB24 sought reimbursement from ICBC to compensate fire departments for first responder attendance at traffic incidents.

However, the Committee advises that the request for compensation from BC Hydro has not been previously considered by the membership.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R6) Fire Inspections and Investigations

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the *Fire Safety Act* came into effect on August 1, 2024 and now requires local governments to appoint fire investigators / inspectors across their jurisdictions but in particular for those areas that may not have fire protection or are challenging to access (due to remoteness);

And whereas local governments, particularly in rural and remote areas, face significant logistical and resource challenges and do not have staff or funding in place to do inspections/investigations:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government, as stated in the recently released *Fire Safety Act*, have the Local Fire Service Advisors perform fire inspections and investigations for regional districts and have it be continued in perpetuity.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2018-SR3 which sought “one standard of fire safety” throughout BC, including for regional districts, and reiterated to the Province that UBCM does not support regional districts as the vehicle for implementing the Province’s direction regarding one standard of fire safety.

The Committee also notes that the membership has endorsed similar resolutions, but these resolutions applied to all local governments, rather than just to regional districts:

- *2019-A1 which asked the Province to expedite the enactment of legislation requiring provincial safety regulations to be enforced by the Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC) or the BC Safety Authority rather than pursuing options to download the responsibility for inspections and enforcement of provincial regulations on local governments; and*
- *2015-A3 which asked the Province to provide the resources necessary to inspect and enforce provincial safety regulations, including the Fire Services Act and its regulations, through either the Office of the Fire Commissioner or the BC Safety Authority rather than pursuing options to download the responsibility for inspections and enforcement of provincial regulations on local governments.*

UBCM and the OFC have established the Single Standard of Fire Safety Working Group (SSFSWG), to address local government concerns and to work through implementation of the Fire Safety Act in regional districts. Primary concerns identified by regional districts include a lack of expertise, capacity and funding to undertake new responsibilities. Through the SSFSWG, the OFC and UBCM reached an outcome that will allow the OFC to perform fire inspections and investigations on behalf of regional districts, when asked by the regional district.

Recognizing that this approach is not what was proposed in the Act, and is only possible by using transition provisions, UBCM and the local government members of the SSFSWG have requested that the Act be amended once it has been brought into force to ensure that the OFC's role in supporting fire inspections and investigations becomes formalized in the Act as a permanent solution.

ENVIRONMENT

R7) Non-migratory Resident Canada Geese

District of Metchosin

Whereas the current population of non-migratory, resident Canada geese (*Branta canadensis moffitti*) are not native to this area and are increasing in numbers each year to an estimated 9,000 to 11,000 according to recent bird counts;

And whereas non-migratory, resident Canada geese are an ongoing destructive element to agriculture through the disruption of growing fields, the consumption of crops, and the risks posed by avian influenza and E. coli contamination, presenting risks to food security and the broader environment:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM work with provincial agencies such as the Ministry of Environment in concert with Canada Wildlife Services to undertake effective action to protect agriculture and the environment including establishing a goose cull program to deal with non-migratory resident Canada geese populations.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported a number of resolutions seeking support and coordination from other orders of government to manage the population of Canada geese (2017-B30, 2016-B59, 2013-B107, 2013-B107, 2011-B42).

R8) Financial Incentives for Residential Rainwater Catchment Systems

District of Tofino

Whereas water security, drought, and climate change are critical issues affecting communities across the Province of British Columbia, with many communities facing challenges related to aging water infrastructure and increasing demand;

And whereas incentivizing the implementation of residential rainwater catchment systems can alleviate pressure on water supply challenges in drought affected communities:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to offer rebates or financial incentives for residential rainwater catchment systems to help increase water supply and promote efficient water use practices.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling upon the Province to offer rebates or financial incentives for residential rainwater catchment systems to help increase water supply and promote efficient water use practices.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions calling for provincial funding and development of policy and procedures for agricultural rainwater harvesting systems (2016-B106) and provincial development of rainwater treatment objectives and standards for small water systems (2016-B111). The Committee also notes that the membership has supported numerous resolutions calling on the Province to offer rebates or financial incentives for other initiatives that provide environmental benefits including rebates for vehicles 2020-EB29; building retrofit incentives for energy efficiency 2018-B31, and rebates for more energy efficient appliances and products 2008-B70 and 2008-B91).

R9) Conserving BC Landfill Capacity

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the available capacity of landfills in British Columbia is rapidly diminishing, posing a significant challenge to effective waste management and environmental sustainability;

And whereas landfill airspace is a critical component in recovery from disaster and emergency events:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province develop a long-term waste management strategy that supports a circular economy, prioritizing waste reduction, material reuse, and recycling, while maintaining resilience in the event of emergencies or disasters.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has supported resolutions that address many of the items noted in the enactment clause, including waste management strategies, a circular economy, prioritizing waste reduction, material reuse, and recycling.

The Committee notes that the membership has supported a number of resolutions addressing solid waste management and landfills, including:

- *2024-EB53 which asked the Province to establish an annual funding model to assist local governments in adequately preparing for and responding to new provincial environmental standards for solid waste management;*
- *2021-NR33 which asked the Province to provide the necessary resources to local governments for landfill compliance related projects;*
- *2021-NR34 which asked the Province to help ensure local government meet Operational Certificates for landfill compliance without the threat of imprisonment or substantial monetary fines;*
- *2016-B27 which asked for provincial funding to assist local governments in their waste management initiatives that address the new standards around Landfill Operational Certificates; and*
- *numerous resolutions addressing demolition waste in landfills (2022-EB51, 2021-NR35, 2018-B26, 2017-B25, 2017-B45, 2017-B97, 2016-B143, 2012-B81).*

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions supporting the circular economy (2021-EB38, 2017-B63) and the right to repair products (2021-NR37).

The Committee additionally notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to reduce food waste (2023-NR48, 2022-EB56).

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to include the ICI sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs (2023-EB41, 2021-EB33, 2020-EB54, 2020-EB57, 2019-B146, 2018-B68, 2012-B125).

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting the introduction of industry product stewardship programs that would shift the responsibility for waste management from local governments to producers and consumers of products such as electronic waste, batteries, tires, used oil, plastics, mattresses, furniture and packaging (2022-EB54, 2020-EB53, 2020-EB55, 2020-EB56, 2014-B97, 2009-B35, 2008-B84, 2006-B28, 2006-B29, 2006-B107, 2005-B24).

R10) Sustainable Funding for Landfill Gas Regulation Compliance

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the new provincial landfill gas regulations present disproportionate financial challenges for smaller local governments, exacerbating existing disparities in service delivery capacity;

And whereas compliance costs, including infrastructure upgrades, specialized training, ongoing monitoring, and maintenance, represent a significant financial strain for communities with limited revenue streams:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to develop a sustainable funding model that recognizes the diverse financial capacities of local governments and provides targeted financial assistance to ensure equitable implementation of the landfill gas regulations across British Columbia.

*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 develop a sustainable funding model that recognizes the diverse financial capacities of local governments and provides targeted financial assistance to ensure equitable implementation of the landfill gas regulations across British Columbia.

The Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to reduce food waste (2023-NR48, 2022-EB56), both of which address the greenhouse gas emissions from decomposing food waste in landfills, in a whereas clause. As well, resolution 2009-B113 sought grant funding support for landfill gas reduction projects and greater regulatory flexibility in how local governments reduce emissions from landfills.

R11) Legislating the BC Coastal Marine Strategy

**City of Langford
District of Saanich**

Whereas in July 2024, following extensive consultation with First Nations and stakeholders, the Province of British Columbia released its first ever Coastal Marine Strategy, providing a 20-year vision of a “diverse, productive and resilient coastal marine environment that is valued in its own right and that supports the prosperity, health and well-being of coastal communities now and into the future”;

And whereas the Coastal Marine Strategy details nine important goals (diverse marine life; abundant wild Pacific Salmon; a clean coast; climate-ready communities; a sustainable coastal economy; vibrant coastal communities; trusting, respectful relationships; a robust tool kit; and integrated and balanced management), but does not have the force of law, and codifying the Strategy into law would support its success and longevity rather than leaving it dependent on the priorities of the government of the day:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to enshrine the BC Coastal Marine Strategy into law.

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 enshrine the BC Coastal Marine Strategy into law.

However, the Committee notes that the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2020-NR45 which sought a Coastal Protection Strategy and law to leverage and coordinate the work of provincial ministries, First Nations, local communities, and stakeholder groups to preserve coastal and ocean health, halt coastal habitat loss, accelerate the completion of a network of marine protected areas to benefit fisheries, biodiversity and the economy, set marine environmental quality objectives from upland activities, and help communities adopt ecosystem-based approaches to manage risks from flooding due to extreme weather events, sea level rise, climate change, and ocean acidification.

R12) Provincial Circular Economy Strategy

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia has recognized that the traditional linear economic model of “take, make, waste” leads to waste, environmental harm, the over-consumption of resources, and diminishing landfill capacity, and has committed to working toward a circular economy through its Clean BC Plan;

And whereas despite some initial efforts, including a strategy pre-engagement exercise, work through the Province’s extended producer responsibility programs, and the CleanBC Plastics Action Fund, a comprehensive strategy to address the systemic change necessary to transition BC’s economy to a circular model has not yet been adequately pursued and developed:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province take meaningful action to develop a comprehensive Circular Economy Strategy which includes public education and economic development considerations, such as expanding the province’s remanufacturing and re-processing capacity for recyclable materials.

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 take meaningful action to develop a comprehensive Circular Economy Strategy which includes public education and economic development considerations, such as expanding the province’s remanufacturing and re-processing capacity for recyclable materials.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions supporting the development of a circular economy strategy (2021-EB38, 2017-B63) and the right to repair products (2021-NR37).

The Committee also notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking to reduce food waste (2023-NR48, 2022-EB56). In particular, resolution 2022-EB56 seeks to amend the CleanBC Roadmap to 2030 by including food waste reduction and recovery as, or into, one of the pathways.

The Committee further notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions seeking to include the ICI sectors in the Packaging and Paper Products Extended Producer Responsibility programs (2023-EB41, 2021-EB33, 2020-EB54, 2020-EB57, 2019-B146, 2018-B68, 2012-B125).

Finally, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions supporting the introduction of industry product stewardship programs that would shift the responsibility for waste management from local governments to producers and consumers of products such as electronic waste, batteries, tires, used oil, plastics, mattresses, furniture and packaging (2022-EB54, 2020-EB53, 2020-EB55, 2020-EB56, 2014-B97, 2009-B35, 2008-B84, 2006-B28, 2006-B29, 2006-B107, 2005-B24).

R13) Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems

Comox Valley RD

Whereas the small water systems in rural British Columbia, which are administered by local governments, provide essential services to rural residents and communities, yet they face unsustainable financial burdens due to the high costs of water treatment systems, ongoing maintenance, and replacing aging infrastructure, which can amount to millions of dollars;

And whereas it is not possible for rural residents and communities to finance these systems through local taxation alone, threatening the viability of these water systems and the communities they serve, while also posing a significant risk to local food security:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial and federal governments to establish long-term sustainable funding programs specifically for small water systems to address high cost and regulatory compliance requirements and to safeguard local food security, and for a collaborative approach to funding and support, including cost-sharing models, grant programs and capacity-building initiatives, to enable small rural water systems to remain viable and resilient amidst growing environmental and economic pressures.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed three recent resolutions that sought sustainable funding for small water systems (2024-NR72, 2023-EB47, 2022-EB81).

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

- 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).*

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions calling for federal funding for the renewal and replacement of aging local government infrastructure, including that related to drinking water and wastewater (2011-B143, 2010-B82, 2010-77, 2010-B71).

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS AND RECONCILIATION

Cowichan Valley RD

R14) Funding Indigenous Governments' Engagement in Local Government Planning Activities

Whereas the Province of BC is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and is required to take a distinctions-based approach in all of its relations with Indigenous peoples to ensure that unique rights, interests, and circumstances of Indigenous peoples are acknowledged, affirmed and implemented;

And whereas local governments are committed to reconciliation and seek meaningful engagement with Indigenous governments in community and regional planning activities, such as climate mitigation and adaptation plans, emergency management plans, regional growth and servicing strategies, and official community plans, that may uphold the unique rights, interests, and circumstances of Indigenous peoples:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request the Province of BC provide dedicated funding streams to support Indigenous governments' participation in local government community and regional planning activities to support reconciliation and implementation of DRIPA.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting funding or supports for local governments for reconciliation, relationship building and engagement with First Nations (2024-EB58, 2023-EB72, 2021-EB77, 2018-B23).

The Committee also notes that the UBCM membership has endorsed several resolutions in support of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples; Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act; Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two-Spirit, Transgender, and Gender-diverse Peoples (MMIWG2S); and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (2022-EB86, 2022-EB85, 2022-NR70, 2022-EB60, 2015-B106, 2019-A4, 2019-LR4, 2018-B150, 2018-B149).

FINANCE

R15) Sustainable Growing Communities Fund

City of Parksville
Nanaimo RD

Whereas local governments in British Columbia face increasing demands for essential services and infrastructure due to significant population growth, with the province's population reaching an estimated 5,646,467 as of April 1, 2024, marking an annual growth rate of 3.3% - the highest since 1971;

And whereas the primary revenue source for local governments, property taxes, is regressive and places a disproportionate burden on lower-income households, while the costs of infrastructure projects continue to rise at a rate that outpaces consumer inflation, making it increasingly difficult for local governments to meet community needs:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish a sustainable, recurring "Growing Communities Fund" to generate \$1 billion annually through progressive taxation, distributed to local governments using the same formula as the 2022 fund, thereby providing equitable and sustainable financial support for local governments 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 Province to establish a sustainable, recurring "Growing Communities Fund" to generate \$1 billion annually through progressive taxation, distributed to local governments using the same formula as the 2022 fund, thereby providing equitable and sustainable financial support for local governments across the province.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for increased long-term, predictable allocation-based funding from the provincial and federal governments that would support growth and complete communities, and that recognizes the limited financial capacity of local governments under the current financial framework (2024-SR2, 2023-EB11, 2023-EB49, 2022-EB34, 2020-SR5, 2020-EB35, 2012-A1, 2012-B13, 2011-B34).

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.

TAXATION

R16) BC Port Tax Cap

North Coast RD

Whereas a number of communities in BC host federal port facilities within their jurisdiction;

And whereas many of these communities struggle with raising taxation revenue to support infrastructure deficits and service provision;

And whereas the BC government has restricted municipal taxation on ports under the *Ports Property Tax Act*;

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM advocate to the BC government to remove or increase the port tax cap thereby ensuring that port industries pay a fair share of taxes in the local communities in which they operate.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2014-B10 which asked the Province to eliminate port property tax rate caps by repealing the applicable provisions of the Ports Property Tax Act in the fall of 2014.

The Committee also notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions emphasizing the importance of local government autonomy to apportion appropriate levels of taxation municipally (2023-NR69, 2021-EB19, 2019-B124, 2018-A3, 2017-B14, 2017-B91, 2016-B13, 2009-SR1, 2009-B78, 2006-A5).

TRANSPORTATION

R17) Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy for Remote Communities

qathet RD

Whereas BC Hydro has prioritized the development of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in urban areas and along high-volume traffic corridors;

And whereas rural areas face significant gaps in access to public EV charging infrastructure, which limits EV adoption and creates barriers to equitable access for residents and travelers in these regions:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that BC Hydro develop a separate strategy to provide access to public EV charging stations in rural areas, ensuring that all regions have access to reliable and accessible EV charging infrastructure.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on BC Hydro to develop a separate strategy to provide access to public EV charging stations in rural areas, ensuring that all regions have access to reliable and accessible EV charging infrastructure.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR80.1, which asked the Province to outline their plan for supporting capacity building, improved infrastructure and other upgrades in northern British Columbia to meet zero emission vehicle sales targets. In response to the 2023 resolution, the provincial government highlighted its commitment to complete EV charging infrastructure on every major highway and road in BC in 2024. Further, the Province referenced work with other levels of government, utilities, and industry to install 10,000 public charging stations across the province by 2030. The existing provincial programs do not support installation of EV charging infrastructure in remote communities (including small coastal islands) not located along major highways.

UBCM members have consistently endorsed resolutions that support the use of electric vehicles by expanding charging infrastructure (2022-EB74, 2020-EB28, 2019-B144, 2017-B116, 2017-B132).

R18) Support and Resourcing for Active Transportation Projects

Cowichan Valley RD

Whereas the Province of BC has developed the British Columbia Active Transportation Design Guide as an initiative of CleanBC to provide consistent, appropriate planning and engineering guidance on the design of active transportation infrastructure, for jurisdictions of all sizes across BC, including urban and rural communities;

And whereas the Province of BC is committed to working collaboratively in partnership with local governments to plan for active transportation as part of the BC Active Transportation Strategy, Move.Commute.Connect, that works towards creating community-specific active transportation networks that are safe, accessible and convenient for a wide range of uses for all ages and abilities;

And whereas the Province of BC, under the Clean BC initiative, recognizes that the Provincial road system is a crucial connection for active transportation users – especially in more rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM request that the Ministry of Transportation and Transit commit the necessary staff resources to work with local governments to support the planning, design, and expedient approval and development of active transportation infrastructure along rural Provincial roadways, consistent with the Active Transportation Design Guide, to improve the safety and mobility of active transportation users in rural areas in efforts to achieve the provincial target of doubling the proportion of trips taken using active transportation by 2030.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolution 2024-EB74, which asked the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to prioritize the safety of vulnerable road users (including pedestrians, transit users and cyclists) in their road design standards; and to 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.

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

- *development of active transportation infrastructure (2024-EB75, 2024-NR81, 2024-NR82, 2020-EB24, 2020-NR24, 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).*

R19) BC Ferry Advisory Committees

North Coast RD

Whereas Ferry Advisory Committees provide route-specific input and advocacy and exist as part of BC Ferries' strategic goal to be customer and community centred;

And whereas BC Ferries has dissolved the Ferry Advisory Committees;

And whereas the BC Government's Coastal Ferry Services Contract, last amended on March 31, 2024, states that it is committed to "ongoing engagement in support of provincial reconciliation efforts;":

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM advocate to the BC government to amend the Coastal Ferry Services Contract and include a provision for BC Ferries to develop an engagement framework that meaningfully considers input from local governments and Indigenous communities that rely on the BC Ferry System.

*Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse***

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently endorsed resolutions seeking effective mechanisms for communities to provide feedback on coastal ferry service; and for the provincial government and BC Ferries to consider and act on this feedback, including: 2022-EB72, 2022-EB73, 2019-B18, 2019-B119, 2016-B12, 2013-B12, 2012-B6, 2011-A3, 2010-B20, 2009-B156, 2008-B112, 2008-B151, 2007-B18).

R20) Emergency Road Network Planning

Sunshine Coast RD

Whereas rural communities cannot meet the challenges of climate change without a climate change and emergency management strategy for critical transportation networks;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Transit is not required to participate in local government planning processes;

And whereas planning for growth in our communities is not feasible in the absence of any road network planning by the Ministry of Transportation and Transit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province instruct the Ministry of Transportation and Transit to collaborate with local governments on emergency access road plans for rural and unincorporated areas, upon request.

*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 Transit to collaborate with local governments on emergency access road plans for rural and unincorporated areas, upon request.

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

- define standards of maintenance and construction that supports the economic continuity and connectedness of residents across the province where these resource roads are being used as alternate commuter routes or would be used in the event of an emergency (2024-EB79);*
- where there is only one access road to a community, establish and maintain an alternative or emergency transportation route, and conduct an inventory of active forestry roads that could be maintained for emergency evacuation purposes (2024-EB80);*
- 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);*
- 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); 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.

LEGISLATIVE

Village of Daajing Giids

R21) Provincially Funded WorkSafe BC Coverage – Elected Officials

Whereas WorkSafe BC Occupational Health and Safety Regulation does not cover elected officials, as currently elected officials e.g., provincial municipal and regional district government, school or library boards, etc. are not considered workers or employers under the *Workers Compensation Act* and, therefore, the Act does not apply to them in this capacity;

And whereas in the course of serving their constituents, elected officials are increasingly being subjected to escalating incivility such as harassment, intimidation and altercations;

And whereas the Province, the Ministry of Labour, and WorkSafeBC take the safety of all workers in British Columbia seriously and recognize the importance of the health and safety of all British Columbians who are active in both the private and public sectors of the economy:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province and the Ministry of Labour amend the *Workers Compensation Act* to include, and provincially fund, WorkSafe BC coverage for, all elected officials doing this necessary work on behalf of British Columbians.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that upon consideration, the UBCM Executive endorsed referred resolution 2024-NR90, which asked in part for the Province to amend the Workers Compensation Act to include local elected officials in the definition of “worker”. Members endorsed two previous resolutions making the same request (2021-EB2, 2014-B98). This amendment would apply existing Worksafe BC policies, procedures, and safeguards against bullying, harassment, and other inappropriate treatment at the hands of another local elected official.

In response to the 2021 resolution, the provincial government pointed out that, even without the requested changes to WorkSafe BC, local governments have the option of purchasing insurance coverage for their elected officials from private sector insurance carriers. The Province further suggested that local governments should work with WorkSafe BC “to explore whether there are options under existing legislation.”

R22) Provincial Consultation on Legislative Changes

City of Parksville

Whereas the Province has enacted a significant volume of legislative and regulatory amendments affecting the authority of local governments, and these changes span across multiple, diverse topics and require specialized knowledge to implement locally;

And whereas many British Columbia local governments are small organizations with a lean staff and fixed capacity, and local governments have not received permanent core funding to increase capacity for ongoing demands of new legislation, and multiple changes province-wide limits the availability of qualified consultants to create temporary capacity:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urge the Province to:

- conduct meaningful technical level consultation with local governments about the feasibility and practicality of implementation, prior to amending legislation that affects the capacity and authority of local governments;
- to consider reasonable timelines for local governments to adapt to legislative changes;
- to consider the timing of multiple significant changes to core legislation across multiple topics;
- to coordinate the release of regulations and policy with statute amendments to assist local government staff in meeting timelines; and
- provide sustained core funding to local governments to accompany permanent changes that create additional workload for local government staff.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that UBCM membership has consistently supported resolutions calling on the Province to consult and engage with local governments on policy, programs, and initiatives that have the potential to impact local governments:

- 2024-EB87 asked the provincial government to review its consultation processes with or involving local governments, especially as they relate to legislative or regulatory changes that impact local governments;
- 2022-EB75 asked the Province to consult with local governments that will be impacted by provincial policy; and

- 2019-SR1 called on the provincial government to 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.

In response to the 2022 resolution, the provincial government acknowledged that “[c]onsultation is enshrined as a legislative principle as part of the Province recognizing local governments as an order of government.” It noted that “Municipal Affairs staff are available to offer other ministries advice and support on specific projects as needed.”

Members also consistently endorse resolutions seeking more and improved consultation and communication between the Province and local governments in the context of specific legislative or policy processes (2024-EB76, 2023-EB8, 2023-EB62, 2022-EB75, 2021-SR2, 2021-EB5, 2021-EB43, 2021-EB72).

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R23) Forestry Industry and Fibre Decline

City of Port Alberni

Whereas hundreds of jobs have been lost in the forest industry in BC in 2024, and hundreds more are at risk due to the increasing cost and difficulty of accessing fibre and multiple other reasons;

And whereas this forest industry crisis has the potential for declines in population as well as declines in industrial property tax revenues in dozens of communities throughout British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to accelerate efforts to make more fibre available to mills at risk and work with industry as well as other stakeholders to find ways to reduce the cost of fibre delivered to the mills.

*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 combat the decline in the supply of fibre available to mills (2024-EB97, 2024-NR94, 2021-EB51, 2020-EB66, 2016-B45, 2015-LR2, 2006-B43).

Part 3 - Section “B” – This section contains resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation or Not Endorse

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R24) Mental Health Support for Elected Officials

Islands Trust

Whereas the stresses faced by local elected officials are increasing due to a degradation in the tone of civil discourse;

And whereas additional mental health supports for local elected officials would be beneficial beyond what is provided by Medical Services Plan and extended health plans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to implement initiatives that offer mental health supports tailored to the needs of local elected leaders 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 to implement initiatives that offer mental health supports tailored to the needs of local elected leaders in British Columbia.

The Committee would note that UBCM, through its Group Benefits Plan, offers elected officials:

- extended health care;*
- dental;*
- employee and family assistance plan (e.g. mental health supports);*
- optional life insurance; and*
- optional accidental death and dismemberment.*

For those local governments that have their staff benefits through the UBCM Group Benefits Plan, there is the option to provide your elected officials with the same level of benefits/plan design that you provide to your non-union staff for Extended Health and Dental.

Benefit programs are offered by an insurance provider, so it is up to that insurance provider which benefits to offer and cover, and this has been negotiated with UBCM. Therefore it is not a decision of UBCM or the provincial government, it is reliant on an insurance provider who is willing to offer those benefits. In the case of UBCM's benefit plan, our insurance provided Pacific Blue Cross, has made the benefits program available to elected officials based on the enrollment criteria.

City of Langford

R25) Free Pelvic Floor Physiotherapy as part of Postpartum Care in British Columbia

Whereas people who are postpartum may experience pelvic floor dysfunction, including incontinence, pain, and prolapse, as a direct result of pregnancy and childbirth, which significantly impacts quality of life, mental health, long-term physical well-being and creates inequitable financial burdens;

And whereas the Canadian Physiotherapy Association recognizes pelvic floor physiotherapy as an evidence-based, non-invasive treatment option that improves postpartum recovery; however, the lack of both equitable access to pelvic floor physiotherapy and education about the benefits contributes to healthcare costs associated with untreated pelvic floor dysfunction, including corrective surgeries, chronic conditions and the expense of personal hygiene products:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM ask the provincial government to work with healthcare professionals, including physiotherapists, obstetricians, midwives and nurse practitioners to ensure postpartum care involves informing patients about and provides patients equitable access to pelvic floor assessments and physiotherapy services, regardless of income or insurance status;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government implement a program to provide free pelvic floor physiotherapy treatments as part of the standard postpartum care under the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP).

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 work with healthcare professionals to ensure postpartum care involves informing patients about and provides patients equitable access to pelvic floor assessments and physiotherapy services, regardless of income or insurance status. Nor has the membership considered the request that the Province implement a program to provide free pelvic floor physiotherapy treatments as part of the standard postpartum care under the BC Medical Services Plan (MSP).

The Committee acknowledges that this issue is outside the scope of local government jurisdiction, and as such, it cannot provide comments as to the merit, impact or consequences of this resolution's request.

R26) Childcare Licensing Requirements

District of Oak Bay

Whereas staffing shortages have led to the unavailability of licensed daycare and after-school care spots;

And whereas childcare service provides the opportunity for youth employment and valuable skills development;

And whereas youth already provide care for school-age children as leaders in summer camps, working as lifeguards, and other areas of demonstrated responsibility;

And whereas childcare facilities are often located in or near high schools:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM and AVICC ask the provincial government to modify Section 29 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation to allow certified care staff to include those below the age of 19, particularly for after-school-care of school age children.

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

Resolutions Committee comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution asking the Province to modify Section 29 of the Child Care Licensing Regulation to allow certified care staff to include those below the age of 19, particularly for after-school-care of school age children.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has supported resolutions seeking additional pay for, and acknowledgment of the value of, the child care workforce (2022-EB22, 2021-EB67).

More generally, the membership has endorsed several resolutions requesting that the Province create a universal, affordable child care system in BC (2023-NR1, 2023-NR2, 2022-EB22, 2022-EB23, 2021-EB67, 2021-EB68, 2017-B50, 2016-B49, 2016-B50, 2016-B51, 2014-B39, 2012-B50, 2007-B54, 2007-LR8, 2005-B156, 2020-NR68).

HOUSING

R27) Tiny Homes and Recreational Vehicles

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the use of Recreational Vehicles (RV's) and Tiny homes as an alternative form of affordable housing has become a matter of national importance in the midst of a housing affordability crisis; and despite previously submitted UBCM resolutions addressing tiny homes a satisfactory outcome with respect to this issue has not been achieved;

And whereas in March 2017, members from the modular construction council of the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) drafted and submitted fourteen code change requests (CCRs) to the National Building Code to address the reality that some components and design features within tiny homes do not comply with all municipal, provincial, and federal codes or industry standards;

And whereas the BC Housing Research Centre prepared a research paper titled "Tiny Homes – An Alternative to Conventional Housing" that offers solutions for construction standards specific to tiny homes on wheels so they may be used as permitted dwelling units for full-time living;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM encourage the Province to advocate for and provide incentives to industry groups to revisit industry standards such as CSA (Canadian Standards Association), and create a new category specific to moveable tiny homes certified for permanent occupancy that separates tiny homes from motorized vehicles, towable RVs and temporary small trailers; and to create a new category specific to RV's certified for permanent occupancy;

And be it further resolved that UBCM encourage the Province that as a matter of national importance to advocate for changes to the National Building Code to recognize and define tiny homes as an allowable dwelling unit and provide specific building requirements; and to follow up any such changes with updates to Part 9 of the BC Building Code.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered the first request made by this resolution asking the Province to advocate for and provide incentives to industry groups to revisit industry standards such as CSA (Canadian Standards Association), and create a new category specific to moveable tiny homes certified for permanent occupancy that separates tiny homes from motorized vehicles, towable RVs and temporary small trailers; and to create a new category specific to RV's certified for permanent occupancy;

However, the membership has considered, and supported a resolution similar to the second request, seeking changes to the National Building Code to recognize and define tiny homes as an allowable dwelling unit and provide specific building requirements, and to follow up any such changes with updates to Part 9 of the BC Building Code (2022-NR21).

R28) Mandatory Good Neighbour Agreement

District of Sechelt

Whereas local governments across British Columbia are experiencing challenges related to supportive housing and shelter facilities, including concerns about community safety, property maintenance, and local accountability;

And whereas some supportive housing and shelter operators do not consistently engage with local governments or community stakeholders to address concerns, leading to negative impacts on surrounding neighborhoods:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia and BC Housing to require that all supportive housing and shelter operators enter into a Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) with the local governments in which these facilities operate, to ensure clear expectations regarding community impact mitigation, security measures, and ongoing engagement with local government and residents.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution urging the Province and BC Housing to require that all supportive housing and shelter operators enter into a Good Neighbour Agreement (GNA) with the local governments in which these facilities operate, to ensure clear expectations regarding community impact mitigation, security measures, and ongoing engagement with local government and residents.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2019-B185 which asked that BC Housing seek local government's approval before land is purchased for supportive housing initiatives.

More generally, the membership has endorsed several resolutions emphasizing the importance of communication and consultation with local government (2019-SR1, 2019-B3, 2014-B37, 2013-B34, 2012-B119, 2009-B54, 2009-B141).

Further, the Committee notes that the membership has consistently endorsed resolutions calling for action on the part of the provincial and federal governments to fund, provide and facilitate affordable and adequate housing in communities, with adequate support services, to address homelessness (2024-EB23, 2024-EB24, 2024-EB25, 2024-NR26, 2023-NR26, 2023-EB18, 2022-NR64, 2021-LR5, 2020-SR10, 2020-NR70, 2019-B68, 2019-B183, 2015-B46, 2013-B54, 2012-B94, 2009-C28, 2008-A3, 2007-B24, 2006-B81).

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R29) Province-Wide Ban on Fireworks

District of Metchosin

Whereas the use of consumer fireworks poses risks to public safety, property, and the environment causing significant distress to people suffering with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, individuals with sensory sensitivities, domestic animals, livestock and wildlife;

And whereas many municipalities have already implemented local bans on fireworks, creating a patchwork of regulations across the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to implement a comprehensive, province-wide ban on the sale and use of consumer fireworks, with exceptions for certified professionals conducting authorized displays.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, resolution 2005-B75 which sought a province-wide ban on the general sale and use of fireworks, but acknowledges that this is a dated reference, and that this specific resolution has not previously been considered at AVICC.

The Committee notes that, rather than seeking a province-wide ban, the membership has endorsed resolutions proposing changes to how fireworks are regulated, including:

- 2024-EB42 which asked the Province to regulate the use and sale of fireworks in British Columbia, including through public education, enforcement, and transportation rules;*
- 2010-B3 which asked the Province to regulate the use of fireworks in British Columbia by a permit system that also addresses public education, enforcement, international and local government cross-border transportation, and cost recovery where loss can be directly attributed to the use and abuse of fireworks; and*
- 2005-B74 which asked the Province to regulate the use of fireworks in British Columbia, through a framework that addresses public education, enforcement, international and municipal cross border transportation, and cost recovery where loss can be directly attributed to the use or abuse of fireworks.*

R30) Fire Resilient Forest Practices

Nanaimo RD

Whereas wildfires and interface fires have caused hundreds of millions of dollars of damage to communities in British Columbia, and according to a June 2023 British Columbia Forest Practices Board report, this can be partially attributed to the way forests are managed;

And whereas research shows that monoculture coniferous tree farms are more susceptible to disease, drought, and wildfire while biodiverse forests retain moisture and are more resilient to drought, disease, and wildfire, and that many deciduous trees are fire-resistant:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call upon the Government of British Columbia to amend the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act* and the *Private Managed Forest Land Act* to ensure that forests in a 3-km radius surrounding communities and community infrastructure, including community drinking water reservoirs, are fire-resistant, resilient, biodiverse forests, and to ban the practice of using herbicides to kill deciduous trees and undergrowth within these fire resistant biodiversity zones.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend the Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act and the Private Managed Forest Land Act to ensure that forests in a 3-km radius surrounding communities and community infrastructure, including community drinking water reservoirs, are fire-resistant, resilient, biodiverse forests; and, to ban the practice of using herbicides to kill deciduous trees and undergrowth within fire resistant biodiversity zones.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions calling on the provincial government to provide sustainable funding and/or support for the purpose of wildfire mitigation, preparedness, response and/or recovery (2024-NR25, 2024-NR33, 2024-NR34, 2024-NR36, 2023-NR33, 2023-EB28, 2022-NR26, 2022-NR27, 2022-EB36, 2022-EB37, 2022-EB88, 2020-EB12, 2019-B13, 2019-B26, 2019-B27, 2019-B76, 2019-B77, 2019-B91, 2019-B92, 2019-B93, 2019-B95, 2019-B10, 2018-B22, 2018-B43, 2018-B96, 2018-B97, 2018-B99, 2018-B100, 2018-B107, 2017-B4, 2017-B84, 2017-LR1, 2017-LR2, 2017-LR4, 2016-B6, 2015-B5).

Town of Qualicum Beach

R31) Sharing Fentanyl Precursors Information with Law Enforcement

Whereas the opioid crisis claimed the lives of more than 2,500 citizens in British Columbia in 2023;

And whereas not all information regarding the distribution of fentanyl precursors is currently being shared by relevant provincial and federal agencies with law enforcement:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM lobby the Province to work with the relevant authorities to ensure pertinent information relating to the distribution of precursors for fentanyl is shared by relevant provincial and federal agencies with law enforcement in a timely manner.

*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 work with the relevant authorities to ensure pertinent information relating to the distribution of fentanyl precursor chemicals is shared by relevant provincial and federal agencies with law enforcement in a timely manner.

R32) Major Planned Events Advocacy

Comox Valley RD

Whereas local governments, particularly in rural and remote areas, face significant logistical and resource challenges when major planned events occur within or near their jurisdiction, even when these events are outside of local government jurisdictional control and/or enforcement areas;

And whereas such events often require substantial public safety planning and emergency response efforts, yet local governments typically lack the authority to require or enforce event organizers to submit comprehensive emergency response plans, leaving local governments to bear the burden of increased public safety demands and resource strain as a result of these events without the ability to mitigate or control the associated costs:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the provincial government to establish province-wide regulations to address gaps in *Local Government Act* bylaws and event permitting powers, ensuring

local governments can recover costs for public safety and emergency services related to major planned events beyond their control, and that adequate support, coordination, and reimbursement be provided for resources used in the management and planning of these events.

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 province-wide regulations to ensure that local governments can recover costs for public safety and emergency services related to major planned events beyond their control; and, that adequate support, coordination, and reimbursement be provided for local government resources used in the management and planning of these events.

The Committee advises that policing in communities under 5,000 in population and unincorporated areas is the responsibility of the provincial government. The Province currently recovers a portion of its cost of policing these areas from residents, through the Police Tax.

A long-standing UBCM request is for the Province to develop a long-term funding and capacity building framework to address local government emergency management responsibilities and associated costs. The Committee notes that the membership has endorsed numerous resolutions seeking ongoing funding related to emergency management (2024-EB6, 2022-EB34, 2022-EB35, 2022-NR23, 2020-SR1, 2020-EB38, 2019-B11, 2018-B107, 2017-B86, 2017-B86, 2016-B56, 2015-B7, 2015-B77, 2015-B78) and disaster recovery (2019-B104, 2019-B97, 2018-B100, 2015-B5).

R33) Provincial Disaster Debris Plan

Nanaimo RD

Whereas climate change has significantly increased the likelihood of a community experiencing an emergency or disaster event resulting in a sudden increase of debris that requires safe and effective disposal;

And whereas debris from emergency or disaster events will be composed of a variety of divertible materials that if not planned for appropriately, will be sent to landfills, taking up already limited landfill airspace:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province establish a province-wide disaster debris management plan that provides logistical, financial, and operational support for local governments in developing their own disaster and debris management plans and implementing those plans as needed.

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 establish a province-wide disaster debris management plan that provides logistical, financial, and operational support for local governments in developing their own disaster and debris management plans and implementing those plans as needed.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2024-NR36, which asked the Province to develop and implement an expedited process and develop clear policy guidelines for wildfire debris clean-up in riparian areas.

Following the 2021 atmospheric river event, the Province developed its Debris Waste Management Guidance, which seeks to "provide guidance to local governments, Indigenous communities, and any member of the public who has flood debris to dispose of, or who wishes to provide assistance in debris clean up." However, this plan focuses specifically on flood debris, and does not provide the supports requested by the sponsor.

ENVIRONMENT

R34) Hybrid Wolfdogs

Nanaimo RD

Whereas exotic animals and their hybrids are not domesticated and suffer physically and psychologically when bred, kept, displayed and sold in captivity, and may pose public health and safety risks to other animals and people;

And whereas the keeping of most wild animals as pets in B.C. is illegal under the *Wildlife Act*, and hybrid animals, including the breeding of *Canis familiaris* (domestic dog) and *Canis lupus* (wolf) hybrid wolfdogs are not protected by this legislation or the provincial Controlled Alien Species Regulation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to immediately amend either the Controlled Alien Species Regulation or the *Wildlife Act* to prohibit the breeding and keeping of all mixed *Canis familiaris* (domestic dog) and *Canis lupus* (wolf) hybrid wolfdogs, including F1-3 generations.

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

Resolutions Committee comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

*The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling on the Province to amend either the Controlled Alien Species Regulation or the Wildlife Act to prohibit the breeding and keeping of all mixed *Canis familiaris* (domestic dog) and *Canis lupus* (wolf) hybrid wolfdogs, including F1-3 generations.*

*However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2023-NR50 (also from Nanaimo RD) which asked the Province to, in part, amend the Controlled Alien Species Regulation to prohibit all Felids, including Servals, other than the domestic cat (*Felis catus*), and all Canids other than the domestic dog (*Canis familiaris*), including all hybrids of F1-3 generation.*

Where 2023-NR50 endorsed a request to amend the Controlled Alien Species Regulation to broadly prohibit "all hybrids of F1-3 generation", this resolution more specifically requests the prohibition of "breeding and keeping of... hybrid wolfdogs, including F1-3 generations."

R35) Provincial Support for Addressing Feral Rabbits

District of Saanich

Whereas numerous local governments are struggling with the abandonment and rapid proliferation of feral European rabbits in parks and public spaces, and these invasive animals have a negative impact on ecosystems, native wildlife, urban infrastructure and greenspaces, and public health and safety;

And whereas the current approach to addressing this issue is uncoordinated and poorly funded, placing all of the responsibility on the shoulders of local governments and small underfunded not-for-profits, leading to an inconsistent and ineffective response:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop a coordinated province-wide strategy to address the root causes of feral rabbit abandonment across 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 to develop a coordinated province-wide strategy to address the root causes of feral rabbit abandonment across British Columbia.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2012-B123 that sought provincial legislation to regulate the sale of unsterilized rabbits.

Alternatively, in 2010, the membership considered, but did not endorse resolution B134, which asked the Province to enact legislation banning the sale of rabbits in pet stores.

The Committee notes that Province enacted changes to BC's Wildlife Act in 2022 to ease permitting requirements that had previously limited the capacity of local governments or other groups to trap, transport, relocate or euthanize feral non-native rabbits.

R36) Provincial Waste Hauler Licensing

Nanaimo RD

Whereas unreported waste flowing into and/or out of a Regional District undermines that region's ability to understand waste generation and waste material flows, causing incorrect assessments of waste reduction efforts as part of Solid Waste Management Plans;

And whereas regional districts lack the authority to require reporting of waste sent to landfills in or out of their region:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province establish a province-wide waste hauler licensing system, which includes a mandatory waste reporting system and an economic framework to encourage the management of waste within the region where it was generated.

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 establish a province-wide waste hauler licensing system, which

includes a mandatory waste reporting system and an economic framework to encourage the management of waste within the region where it was generated.

R37) Solid Waste Management Approvals

Nanaimo RD

Whereas regional districts experience lengthy delays in receiving approvals of Solid Waste Management Plans, and those same plans require subsequent program approvals;

And whereas once the plans are approved, regional districts must demonstrate the effectiveness of their solid waste management plans within 10 years, but additional provincial approval requirements often shorten this period, limiting time to assess the plan's impact before renewal:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that once the Minister of Environment and Parks approves a Solid Waste Management Plan, no further approvals be required for a regional district to pursue policy actions outlined in the Solid Waste Management Plan.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolutions calling on the Ministry of Environment and Parks, that once it has approved a Solid Waste Management Plan, it will not require further approvals for regional districts to pursue policy actions outlines in the Solid Waste Management Plan.

FINANCE

R38) Infrastructure and Capital Projects Requiring Elector Approval

City of Nanaimo

Whereas the current infrastructure and capital project funding model in Canada is outdated and unsustainable, as outlined in the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' report Making Canada's Growth a Success: The case for a Municipal Growth Framework, leaving local governments with limited options to pay for growth-related infrastructure which is critical for local governments to meet their housing needs;

And whereas British Columbia is the only province in Canada requiring elector approval to allow local governments to borrow money for necessary infrastructure-related projects:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the *Community Charter* to expand the criteria for the type of infrastructure and capital projects that utilize borrowing without the requirement of electoral approval, to better assist local governments in securing adequate funding for projects that are necessary for the delivery of municipal services.

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 government to amend the Community Charter to expand the criteria for the type of infrastructure and capital projects that utilize borrowing without the requirement of electoral approval, to better assist local governments in securing adequate funding for projects that are necessary for the delivery of local government services.

The Committee also advises that the membership did not endorse resolution 2023-NR56 seeking the removal of electoral approval requirements for borrowing through the Municipal Finance Authority based on borrowers' maximum liability service limit.

However, the Committee notes that the membership did endorse two resolutions seeking an exemption from the public approval process for water works projects:

- *2013-B25 which requested that any borrowing made necessary by an order issued by a ministry official or health authority for drinking water be exempt from a public approval process; and*
- *2012-B53 which sought to amend the Community Charter to provide for the exemption of obtaining elector approval for necessary water works projects if the projects have been previously approved by the Inspector of Municipalities through a Master Water Management Plan.*

The Committee also notes that the membership endorsed resolution 2007-B77 which sought to amend the Community Charter to permit the purchase of replacement emergency fire fighting equipment that is mandated under the United Laboratories of Canada and the National Fire Protection Standards without the process of seeking the assent of the voters either through a vote or the alternative approval process.

The Committee further notes that the membership has endorsed resolutions requesting exemption from referendum and counter-petition requirements when local governments undertake borrowing for works pursuant to ministerial orders or related to public health and safety requirements, property agreements, or sufficiency thresholds (2002 Community Charter Policy Paper, 2002-C46, 1999-A2, 1992-B18). The Committee acknowledges that these are dated references.

R39) Improvement Districts Policy Revision

qathet RD

Whereas the Province of British Columbia abdicated their obligation to Improvement Districts through their ill-planned and failing Improvement District Governance: Policy Statement 2006 policy filled with idyllic and unrealistic objectives driven by discriminatory and segregated protocols;

And whereas the acceptance of defeat by Improvement Districts has failed as pride and independence has won over which has led to most, if not all, Improvement Districts being in desperation and beyond the point of no return when they seek conversion, making assets and capital improvement conversions cost prohibitive:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of British Columbia modernize their policy regarding the ongoing viability of Improvement Districts, ramp up their staffing complement to handle the required Improvement District oversight, look to more practical and cost-efficient methods for conversions, incentivize and reward financially stable and going concern Improvement Districts by enabling them to access borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia and restore the ability for financially stable and going concern Improvement Districts to apply for sustainable sewer and water infrastructure grant opportunities.

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 modernize their policy regarding the ongoing viability of Improvement Districts, ramp up their staffing complement to handle the required Improvement District oversight, look to more practical and cost-efficient methods for conversions, incentivize and reward financially stable and going concern Improvement Districts by enabling them to access borrowing from the Municipal Finance Authority of British Columbia and restore the ability for financially stable and going concern Improvement Districts to apply for sustainable sewer and water infrastructure grant opportunities.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed some resolutions seeking grant funding for improvement districts, including:

- 2022-NR49 which asked the Province for a one-time, new fund to bring all rural water systems operated by improvement districts into compliance with health regulations;*
- 2020-EB39 which asked the Province to establish a process for Improvement Districts to have access to Provincial and Federal Infrastructure Grant funds, and still maintain their autonomy;*
- 2019-B130 which asked the provincial government to change the Improvement District Governance Policy to allow citizens residing in improvement districts equal access to provincial and federal infrastructure grant monies; and*
- 2017-B74 which asked the provincial government to provide access to grant funding for water improvement districts similar to the access provided to regional districts.*

The Committee notes that the Province has an Improvement District Policy Statement (2006) that restricts access to Ministry grants with an objective of dissolving and transferring Improvement Districts to local governments. The majority of past and current capital funding programs have supported dissolution of Improvement Districts through capital funding to bring the water system into compliance with local and provincial standards.

LAND USE

R40) Private Managed Forest Lands

Nanaimo RD

Whereas the Private Managed Forest Land (PMFL) Program is crucial for sustainable forest management in British Columbia;

And whereas local governments, First Nations, and PMFL landowners have provided comprehensive recommendations in 2019 to enhance the PMFL Program, including better protection of environmental, community, and Indigenous values, and the need for improved regulatory frameworks, enforcement, communication, and transparency:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Ministry of Forests implement the recommendations provided by local governments and First Nations during the 2019 Private Managed Forest Land Program review.

*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 implement the recommendations provided by local governments and First Nations during the 2019 Private Managed Forest Lands Program review.

However, the Committee notes that the membership has endorsed a number of resolutions asking that the Province enact legislation requiring private managed forest lands to be regulated and managed to the same standards as crown managed forest lands; referencing the current challenges with water quality and safety of drinking water in community watersheds (2023-NR67, 2021-EB29, 2020-EB48, 2019-B48, 2019-B49, 2018-B41, 2011-B50, 2008-B34). Note that AVICC Resolution 2025-R1 also deals with Private Managed Forest Land.

The Committee acknowledges that the provincial government seems to have left the PMFL Program review process hanging, with little closure for Indigenous and local governments, and no clear policy direction on the program moving forward.

The Committee is not acquainted with the full range of specific recommendations provided by local and Indigenous governments during the 2019 Private Managed Forest Lands Program review. It is not clear whether the recommendations are aligned with each other, or there is the possibility that some might be at odds with other recommendations.

TRANSPORTATION

R41) Transit Fees for Seniors

District of Oak Bay

Whereas transportation costs can serve as significant barrier to mobility for many British Columbian seniors, and this barrier can contribute to social isolation and adversely affect mental and physical well-being;

And whereas removing barriers to seniors using transit encourages a shift towards more sustainable transportation, helping lower emissions and reducing congestion, while simultaneously increasing affordability, access to essential services, social inclusion, health, and well-being:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to make all public transit free for seniors (aged 65 years or older).

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

Resolutions Committee comments:

This resolution was submitted to UBCM in 2024 as a late resolution, but did not meet the criteria to be admitted for debate as an emergency resolution. In keeping with UBCM policy, and with the approval of the sponsor, the resolution was forwarded to the Area Association for consideration as part of the 2025 resolutions cycle.

The Resolutions Committee advises that the UBCM Executive considered, but did not endorse, referred resolution 2024-NR85, which asked the Province to make all public transit free for seniors (aged 65 years or older).

The Committee also advises that the UBCM membership considered, but did not endorse, two resolutions which asked the Province to work with local governments on fare-free public transit services where supported by communities (2022-NEB2, 2021-NR17); nor did UBCM members endorse resolution 2020-NEB4 which sought, in part, free public transit across BC for youth under 19 years of age.

The Committee further notes that the UBCM Executive considered, but did not endorse, referred resolution 2020-NR26 which sought fare-free public transit services.

To date, the Committee notes that the only age specific resolution that has been endorsed by the membership is 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.

R42) Traffic Controls at Inactive Railroad Crossings

Town of Qualicum Beach

Whereas there are many railways that are inactive (where the average daily railway movement is zero), except for railway maintenance traffic, across British Columbia, and there are no active trains on the Southern Railway of BC railway North of Nanaimo;

And whereas the federal *Canada Transportation Act*, the *Railway Safety Act*, and the *Grade Crossings Regulation* require vehicular traffic to stop at railway crossings, except in limited circumstances, even when the railway is inactive:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM lobby Transport Canada for the amendment of the legislation, including the *Grade Crossings Regulation* to permit the reconfiguration of railway crossing traffic controls to have railway maintenance traffic come to a stop on the rail at roadway intersections of inactive railway crossings and to remove stop signs for vehicular traffic at these locations.

*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 federal government to amend the *Canada Transportation Act*, the *Railway Safety Act*, and the *Grade Crossings Regulation*, to make Canada-wide changes to the signage and rules that apply to vehicles on roads that cross railway tracks. The sponsor proposes that for railway crossings perceived to be “inactive”, vehicles on roads should not be required to stop at the railway tracks; instead, railway maintenance vehicles should be required to stop at the road. This proposal represents a reversal of the traffic rules and procedures used for railway crossings nationwide.*

*The Committee understands that there is no mechanism to designate a grade crossing as “inactive” under the *Canada Transportation Act*, *Railway Safety Act*, and *Grade Crossings Regulation*. Rather, the *Grade Crossings Regulation* provides that its regulatory requirements do not apply to public grade crossings with fewer than three average daily railway movements.*

LEGISLATIVE

R43) Payment In Lieu of Works and Services for Land Development

City of Nanaimo

Whereas Section 506 and Section 506.03 of the *Local Government Act* enable a local government to regulate and require the provision of works and services in respect to the development of land;

And whereas there is no mechanism currently in the *Local Government Act* to allow for local governments to accept payment of money in lieu of the provision of works and services, unlike in other circumstances in the *Local Government Act*:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM advocate for the provincial government to amend the *Local Government Act* to allow for the payment of money in lieu of works and services in respect to the development of land being established through subdivisions and building permits, enabling local governments to pool funding for more impactful projects which could benefit a broader area and better assist in achieving community goals for safety, connectivity or transportation management.

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 amend the Local Government Act to allow for the payment of money in lieu of works and services in respect to the development of land being established through subdivisions and building permits, enabling local governments to pool funding for more impactful projects which could benefit a broader area and better assist in achieving community goals for safety, connectivity or transportation management.

However, the Committee notes that the membership endorsed a resolution that made a related request around the development of land. Resolution 2024-NR32 asked the Province to amend the Local Government Act to allow municipalities to obtain highway dedications, and the registration of Covenants and Statutory Rights-of-way for works and services, and public access through Building Permit issuance without the approval of subdivision or rezoning. As well, resolution 2023-NR15 asked the Province to expand the tools for local governments to request road dedications, statutory-rights-of-way and infrastructure servicing upgrades through the development permit and/or building permit process; and to provide a legislative framework for amenity contributions, tenant relocation requirements, and other requirements to be applied at the development permit or building permit phase rather than being tied to rezonings.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R44) Forestry Industry and Sustainable Fibre

City of Port Alberni

Whereas hundreds of jobs have been lost in the forest industry in BC in 2024 and hundreds more are at risk due to the increasing cost of accessing fibre and multiple other reasons;

And whereas the forest industry crisis has the potential for population declines as well as declines in industrial property tax revenues many communities throughout British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to partner financially in localized efforts to ascertain the fibre type and volume available on a sustainable basis, to secure investment in appropriate technologies to maximize the value of that fibre, and to retrain forest industry workers to utilize that approach.

Resolutions Committee recommendation: **No Recommendation**

Resolutions Committee comments:

The Resolutions Committee notes that the UBCM membership endorsed resolutions 2023-LR1 and 2015-B37, both of which called on the provincial government to conduct a comprehensive inventory of available timber supply. The UBCM membership also endorsed resolutions 2008-B46 and 2006-46 which incorporate the suggestion of Provincial support for retraining of forestry workers.

In response to the 2023 resolution, the Province highlighted the work of the Forest Analysis and Inventory Branch (FAIB) of the Ministry of Forests to update and project the provincial forest inventory, particularly the “annual inventory of approximately 3 million hectares of new forest”; efforts to update the provincial forest inventory with new photo-interpreted information; use of Lidar to model and enhance inventory attributes across timber supply areas; and extensive network of field sample plots.

The Committee acknowledges that the provincial response to the 2023-LR1 resolution did not touch on the idea of provincial funding for local inventory efforts.

SELECTED ISSUES

R45) BC Human Rights Tribunal

District of Sooke

Whereas the BC Human Rights Tribunal plays a critical role in upholding and addressing human rights by delivering the “just and timely resolution of discrimination complaints under the British Columbia Human Rights Code” (Tribunal Annual Report, 2023/24, pg. 3);

And whereas a large backlog of complaints and a growing volume of new submissions has led to extensive adjudication delays that exacerbate the harm experienced by complainants, leaving British Columbians without timely support or closure;

And whereas additional provincial funding committed in 2023 has improved timelines but is nonetheless proving insufficient in effectively processing existing and new case files:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and the UBCM ask that the Province of British Columbia act immediately on Recommendation #12a of the BC Office of the Human Rights Commissioner’s From Hate to Hope report, namely that “The Attorney General should take steps to enable the BC Human Rights Tribunal to be more responsive to hate, including by: a. Ensuring adequate funding to the Tribunal to effectively process complaints.”

*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 implement recommendation #12a of the report “From Hate to Hope”, by ensuring “adequate funding to the [BC Human Rights] Tribunal to effectively process complaints.”