



# ANNUAL REPORT AND RESOLUTIONS PACKAGE

TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE 76<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

**APRIL 11 – 13, 2025**

**Vancouver Island Conference Centre, 101 Gordon St., Nanaimo BC**

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Report on the 2025 Late Resolutions .....to be distributed on-site at Convention

[2024 AGM Minutes \(Draft\)](#) ..... emailed to members separately from this package

# Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities 76th Annual General Meeting & Convention

April 11-13, 2025 – Vancouver Island Conference Centre,  
101 Gordon Street, Nanaimo B.C.



## PROGRAM Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### PRE-CONVENTION PROGRAM

8:00 am	Registration Desk Opens ( <a href="#">Newcastle Island Lobby</a> )
8:30 am – 11:30 am	Tour: <i>Revitalization and Reconciliation</i> (meet at Registration Desk)
9:00 am – 11:30 am	Tour: <i>Regional Landfill</i> (meet at Registration Desk)
9:00 am – 11:30 am	Workshop: <i>Community Healthcare Solutions</i> ( <a href="#">Shaw Auditorium</a> )
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Chiefs, Mayors and Chairs Forum and Lunch ( <a href="#">Nanaimo River Room</a> )
11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Electoral Area Forum and Lunch ( <a href="#">Departure Bay Room</a> )
1:00 pm	Trade Show Opens ( <a href="#">Mt. Benson Ballroom A/B</a> )

### AGM & CONVENTION MAIN PROGRAM – Mt. Benson Ballroom C/D

2:00 pm	Convention Welcome & Opening Remarks: AVICC President Ben Geselbracht Blessing – Honoured Elder Geraldine Manson O' Canada Welcome from Hosts: Nanaimo Mayor Leonard Krog and RDN Chair Vanessa Craig Provincial Welcome: MLA Sheila Malcolmson, Nanaimo – Gabriola Island Provincial Address: Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities, Hon. Brittny Anderson
2:25 pm	Nominating Committee Report: Past President Penny Cote Municipal Finance Authority BC Update
2:30 pm	Keynote Address: Keith Baldrey & Vaughn Palmer: <i>B.C. Political Pulse</i>
3:30 pm – 3:55 pm	Refreshment Break ( <a href="#">Newcastle Island Lobby &amp; Mt. Benson Ballroom A/B</a> )
3:55 pm	Island Health Update: Leah Hollins, Chair, Island Health Board of Directors
4:00 pm	Nominations from the Floor for Table Officers and Candidate Speeches
4:10 pm	Provincial Address: Minister of Health, Hon. Josie Osborne
4:25 pm	E-Comm 911 Update
4:30 pm	Plenary Session: <i>Regional District Legislation: A Roadmap</i>
5:30 pm	Final Comments and Wrap-Up, Door Prize Draw, Adjourn
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Welcome Reception ( <a href="#">Newcastle Island Lobby &amp; Mt. Benson Ballroom A/B</a> )
5:30 pm	Voting for Table Officers begins ( <a href="#">voting is on-line if required</a> )

# PROGRAM

## Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

### *The Trade Show is Open from 7:15 am – 3:00 pm today*

7:15 am	Breakfast Service Starts (Departure Bay Room & Mt. Benson Ballroom)
7:30 am – 8:30 am	Working Breakfast: <i>Towards Prosperity for All: Redefining Regional and Community Economic Development</i> (Mt. Benson Ballroom C/D)
8:30 am	Convention Day 2 – Opening Remarks (Mt. Benson Ballroom C/D) Annual General Meeting and President's Address <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Convention Rules and Procedures</li><li>○ Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting</li><li>○ Annual Report</li><li>○ 2024 Audited Financial Statements</li></ul>
8:40 am	Municipal Insurance Association Update
8:45 am	Consideration of Resolutions, Session 1
9:35 am	UBCM President Address: Trish Mandewo
9:55 am – 10:25 am	Refreshment Break (Newcastle Island Lobby & Mt. Benson Ballroom A/B)
10:25 am	ICET Update: <i>Transforming Coastal Economic Development — A Path to Co-Governance and Sustainable Investment</i>
10:30 am	Voting for Table Officers closes (voting is on-line if required)
10:55 am	Consideration of Resolutions, Session 2
11:45 am	Nominating Committee Report Nominations from the Floor for Directors at Large and Candidate Speeches
11:55 am	BCLC – Fun & Games!
12:05 pm	CREST Emergency Communications Address
12:10 pm – 1:25 pm	Delegates Lunch (Departure Bay Room & Mt. Benson Ballroom)
1:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Private Conversations with Eli Mina – by appointment (Millstone River Room)

### CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	#1 <i>Urban Matters: The Conversation We've Been Waiting For: Solutions Through Collective Learning</i> (Nanaimo River Room)
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	#2 <i>Local Governments &amp; the TRC Calls to Action: A Legal Overview</i> (Dodd Narrows Room)
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	#3 <i>Taking Stock of the Trade War: Local Government Impacts</i> (Shaw Auditorium)
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Refreshment Break (Newcastle Island Lobby & Mt. Benson Ballroom A/B)
3:00 pm	Voting for Directors at Large opens (voting is online)
3:00 pm	Trade Show closes
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	#4 <i>21 Things® You Need to Know About Indigenous Self Government</i> (Dodd Narrows Room)
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	#5 <i>Community Housing Solutions</i> (Nanaimo River Room)
3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	#6 <i>Amplify Climate Solutions through Regional Collaboration</i> (Shaw Auditorium)

### BANQUET

6:30 pm – 11:30 pm	Reception and Banquet (Newcastle Island Lobby & Mt. Benson Ballroom)
7:30 pm	Dinner Service and Remarks
9:00 pm	Big Easy Funk Ensemble Band

# PROGRAM

## Sunday, April 13th, 2025

7:30 am – 8:30 am	Networking Breakfast (Mt. Benson Ballroom & Newcastle Island Lobby)
7:30 am	Voting for Directors at Large closes (voting is online)
8:30 am	Convention Day 3 – Opening Remarks (Mt. Benson Ballroom) Nominating Committee Report Nominations from the Floor for Electoral Area Representative and Candidate Speeches
8:40 am	Provincial Address: BC Green Party, MLA Rob Botterell
8:50 am	FCM Update: FCM Board Member, Councillor Will Cole-Hamilton
9:00 am	Voting for Electoral Area Representative opens (voting is online if required)
9:00 am	Plenary Session: Eli Mina: <i>Meeting Rules and Responsible Governance</i>
10:30 am	Student Delegate Address
10:35 am – 11:00 am	Refreshment Break (Newcastle Island Lobby)
11:00 am	Consideration of Resolutions and Late Resolutions, Third Session
11:00 am	Voting for Electoral Area Representative closes (voting is online if required)
11:50 am	Nominating Committee Report (as required) Installation of New AVICC Executive Remarks by President-Elect 2026 Convention Announcement – Mayor Marianne Alto, City of Victoria Grand Prize Draw- BC Ferries Prize Package– Must Be Present to Win
12:00 pm	Adjourn & Safe Travels

### THANK YOU TO OUR HOSTS

Special thanks are extended to the City of Nanaimo and the Regional District of Nanaimo for hosting AVICC's 76<sup>th</sup> AGM & Convention. Our hosts helped with many aspects of the planning to make the 2025 Convention a success.

Thank you for making the Convention a great experience!



# TRADE SHOW



## TRADE SHOW HOURS

Friday 1:00 pm – 7:30 pm  
Saturday 7:15am – 3:00 pm

## EXHIBITORS

- ◇ BC Assessment
- ◇ BC Council of Forest Industries
- ◇ BC Ferries
- ◇ BC Hydro
- ◇ BC Lottery Corporation
- ◇ BC Nurses Union
- ◇ BC Salmon Farmers
- ◇ BC Transit
- ◇ BCAA / E-Volve Bike Share
- ◇ CREST Emergency Communications
- ◇ CUPE BC
- ◇ CUPE Vancouver Island District Council
- ◇ Emergency Communications Professionals of BC - CUPE Local 8911
- ◇ Fair Care Alliance
- ◇ FortisBC Energy
- ◇ Insurance Corporation BC
- ◇ Indigenous Corporate Training
- ◇ Interchange Recycling
- ◇ Island Health & Health Networks
- ◇ Leadership V.I.
- ◇ VI Regional and Greater Victoria Public Libraries
- ◇ Managed Forest Council
- ◇ Mosaic Forest Management
- ◇ Oceans Protection Plan – Transport Canada
- ◇ Private Forest Landowners Association
- ◇ South Island Prosperity Partnership
- ◇ Trans Mountain – TRADESHOW SPONSOR
- ◇ Urban Systems & Urban Matters
- ◇ Vancouver Island Economic Alliance
- ◇ Western Canada Marine Response Corporation
- ◇ Western Forest Products

# SPONSORS

We wish to thank our sponsors for their contributions toward the 2025 AVICC Convention:

## PLATINUM SPONSORS

**Banquet Entertainment**  
BC Lottery Corporation

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South Island Prosperity Partnership

**Friday Welcome Reception**  
CUPE BC

## GOLD SPONSORS

**Keynote Speaker**  
Municipal Finance Authority of BC

**Delegates Lunch**  
CREST Emergency Communications

**Saturday Morning Breakfast**  
Municipal Insurance Association of BC

**Banquet Dinner**  
Young Anderson

**Friday Opening Session**  
Island Health

**Friday Plenary Session**  
E-Comm 911

## SILVER SPONSORS

**Banquet Reception:** Fortis BC

**Chiefs, Mayors & Chairs Forum:**  
Lidstone & Company

**Sunday Morning Breakfast:** ICBC

**Trade Show:** Trans Mountain

**Friday Morning Session:**  
BC Council of Forest Industries (COFI)

## BRONZE SPONSORS

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**In-Session Coffee Refresh Sponsor:** McElhanney

**Speaker Gifts:** Emergency Communications Professionals of BC

**Friday Afternoon Refreshment Break:** Private Forest Landowners Association

**Saturday Morning Refreshment Break:** Interchange Recycling

**Saturday Afternoon Sessions:** BC Hydro

**Saturday Afternoon Refreshment Break:** BCAA / E-Volve Bike Share

**Sunday Morning Refreshment Break:** CUPE VIDC

**Grand Prize:** BC Ferry Services

# SPEAKER GIFT DONATION



Historically, AVICC has provided gifts to our speakers to thank them for their participation in our convention. Since 2022, the AVICC Executive determined that rather than purchase gifts, that we donate to a local charitable organization that benefits the residents in our region.

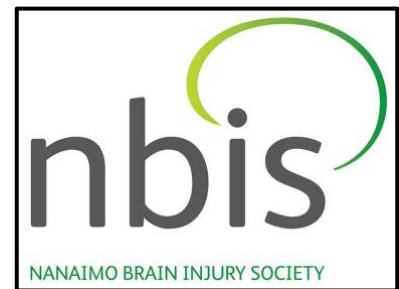
This practice is being continued for 2025, and a donation will be made to The Loaves and Fishes Food Bank, and to the Nanaimo Brain Injury Society in lieu of Speakers Gifts. Please visit their websites to learn more about how these organizations benefit our communities.



Loaves & Fishes Food Bank works to solve the crisis of food insecurity by using the problem of food waste to benefit people in need across Vancouver Island, serving individuals from Nanaimo to Port Hardy and providing food to over 100 other charities, food banks, schools and Indigenous communities across Vancouver Island. In 2022 over \$6.9 million worth of food was provided for people in need, reaching over 30 communities across Vancouver Island.

Visit <https://nanaimoloavesandfishes.org/donate> to learn more or to make a donation.

The Nanaimo Brain Injury Society (NBIS) is a registered non-profit society and registered charitable organization. We are a progressive society providing support, education and connection for people living with brain injury since 1988 through education, advocacy, and community support. Energetic and dedicated, our society members, volunteers, board of directors and staff give the society a firm foundation on which we build positive relationships with clients, family members and our wider community.



Visit <https://nbis.ca/donate/> to learn more or to make a donation.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS: KEITH BALDREY & VAUGHN PALMER

### B.C. Political Pulse Friday, 2:30 pm

You'll hear the most current insights from two of BC's leading political commentators who will debate, entertain, and discuss the key issues impacting the BC region within the current political landscape – locally, provincially, and nationally. Veteran journalists Vaughn Palmer and Keith Baldrey are the "go to" guys when it comes to understanding the British Columbia political landscape, past and present. Vaughn and Keith take their popular CKNW radio segment Cutting Edge of the Ledge to the platform, appearing live on the AVICC stage to comment, debate, take questions and entertain our delegates as they explore the "BC Political Pulse".



Vaughn Palmer's hard-hitting columns have seen him cover the feats and follies of B.C.'s premiers for almost 40 years. An award-winning journalist, Palmer is the Vancouver Sun's provincial political columnist, based in Victoria. Palmer is a regular commentator on radio station CKNW in Vancouver.

Palmer is the recipient of the Bruce Hutchison Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jack Webster foundation, a co-winner of the Jack Webster award for reporting, and a recipient of the Hyman Solomon award for excellence in public policy journalism from the Canadian Public Policy Forum. Since 1984, Palmer has examined an extensive range of issues, personalities and scandals that have come to define B.C.'s political scene.



Keith Baldrey is highly regarded as one of BC's best known political commentators. He currently serves as the chief political correspondent and legislative bureau chief for Global BC where he provides insightful coverage and analysis on the latest developments in BC's political landscape. In 2021, Baldrey was named Broadcast Performer of the Year by the BC Association of Broadcasters for his coverage of the COVID-19 pandemic.

He has a long history of understanding and commenting on BC politics – Baldrey joined The Vancouver Sun in 1984, becoming its bureau chief in 1989. In 1995, he joined Global BC where over the course of his career, has covered 10 premiers, 10 provincial elections, and 12 federal elections. He has covered nine premiers and the 2017 election was the ninth B.C. election campaign he has covered. He makes public speaking appearances on B.C. politics, has written numerous magazine articles, and co-authored a book on former premier Bill Vander Zalm and his Social Credit government.



# FRIDAY PRE-CONVENTION WORKSHOP

## Community Healthcare Solutions

Friday, 9:00 am – Shaw Auditorium

B.C. residents are facing serious healthcare challenges, and local governments are struggling to ensure that their residents have access to the services they need to thrive and survive. In this session, delegates will have an opportunity to hear from health-care leaders on actions already underway and to have a conversation about the healthcare challenges their communities are facing and what is needed to address them. As our pre-convention workshop at the Convention, we will be offering a different kind of session on healthcare. The focus will be on providing information about some of the problems impacting communities in our region.

Regulated and unregulated substances are having devastating effects on thousands of people's lives in our communities. The 2024 Island Health Chief Medical Health Officer report offers policy timelines and health data on alcohol, tobacco, cannabis and unregulated substances that can contribute to the collective understanding and support conversations and changes in communities that lead to better health.

Informed by engagement with over 60 local governments across B.C. through the provincial project, Local Leadership United (LLU), representatives from the Community Action Initiative will provide examples of ways to support local governments with challenges related to substance use and community overdose response efforts. It will equip elected officials with practical tools, examples from other communities and resources to support community health and address community concerns about complicated challenges.

Communities across B.C. are facing serious health-care challenges, including temporary emergency room closures and long wait times for surgeries and other health-care needs. In response, the Province has taken action with staffing and financial initiatives, however, much more remains to be done. This conversation will engage AVICC members in discussion about the healthcare issues in their communities and what we can do to be part of the solution.

The Fair Care Alliance was formed in 2024 to address the inequitable healthcare facing Central and North Island residents. In the last provincial political election healthcare specifically in Central and North Island became a key issue of each party's campaign. In this session you will learn about how Fair Care is working with Island Health, Medical Staff Associations, communities, and government to ensure our healthcare infrastructure meets the needs of the rapidly growing and aging Island population.

### MODERATORS:

**Will Cole-Hamilton**, AVICC Director at Large; Councillor, City of Courtenay; and Chair, Comox Valley RD

**Penny Cote**, AVICC Past President; EA Director, Area D, Alberni-Clayoquot CRD

### PRESENTERS:

**Dr. Réka Gustafson**, VP of Population Health & Chief Medical Health Officer, Island Health

**Myrienne Peloquin-Richard**, Manager, Healthy Public Policy and Strategic Planning, Island Health

**Andrea Derban**, Clinical Nurse Specialist - Harm Reduction, CAI

**Cindy Lise**, Regional Facilitator Cowichan Communities Health Network

**Cailey Foster**, Peer Coordinator, Cowichan Community Action Table (CAT)

**Caitlin Jarvis**, Regional Council Member, South Islands Region, BC Nurses Union

**Carly Koeppen**, Lobby Coordinator, BC Nurses Union

**Donna Hais**, President, Chair, Fair Care Alliance

**Dr. David Forrest**, President, Nanaimo Medical Staff Association

# FRIDAY PLENARY SESSION



## **Regional District Legislation: A Roadmap**

**Friday, 4:30 pm**

Since 2021, an initiative to modernize the *Local Government Act* has been advanced by an ad-hoc working group made up of elected officials and CAOs from Vancouver Island and the lower mainland. This working group has supported education and engagement sessions at AVICC and UBCM. More recently, the other Area Association Presidents, Board members and staff have joined the conversation. As part of the process to broaden local government participation provincially, AVICC jointly hosted a virtual engagement session on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025, attended by over 250 participants.

The session had a broad objective of educating membership on the aspects of the *Local Government Act* that need updating, along with receiving feedback about issues relevant to specific regions within BC. The content of the session included a section-by-section review of the *LGA* using a [Roadmap Document](#) prepared by Don Lidstone, K.C., that outlined problems with the current legislation and possible solutions. The document also serves as a framework to receive feedback through an [online survey](#) on the challenges local governments from all five area associations are facing, and the feedback will be used to produce a report for UBCM and the Province that clearly defines the issues faced and the need for the modernization of the current legislation.

This session is a review of what we have heard so far, including initial results of the engagement, and a conversation about potential next steps towards advancing this initiative.

## **PANELISTS**

**Don Lidstone, K.C.** is licenced in BC, Alberta, and Yukon. He practices generally in the area of local government law. His municipal law focus is in the areas of governance, finance and taxation, land use and development, environmental law, aboriginal law and bylaw/legislative drafting. Invited to speak regularly at conferences, symposia and universities, Don has chaired the Sustainable Region Initiative (Governance and Finance), Liquid Waste Expert Review Panel, Fire Services Review Panel, Whistler Waste Blue Ribbon Panel, and the Municipal Law Section of the British Columbia Branch of the Canadian Bar Association. He has published numerous papers and manuals and consulted on the development of the Community Charter and other municipal statutes in a number of provinces. Don was designated King's Counsel in 2008.

# SATURDAY PLENARY SESSION

## **Towards Prosperity for All: Redefining Regional and Community Economic Development** Saturday, 7:30am

As the limitations of traditional economic practices become increasingly evident, a new approach is essential to ensure lasting prosperity and resilience. This presentation explores data informed, collaborative strategies that go beyond GDP to create meaningful, sustainable impact. By focusing on partnerships, equity, and ecological health, it highlights innovative frameworks reshaping regional and community growth. Offering forward thinking solutions, it envisions a thriving future where shared resilience and sustainable progress benefit people, communities, and the natural environments we depend on.

### **PRESENTERS:**

**Julie Sperber**, CEO of the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance is a seasoned leader in business and economic development, recognized for her innovative thinking and ability to foster growth through partnerships. With extensive experience across hospitality, manufacturing, and non-profit sectors, Julie has worked internationally and held key management roles. She has successfully built and operated three businesses, each achieving continued success. In 2015, Julie transitioned to non-profit economic development, combining her entrepreneurial expertise with her passion for creating positive community impact.

**Brodie Guy**, CEO of the Islands Economic Trust, the regional development organization working for Vancouver Island and coastal communities that strategically invests in inclusive economic development and innovation. Brodie serves on several boards focused on sustainable development, Indigenous leadership, and environmental stewardship including as chair of the \$200 million Blueberry River Restoration Society, B.C.'s \$100 million Watershed Security Fund, and more. Previously, Brodie was the CEO of one of the world's largest Indigenous-led conservation finance and sustainable development funds, Coast Funds, for a decade.

**Aaron Stone**, CEO of South Island Prosperity Partnership (SIPP) Greater Victoria's economic development alliance. With over 25 years in business development, technology, and public service, Aaron is a champion of holistic community prosperity. As the former Chairperson of ICET, Aaron led initiatives to foster regional economic development and collaboration between First Nations, local governments, and industry. In local government, Aaron served three terms as Mayor of the Town of Ladysmith and as Chair of the Cowichan Valley Regional District, where he focused on sustainable economic growth and community well-being.

**Carol Anne Hilton** is a visionary trailblazer of Nuu-chah-nulth descent from the Hesquiaht Nation. Hilton is an award-winning, internationally acclaimed Indigenous business leader, author, corporate director, and advocate for economic reconciliation. Hilton founded the Indigenomics movement and is CEO of the Indigenomics Institute, the Global Center of Indigenomics, and the Global Indigenous Technology House. Hilton led the establishment of the \$100 Billion Indigenous National Economy Initiative and most recently the Indigenomics AI Indigenous Economic Intelligence Engine. Hilton champions Indigenous Peoples as innovators and partners in economic growth, advocating sustainability, cultural alignment, and economic sovereignty.

**Francine Carlin**, Chair of the Rural Islands Economic Partnership (RIEP), the recognized vehicle for supporting regenerative rural island economies, and for facilitating connections with island settler and Indigenous communities across the Province towards effective economic action. Soon after moving to Salt Spring Island in 2008, Francine's interest in business continuity led her to join the Salt Spring Community Economic Sustainability Commission (CESC), where she co-led the groundbreaking Rural Business Accelerator program and co-founded the Southern Gulf Islands Tourism Partnership, and in 2020 she co-founded RIEP.

# SUNDAY PLENARY SESSION

## Meeting Rules and Responsible Governance

**Sunday, 9:00 am**

Eli Mina specializes in chairing contentious meetings, using rules of order in a pragmatic and sensible manner, and informed decision making. Eli helps his clients transform their meetings from potential chaos, confusion and acrimony into orderly and well-focused deliberative assemblies. Mr. Mina will present a session to AVICC delegates on good, effective governance through today's changing culture of misconduct.

*Mr. Mina will also host **30-minute private sessions (by appointment)** on Saturday Afternoon for our members to ask for advice on specific issues in their own councils or boards while the concurrent sessions are taking place. Please reach out to [info@avicc.ca](mailto:info@avicc.ca) to schedule an appointment. There are limited appointments available to be scheduled in the order that they are requested.*

### PRESENTER:

**Eli Mina, M.Sc., P.R.P.,** author, meeting mentor and registered Parliamentarian has been in business for more than three decades. Eli has offered his clients sage advice and problem-solving services, and he leads high impact training sessions. Eli is calm, soft-spoken, yet a highly effective meeting chair. He is an engaging and compelling workshop leader and public speaker, and a seasoned expert on Rules of Order (PRP, CPP-T).

Eli helps his clients transform their meetings from potential chaos, confusion and acrimony into orderly and well focused deliberative assemblies, where three key goals are met:

- A level playing field, where all attendees share their expertise and learn from the wisdom of others
- A sensible allocation of time
- Judicious and informed decisions, seeking to optimize organizational benefits and reduce risks

### IN ELI'S OWN WORDS:

"It's been said: If the only tool you have is a hammer, every problem will look like a nail. In my world this phrase can mean: If the only tools you have are rules of order, every problem can look like something that requires a motion, an amendment, a point of order, or an appeal from the Chair's ruling.

"Although I am an expert on Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR), I openly acknowledge that RONR's more than 700 pages of rules can be frustrating, confusing and intimidating. There are also instances when rules are used excessively or manipulatively, which can cause an erosion of trust, flawed decisions, heightened risks, and even the demise of a great organization. With this in mind, I always seek to apply rules in a manner that advances **common sense**: meaningful engagement of participants, effective time management, and informed decision making. Indeed, even RONR (12<sup>th</sup> edition, section 47) speaks about common sense: **'... any presiding officer will do well to bear in mind that no rules can take the place of tact and common sense on the part of the chair...'**

"With the above phrase in mind, I apply just the required amount of rules of order in meetings, and I seek to employ common sense in the face of complex and contentious issues. Before I suggest a procedural approach, I ask questions that can identify the problems at hand and their root causes. My clients have found this approach to be pragmatic, enlightening and liberating."

# PLENARY UPDATE SESSIONS

## **UBCM President Address**

**Saturday, 9:35 am**

UBCM President Trish Mandewo will address the AVICC delegates, emphasizing the importance of collaboration and unity among local governments. The speech will highlight key initiatives aimed at enhancing community resilience and sustainable development. The President will also address the challenges faced by local governments and encourage delegates to continue advocating for their communities' needs.

### **PRESENTER**

**Trish Mandewo**, UBCM President; Councillor, City of Coquitlam

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## **Transforming Coastal Economic Development — A Path to Co-Governance and Sustainable Investment**

**Saturday, 10:25 am**

First Nations and local government leaders are coming together with a shared vision to transform Island Coastal Economic Trust (ICET) into a permanently financed and co-governed regional development organization — the first of its kind in Canada. This collaborative co-governance model will foster a dynamic, impactful approach to regional development, establishing a strong grassroots foundation for long-term economic prosperity across Vancouver Island and the surrounding coast.

At this pivotal moment for coastal communities and the region's economy, leaders attending the session will learn from Indigenous-led engagements on the future of the Trust.

### **PRESENTERS**

**Sayaačath John Jack**, Chief Councillor, Huu-ay-aht First Nations; Chair, Alberni-Clayoquot RD; Vice Chair, Island Coastal Economic Trust

**Michelle Staples**, Mayor, City of Duncan; Chair, Island Coastal Economic Trust

**Ashley Wright**, K'ómoks First Nation, Strategic Indigenous Governance Advisor

**Jessie Hemphill**, CEO of Sanala Planning

### **MODERATOR**

**Brodie Guy**, CEO, Islands Economic Trust

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## **Federation of Canadian Municipalities Update**

**Sunday, 8:50 am**

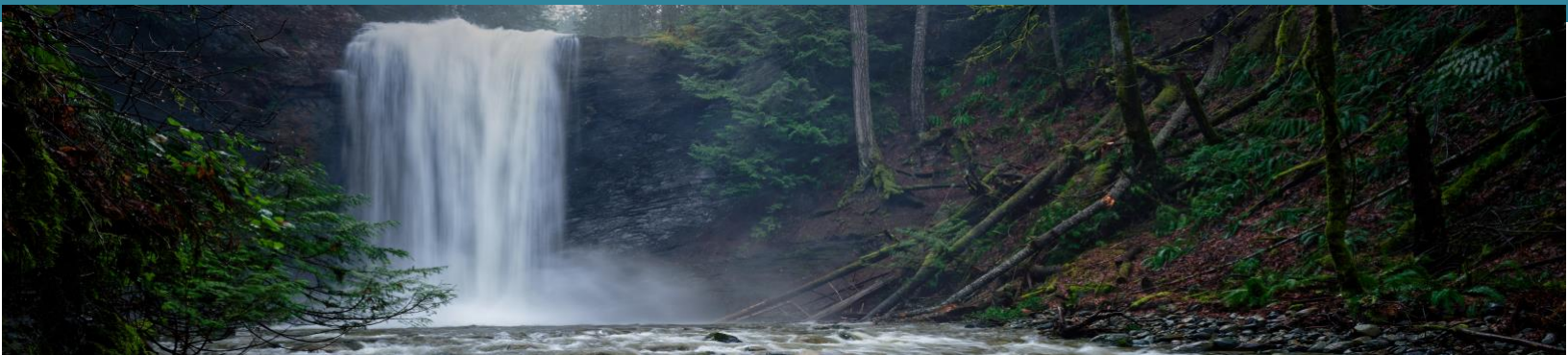
The Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) is the national voice of local governments in Ottawa. This update will touch on new FCM programs secured in the past year and include a brief update on the actions being taken at FCM.

### **PRESENTER**

**Will Cole-Hamilton**,

FCM Board Member, AVICC Director at Large; Councillor, City of Courtenay; and Chair, CVRD

# SATURDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS



## **Local Governments and the TRC Calls to Action: A Legal Overview**

**Saturday, 1:30 pm – Dodd Narrows Room**

In recognition of the 10-year anniversary of the publication of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's report of its findings and its "94 Calls to Action" (June 2015), this presentation serves to provide an overview of the legal history surrounding indigenous peoples' rights, the Calls to Action as they relate to local governments, and the various approaches by local governments in exercising their public duties since the Calls to Action were introduced. To support an understanding of local governments' roles in advancing reconciliation, this presentation will reflect on key legal developments in the last 10 years that affect local governments, their responsibilities, and their approaches. This presentation will also focus on identifying areas in which local governments can continue to support progress and advancements in reconciliation through various means within their jurisdiction.

### **PRESENTERS**

**Chris Gallardo-Ganaban**, Associate, Young Anderson Barristers & Solicitors

**Nick Falzon**, Associate, Young Anderson Barristers & Solicitors

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## **Taking Stock of the Trade War: Local Government Impacts**

**Saturday, 1:30 pm – Shaw Auditorium**

As the US imposes tariffs on Canadian goods and the Government of Canada responds in kind, there will be economic fallout for BC communities. This session will explore the potential financial impacts on local governments based on modelling that UBCM has commissioned from Oxford Economics. The study explores risks to municipal revenues and costs from broader economic factors such as recession, investment uncertainty, currency devaluation, and inflation. This session will provide an opportunity for discussion on the findings of the study and their implications for further action locally, provincially, and federally.

### **PRESENTERS**

**Trish Mandewo**, UBCM President; Councillor, City of Coquitlam

**Gary MacIsaac**, Executive Director, Union of BC Municipalities

**Liz Cookson**, Senior Finance Policy Analyst, Union of BC Municipalities

# SATURDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

## **The Conversation We've Been Waiting For: Talking about shared challenges in a solutions-focused way** Saturday, 1:30 pm – Nanaimo River Room

We all wish we had more time to hear from each other, learn from our collective experiences, and talk about solutions to shared challenges. This session is that chance. With a diverse perspective on how local, provincial, and First Nations governments across Western BC are tackling complex issues, our facilitators will guide participants through a series of dynamic, collaborative discussions, drawing on the unique experiences and insights of everyone in the room.

Using a World Café style, the workshop will encourage open dialogue, problem-solving, and the exchange of solutions and ideas among participants to address complex challenges our communities are facing. The facilitators will give an overview of **Systems Thinking** strategies to help frame the conversations, ultimately deepening participants' understanding of critical issues and helping to identify actionable strategies.

By the end of the workshop, participants will walk away with:

- **New insights** into effective community-driven solutions
- **Stronger connections** with peers from different sectors and regions
- **Actionable ideas** for collaboration and impact in their own communities

Join us for a dynamic session focused on strengthening our collective ability to address the complex challenges using systems thinking.

### PRESENTERS

**Isha Matous-Gibbs**, Social Health and Wellbeing Planner, Urban Matters CCC

**Anne Burrill**, Facilitator and Community Development Consultant, Urban Matters, CCC

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## **21 Things® You Need to Know About Indigenous Self-Government** Saturday, 3:00 – 4:30 pm – Dodd Narrows Room

What do you need to know about Indigenous Self-Government? How can local governments support their Indigenous neighbors and work towards reconciliation? Join author and Master Trainer Bob Joseph, who will be discussing Indigenous self-government, what local governments should know to effectively support reconciliation, and his upcoming book, *21 Things® You Need to Know About Indigenous Self-Government*, releasing late this summer.

Bob Joseph, co-founder and president of Indigenous Corporate Training Inc. (ICT), has provided training on Indigenous relations since 1994. ICT has a diverse range of clients, including all levels of government, Fortune 500 companies, resource development companies, and small and medium-sized businesses. Bob is also the author of the national bestseller *21 Things® You May Not Know About the Indian Act*.

### PRESENTER

**K'axwsumala'galis Bob Joseph**, Co-Founder and President of Indigenous Corporate Training Inc.

# SATURDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

## Community Housing Solutions

**Saturday, 3:00 – 4:30 pm – Nanaimo River Room**

Local governments in B.C. are grappling with severe housing shortages, driven by rapid population growth and escalating housing needs. Additionally, local governments are leveraging new legislative tools and funding from the Province to streamline development approvals and support the construction of diverse housing types and creative solutions in communities. Pressure from the BC Provincial Government to develop new housing has placed demands on local governments to ensure that homes are being built in their communities.

The incorporation and ownership of municipal housing corporations has become an increasingly popular tool through which local governments can participate in the planning, construction and operation of market and below market housing. Young Anderson will provide overview of how local governments can use municipal corporations to plan, build and manage housing supply and discuss the benefits of using a municipal corporation to participate in housing development through industry partnerships, bringing in private industry expertise and as a means to shield local governments from the liability risks that often arise in construction and housing management.

A presentation from Wiser Projects will explore the fundamentals of successful collaborations in housing & community development. Attendees will gain an understanding of key strategies and opportunities using real-world examples. We will learn how to effectively partner and work with non-profit, public and private organizations to deliver projects to support increased housing supply in all communities.

As calls for affordable housing expand to calls for attainable housing options in rural areas, Tiny Homes on Wheels (THOWs) are being explored as more than a boutique niche. Many local governments are interested in learning how to safely regulate tiny homes on wheels as legal dwellings in their communities. In September 2024, Islands Trust Council funded an initiative to convene technical working groups of planners, building experts, industry, and waste/water servicing professionals to develop options for a regulatory framework to regulate and enable THOWs through appropriate certification, zoning, tenure and servicing in the Islands Trust area. The Regional District of Nanaimo and Islands Trust present their initial findings, barriers, potential models and recommendations.

### MODERATOR

**Sarah Fowler**, AVICC 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Councillor, Village of Tahsis

### PRESENTERS

**David Giroday**, Associate, Young Anderson Barristers & Solicitors

**Kaeley Wiseman MCP, RPP, MCIP, PMP**, Founding Principal, Wiser Projects

**Tobi Elliott**, Vice Chair, Islands Trust, Gabriola Island Trustee

**Vanessa Craig**, Chair, RD Nanaimo; Director Electoral Area B

**Lisa Grant**, GM of Development and Emergency Services, RD Nanaimo

**Lexie Boekenkruger**, Manager of Building Inspection Services, RD Nanaimo



# SATURDAY CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

## Amplify Climate Solutions through Regional Collaboration

Saturday, 3:00 – 4:30 pm – Shaw Auditorium

Vancouver Island and coastal communities are facing many interconnected climate challenges, including damage to foreshore, watershed vulnerabilities, wildfire risk, flooding, drought, and health impacts. These compounding issues strain local government resources and affect local economies. Elected leaders are seeking out innovative, collaborative solutions especially where jurisdictional responsibilities are overlapping. The Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Steering Committee (VICC-CL) is tackling exactly these challenges through sharing of resources and regional connections.

This interactive workshop will highlight how regional collaboration can drive effective climate solutions by bringing the appropriate players to the table. Building on insights from the Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities Climate Summit 2024, panelists will share success stories, lessons learned, and present opportunities for the future in areas such as watershed sustainability planning, regional greenhouse gas emission reduction opportunities for buildings, and fleets, and partnerships for climate-adapted infrastructure and addressing climate-related health impacts.

Participants will explore actionable strategies for fostering collaboration across sectors and jurisdictions, amplifying impact, and integrating climate solutions into their priorities. Whether just beginning climate action planning or seeking to accelerate more advanced initiatives, this session offers tools, inspiration, and solutions to make collaboration your strongest asset. Join us to move beyond silos, embrace collective action, and create resilient communities.

### PANELISTS

**Dr Paivi Abernethy**, Senior Scientist, Climate Change & Planetary Health, Island Health

**Coree Tull**, Director of Government Relations and Engagement for BC Water Legacy; Chair of the BC Watershed Security Coalition

**Michelle Staples**, Mayor, City of Duncan; Municipal Director, Cowichan Valley RD

**Will Cole-Hamilton**, VICC-CL Co-Chair; Chair Comox Valley RD; Courtenay City Councillor

**Justine Gabias**, VICC-CL Co-chair, Director – Electoral Area B, Sunshine Coast RD

**Jessica Stanley**, VICC-CL Co-Chair; Director - Electoral Area A, RD Nanaimo

### MODERATOR

**CarolAnn Leishman**, Climate Leaders Program Manager, Community Energy Association; former two-term City Councillor, City of Powell River

## PROGRAM SPONSOR



**BC ASSESSMENT**



# **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

## **Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities**

### **2024-2025**

Welcome to the 2025 AVICC AGM & Convention in Nanaimo, where we are gathering on the traditional territories of the Snuneymuxw First Nation.

Big thanks to the City of Nanaimo and the Regional District of Nanaimo for hosting us and making this event a success. As AVICC President, I want to thank our hosts for their warm welcome.

Your AVICC Executive invites you to join us in celebrating 76 years of unified advocacy for local governments in our region. We deeply appreciate our members and all the time and energy you put into benefiting our communities.

I encourage everyone, to use this convention to meet and network with your colleagues. Our strength as a region comes from our sharing of experience, understanding one another's challenges and acting together on common goals.

It has been a privilege to serve you as AVICC president this past year and I want to thank the 2024-25 Executive, a skilled, passionate, and hard-working group of individuals:

- 1st Vice President: Vanessa Craig, Regional District of Nanaimo
- 2nd Vice President: Sarah Fowler, Village of Tahsis
- Director at Large: Travis Hall, Central Coast Regional District
- Director at Large: Will Cole-Hamilton, City of Courtenay
- Director at Large: Tanille Johnston, City of Campbell River (currently on leave)
- Electoral Area Representative: Donna McMahon, Sunshine Coast Regional District
- Past President: Penny Cote, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District

A special thank you to Penny Cote, who has been a steady and insightful member of the Executive since 2016. She's served her community of Sproat Lake since 2005, and I'm truly grateful for her contributions to AVICC, local government, and her community.

We recognize the importance of our relationships with First Nations in our work as local government officials. AVICC members are committed to building inclusion and supporting the implementation of the TRC Calls to Action. In June 2024, at our first Executive Meeting, we recognized that all First Nations in our region could apply to be AVICC members, regardless of their treaty status. We're excited to welcome Toquaht Nation as a new member. We've also invited all First Nations Chiefs to join us at this year's convention. We look forward to building relationships. There are several educational sessions planned that support our members' reconciliation efforts, including a presentation about the Indigenous-led engagements on a co-

governance vision for the Island Coastal Economic Trust, and a session with Bob Joseph as he prepares to publish his next book, *21 Things® You Need to Know About Indigenous Self Government*.

We also welcome Bowen Island Municipality as a new AVICC member. Although they're part of the Metro Vancouver Regional District, they're the only incorporated municipality in the Islands Trust and share many commonalities with our Vancouver Island and coastal community members. We look forward to welcoming them to this year's convention!

In June 2022, it was decided that UBCM would no longer provide staffing or operational support for AVICC effective August 1, 2023. Theresa Dennison joined the AVICC team as our full-time staff person in October 2022 and facilitated the transition away from UBCM in the summer of 2023. 2024 marked our first full fiscal year with a full-time employee, and we're grateful for her hard work and dedication. With her support, we have strengthened the organization and advanced several advocacy initiatives throughout the year.

Through the 2024 AVICC advocacy survey, membership identified that Watershed Security was one of the top regional priorities. Members of the AVICC executive teamed up with several municipalities and regional districts to meet with the Minister of Water Land and Resource Stewardship on this issue. In the discussion, the importance of watershed security and land conservation in our region was highlighted along with the unique conservation challenges faced because of large privately managed forest lands from the historical E&N Land grant. This year we have seen in our communities some provincial funding for land purchases that been made available through the BC Parks foundation and Ministry of Land and Resource Stewardship. This is positive. To follow up on watershed security at this year's convention the Community Energy Association has organized a session on this topic. This session includes info from the Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Steering Committee (VICC-CL) and the BC Municipal Climate Leadership Council (BCMCLC).

In November, we hosted AVICC's first virtual education and discussion session, facilitated by Tracey Lorenson as a follow-up to her plenary session from last year's convention. The session, *"Finishing Strong: Confidence and Courage in Turbulent Waters,"* focused on strategies for effective governance and leadership in challenging times. Over 50 members registered, and the video recording was shared with all members afterward. We hope to host another virtual session next term and encourage members to let us know what to prioritize.

This term, AVICC supported the initiative to reform/modernize the *Local Government Act*. An ad-hoc working group of elected officials and CAOs from Vancouver Island and the lower mainland have been advancing this initiative through engagement sessions at AVICC and UBCM. To increase the depth of understanding of the need for legislative reform and broaden local government participation provincially, the AVICC Executive co-hosted a Joint Area Association Virtual Engagement Session (JAAVES) with contributions from all five area associations. The event was facilitated by Don Lidstone, K.C., on February 28, 2025, and over 250 people attended. Mr. Lidstone has written a document, "[Regional District Legislation Roadmap](#)," as an informational resource and framework to gather feedback from all five area associations on the challenges local governments face with the LGA. The *Roadmap* document has been turned into a [survey](#) that is now available. Mr. Lidstone will share what we heard at the JAAVES and from the survey at this year's convention. The information gathered will be used to inform recommendations for UBCM and Municipal Affairs to take further action.

The Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) are strong partners of AVICC, advocating with senior levels of government on your behalf. We look forward to hearing from UBCM President Trish Mandewo at this year's convention with an update from UBCM. As AVICC President, I have the

privilege of representing you on the UBCM Executive. The 2024/2025 UBCM elected Executive does not include any additional AVICC members. The AVICC Executive has identified inequitable representation at the UBCM table and has sent a letter requesting a governance review. For the 2025/26 UBCM Elections, we encourage AVICC members to take a more strategic approach – last year, nine AVICC members ran for positions on the UBCM Executive, none were successful in large part to vote splitting.

AVICC also has a voice at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities table with AVICC members Director Daniel Arbour and Councillor Will Cole-Hamilton, who are FCM Board Members. We thank them for advocating on behalf of our region at the federal level. Councillor Cole-Hamilton will provide an update on FCM at this year's convention.

To ensure as many members as possible benefit from the educational sessions at the Convention, we will be video-recording six sessions so all members can access them afterward. For the 2025/26 AVICC Election, we will repeat elections being held electronically. There will be a return to in-person Candidate speeches this year where an election for a position is being held. Candidate speeches will also be available online. Candidates nominated by the deadline or from the floor will have the opportunity to work with AVICC staff to have their speech posted online while on-site at the convention. The Executive Election will be available to all members, not just AVICC delegates at the convention.

We are living and governing in uncertain times. We had a provincial election last fall and are in the midst of a federal election. The federal election is happening within the context of an increasingly unpredictable relationship with our closest ally and trading partner, the United States. Large changes in U.S. economic and security policy have the potential to have significant consequences on our local communities. We wish all the best to AVICC members running in the upcoming federal election. More than ever, it's important for us to unite and focus on solutions that support sustainable economic prosperity and cultural safety despite what's happening to the south of us. We will present several sessions on economic development at this year's convention, and UBCM will host a session on actions we can take to combat tariff wars in our communities and throughout the province. The food and beverage for this convention will be sourced locally wherever possible through the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance's Island Good program, and other items will be sourced from BC or Canadian businesses.

Many AVICC and other local government members were successful in obtaining seats at the provincial legislature, and we are grateful for their commitment to serving their communities in this new capacity. In addition, many long-time MLAs resigned or were unsuccessful in their provincial campaigns. The Minister of State for Local Government and Rural Communities, Hon. Brittny Anderson, the Minister of Health, Hon. Josie Osborne, and the Interim leader of the BC Greens, MLA Jeremy Valeriote, have confirmed they will attend and address AVICC delegates at our convention. The leader of the opposition and the BC Conservatives, John Rustad, has also been invited to speak. Our Keynotes Vaughn Palmer and Keith Baldrey will share their perspectives on the current "BC Political Pulse" to help us make sense of it all.

In your package, you will find the annual audited financial statements, the 2025 budget and member dues, a report from the Nominating Committee for the 2025/26 Term, and the resolutions for consideration at this year's convention.

Your Executive has reviewed AVICC's revenues and expenses with an eye to maintain best value and maintaining affordability. AVICC remains a low-cost, high-value area association, with member dues and convention registrations among the lowest compared to other area associations. Convention and operational costs have increased recently, reflective of the inflation experienced nation-wide. We've used past years' surplus to cover some of these costs. This year,

the AVICC Executive decided not to increase convention registration costs. For 2025, we also decided to increase dues by 3% to keep up with inflation, but with no increase for communities with smaller populations, acknowledging that our members' expenses have also risen significantly. Since convention costs are lower in Nanaimo than in Victoria, we've budgeted for a surplus in 2025 to plan ahead for potential expense increases in 2026.

We're looking forward to a productive, educational, and thought-provoking convention, including the resolutions debate, political speakers, keynote, elections, and, most importantly, networking with colleagues.

It's been a great honour to serve you and AVICC as President for 2024-25, my first term as President. I trust you'll benefit greatly from the convention lineup this weekend. I'm most looking forward to chatting with you in the meeting rooms and hallways of the conference center.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ben Geselbracht". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Ben Geselbracht, AVICC President  
Councillor, City of Nanaimo  
Director, Regional District of Nanaimo

# **2025 AVICC CONVENTION RULES & PROCEDURES FOR HANDLING RESOLUTIONS**

## **GENERAL RULES**

1. Sessions will begin and end promptly at the scheduled hours.
2. Delegates must use the floor microphones when speaking.
3. All elected officials of local governments and First Nation members of AVICC attending the Annual Meeting of the Association are entitled to participate in debates and to vote on any matter before the Meeting. [Bylaw 4.17] Other attendees are not entitled to the privilege of the floor (to address the convention) unless authorized by the Meeting by majority vote. [Bylaw 4.10] Electoral Area Director Alternates are not eligible to vote or speak as they are not elected officials. Guest speakers may be permitted at the discretion of the Executive.
4. At all business sessions of the Meeting twenty voting members (elected officials) constitutes a quorum. [Bylaw s. 4.2]

## **VOTING RULES**

5. Only elected officials of AVICC member local governments and member First Nations are entitled to vote. [Bylaw 4.17]. Electoral Area Director Alternates are not entitled to vote.
6. Voting on ordinary resolutions normally will be by a show of hands holding the voting card. The Chair's decision as to whether a motion is won or lost is final unless, immediately upon the decision of the Chair being declared, ten or more voting delegates present, by standing, demand a standing vote. If that occurs, the Chair will again put the question to the Meeting to be decided by a count of those standing in favour of and against the motion. The Chair may also decide to hold a standing vote if the show of hands does not, in their discretion, give a clear indication of the vote. Where voting is by standing vote, the scrutineers appointed by the Chair will count the standing votes in favour of and against the motion.
7. In the event that the result of the standing vote is questioned by twenty-five or more voting delegates, or at any time at the discretion of the Chair, the Chair shall order that the matter be referred to the AVICC Executive.
8. In all cases, where the votes of delegates present, including the vote of the Chair, are equal for and against a question, the question is defeated.
9. Voting by proxy is not permitted. [Bylaw 4.22]
10. When voting by show of hands, all delegates must hold up their voting card. [Bylaw 4.18]

## **RULES OF PROCEDURE**

11. Robert's Rules of Order govern the proceedings of the Association, its Executive, and Committees, so far as they may be applicable without coming into conflict with the Constitution or rules adopted by the Association. [Bylaw 14.1]
12. The Presiding Officer enforces order and strict observance of the Constitution and Rules and Procedures. Subject to an appeal to the meeting sustained by a majority vote of delegates present, the Presiding Officer has the right to decide all questions of order. The Officer's rulings in this regard are final.
13. A voting delegate wishing to move or second a resolution must hold up their voting card to be seen by the Chair.
14. A voting delegate wishing to speak to a resolution must line up behind the appropriate microphone (the pro or con microphone depending on whether they wish to speak in favour of (pro) or against (con)) the resolution. All delegates speaking to a resolution are permitted two minutes, except the sponsor of the resolution, who is permitted three minutes when introducing the resolution. A delegate must wait until he or she is recognized by the Chair before speaking. Once recognized, a Delegate must announce their name and local government office, or, in the case that a non-member/guest is granted permission to speak, their name and other qualifications, each time they rise to speak. Electoral Area Director Alternates are not permitted to speak unless authorized by the Meeting by majority vote.
15. The sponsor of the resolution should be available at "pro" microphone 1 (at the front of the room) immediately upon the resolution title being read so they can introduce the resolution.
16. No delegate may speak more than once on any one question unless and until all other delegates desiring to speak have been heard.
17. Any motion affecting a resolution must be moved and seconded from the Meeting floor including: an amendment, except amendments proposed by the Resolutions Committee; a motion to withdraw a resolution from consideration of the meeting; or a motion to refer the resolution to the AVICC Executive except where made by the Chair.
18. Should debate continue on a resolution for an undue length of time, then at the absolute discretion of the Chair the resolution may be cleared from the floor by the Chair by calling the question, or by deciding to refer the resolution to the Executive Committee for further consideration and subsequent report. There will be no debate on a motion to refer a resolution to the Executive Committee. If a member wishes to continue debate, any voting member may move without seconder a motion questioning the Chair's decision to refer the resolution to the Executive Committee. If a motion is made it must immediately be put to a vote without debate, and requires a simple majority to pass. If members do not support the referral, debate on the resolution will continue until the question on the resolution is called.

## HANDLING OF RESOLUTIONS: STEP-BY-STEP RULES

### PRECEDENCE OF RESOLUTIONS

19. Resolutions will be considered in numerical order.
20. **Resolutions will be grouped into five parts:**

#### **Part 1 – Special Resolutions and Extraordinary Resolutions**

Resolutions in Part 1 include any Special Resolutions or Executive Resolutions brought forward by the AVICC Executive. Part 1 will be presented in two sections:

##### **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.

#### **Part 2 – AVICC Regional Resolutions**

*Resolutions in Part 2 include any resolution submitted by the deadline where the issue addressed is specific to the AVICC Region and the enactment clause affects only local governments in the AVICC region and/or 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.*

**Section “A”** – Resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment and will be considered all together as the “Endorse Block”; and

**Section “B”** – Resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation, Not Endorse, or No Action Required. Each resolution will be considered individually.

#### **Part 3 – Resolutions**

Resolutions in Part 3 include any resolution submitted by the deadline that addresses an issue broadly relevant to local governments across British Columbia and the enactment clause directs UBCM to consider taking action. Endorsed Resolutions from Part 3 will be forwarded to UBCM for consideration by UBCM membership where, if endorsed, they may be actioned.

**Section “A”** – Resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse or Endorse with Proposed Amendment and will be considered all together as the “Endorse Block”; and

**Section “B”** – Resolutions that offer the recommendation of No Recommendation, Not Endorse, or No Action Required. Each resolution will be considered individually.

#### **Part 4 – Late Resolutions**

Late Resolutions include any resolution submitted after the resolutions deadline, but before the deadline for late resolutions. Late Resolutions will be recommended for debate by the Executive only if the topic has arisen since, or was not known prior to, the regular deadline date for submission of resolutions. The Executive’s Report on Late Resolutions will be distributed onsite at convention and will be considered, time permitting, at the Sunday Resolutions Session.



The Late Resolutions Report will provide recommendations on whether or not to admit the resolution for debate as follows:

- Recommend not admit for debate: resolutions that are not emergency in nature or on issues known at the time of the regular deadline will not be recommended to be admitted for debate.
- Recommend admit for debate: emergency resolutions and resolutions on issues not known at the time of the resolutions deadline will be recommended to be placed before the Convention for debate.

### **Part 5 – Off-the-floor Resolutions**

Off-the-floor Resolutions include any resolutions that were not submitted before the Late Resolutions deadline. Off-the-floor resolutions are deemed to be appropriate for discussion if the topic is such that it has arisen since or was not known prior to the earlier dates for submission of resolutions. Off-the-floor resolutions shall be considered during the Sunday Resolutions Session, time-permitting, after all other resolutions have been considered and if the sponsor distributes materials prior to the Sunday resolutions session as required.

*Part 1 resolutions will always be considered first. After Part 2, Section “A” resolutions have been entered for discussion as a block with the approval of the Convention, any resolutions removed from the block will be considered. Following that, Part 2, Section “B” resolutions will be considered. After Part 3, Section “A” resolutions have been entered for discussion as a block with the approval of the Convention, any resolutions removed from the block will be considered. Following that, Part 3, Section “B” resolutions will be considered. Part 4 and then Part 5 resolutions will be considered, time permitting, on Sunday morning.*

### **PROCEDURES FOR RESOLUTIONS CONTAINED IN PART 2, SECTION “A” & PART 3, SECTION “A”**

21. The Chair will introduce a motion to adopt the recommendations for Section “A” resolutions and move the endorsement of the resolutions as a block, including any amendments proposed by the Resolutions Committee.
  - i. A voting delegate who wishes to have a resolution included in the Section “A” Endorse Block entered for individual discussion must, after being recognized by the Chair, put forward a motion to remove the resolution from the block and have the resolution entered for discussion.
  - ii. Note that members may only move to remove a resolution from the Endorse Block if they wish to speak in opposition to, or propose an amendment to, the resolution. Amendments must be submitted to the Chair and Secretary in writing prior to consideration.
  - iii. If the motion meets one of the criteria outlined in (ii) and is duly seconded, the Chair will call the vote on whether the voting members support the removal of the resolution from the Endorse Block, without debate. A simple majority vote will support the resolution being brought forward for discussion.
  - iv. If the motion passes, the Chair will remove the resolution from the Endorse Block and it will be considered immediately following the Section “A” resolutions.
  - v. Once all motions to remove resolutions from the Section “A” (Endorse Block) have been addressed, the Chair will ask the voting members for the endorsement of the Endorse Block as amended, which will require a simple majority vote to pass.
  - vi. After Section “A” has been considered, those resolutions removed for individual consideration will be entered for consideration and the procedures for handling resolutions will apply (Steps 22 to 28).

## **PROCEDURES FOR RESOLUTIONS THAT ARE CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY**

*All resolutions in Part 1; those considered for individual debate from Parts 2 and 3 Section "A"; those contained in Parts 2 and 3 Section "B"; and resolutions in Parts 4 and 5.*

22. The Chair will read the title of the resolution and cause the "enactment" clause(s) of each Resolution to be read.
23. Once read the resolution will properly be before the Meeting and will not require a Mover or a Secunder.
24. A spokesperson for the Resolutions Committee will read the Resolutions Committee's recommendation.
25. The Chair will call on a delegate from the sponsoring local government to introduce the resolution, who will be permitted three minutes to do so.
27. The Chair will then call for discussion from the floor. Delegates who wish to speak to a resolution should line up at the "pro" microphone if in favour of the resolution, and the "con" microphone if opposed to the resolution.
28. If there are no speakers opposed to the resolution the Chair may choose to immediately call the question.
  - i. Discussion shall proceed in accordance with the "Rules of Procedure" (steps 11 to 18)
  - ii. Delegates have a maximum speaking period of two minutes.
  - iii. Voting on the resolution will proceed in accordance with the "Voting Rules" (steps 5 to 10).
  - iv. Voting is on the enactment clause of the resolution **NOT** on the recommendation of the Resolutions Committee.

## **PROCEDURES FOR LATE RESOLUTIONS**

29. Resolutions submitted following the expiry of the regular deadline will be considered "Late Resolutions". Late Resolutions must comply with all other submission requirements for formatting and backgrounder and be provided to the AVICC Secretary by noon Wednesday of the week preceding the Annual Meeting. After that deadline, any resolutions may be introduced as Off-the-Floor Resolutions, if time permits during the convention.
30. Late Resolutions may be debated after the resolutions printed in the resolutions book have been considered, but not before the time printed in the Convention Program for consideration of Late Resolutions.
33. The Chair will ask whether the voting members support the recommendations in the Late Resolutions Report. If the Resolutions Committee has recommended against a late resolution being admitted for debate, the sponsor may come forward to the microphone, identify which late resolution they wish to have admitted, and make a motion to have it considered for debate. The motion requires a seconder and a 60% majority vote to pass. If the resolution is accepted for debate, the resolution will then require a simple majority to pass.
33. The Chair will determine if the voting members present support the Resolutions Committee recommendations (except for those that have been removed for individual debate) by putting forward a motion that the Report of the Resolutions Committee and its associated recommendations (potentially as amended) be adopted. If seconded, the question will require a simple majority to pass.

35. Late Resolutions admitted for debate will be considered in the order presented in the Late Resolutions Report and will follow the process outlined for handling resolutions (Steps 22 to 28). The resolution will require a simple majority to pass.

#### **PROCEDURES FOR OFF-THE-FLOOR RESOLUTIONS**

36. Off-the-Floor Resolutions will only be considered for debate if there is time in the convention schedule Sunday morning following the debate on Late Resolutions.
37. Off-the-Floor Resolutions must be submitted in writing to the Chair of the Resolutions Session, and printed copies must be made available to all delegates no later than 9 am on Sunday morning.
38. A voting member may put forward a motion to accept an Off-the-Floor Resolution that has met the above requirements, for debate. If seconded, the motion will require a 60% majority vote to pass. Off-the-floor resolutions accepted for debate will follow the process outlined for handling resolutions (Steps 22 to 28). The resolution will require a simple majority to pass.

#### **RESOLUTIONS NOT ADMITTED**

39. The sponsors of resolutions that are not admitted for debate at the AVICC Convention due to time considerations, or of Late or Off-the-floor Resolutions where the resolution was not admitted for debate may submit those resolutions directly to UBCM by their June 15 deadline.

#### **DIRECT SUBMISSIONS TO UBCM**

40. Should any member local government or First Nation who is also a member of UBCM wish to submit a resolution directly to UBCM, the new deadline for submissions is June 15 (no longer June 30). Any resolution submitted after June 15 will be considered a Late Resolution by UBCM.

# 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 |
|----|-------------------------------------|-----------------|

### **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**

- |     |  |                    |
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| R14 | Funding Indigenous Governments' Engagement in Local Government Planning Activities | Cowichan Valley RD |
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### **FINANCE**

- |     |                                      |                                 |
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| 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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## **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**

### **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

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. (considered as a block)

### 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 development 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.”*



# NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

An 8 person Executive Board is elected and appointed at the Annual General Meeting & Convention to provide the ongoing administration and policy determination for the Association.

## **THERE ARE SEVEN ELECTED POSITIONS:**

- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President
- Director at Large (3 positions)
- Electoral Area Representative

## **THERE IS ONE APPOINTED POSITION:**

- Immediate Past President

## **NOMINATION PROCESS AND QUALIFICATIONS FOR OFFICE**

The Executive has identified a process whereby a notice of the AVICC Executive positions open for nomination and the process and the procedures for nomination was circulated to all members.

The notice states that the nominee must be an elected official of an AVICC member and must be nominated by two elected officials of an AVICC member local government. A nomination and consent form was distributed by email and posted on the AVICC website. The form is to be used for all nominations in advance of the AGM & Convention.

Background information that sets out the main responsibilities and commitments of an AVICC Executive member was included with the notice and nomination and consent form.

## **NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

A candidate may also be nominated from the floor at the AGM & Convention for a position on the Executive Committee. This requires a motion moved and seconded by two elected officials of an AVICC member local government. The nominee must be present and accept the nomination.

The **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** is responsible for overseeing the nomination and election process, and is composed of two people.

This year's Committee is composed of:

- Chair, Past President Penny Cote, (Director, Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District)
- AVICC Secretary-Treasurer, Theresa Dennison

It is part of the duties of the Nominating Committee to review the credentials of each candidate. A Report on Nominations including a photo and biography is prepared under the direction of the Nominating Committee, and is distributed to the members in the Annual Report and Resolutions Package.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Nominating Committee is responsible for reporting to the full Annual Meeting. The Nominating Committee does not make recommendations.

The Nominating Committee will report on Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 2:25 pm on nominations received by the deadline for positions of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, three Directors at Large and Electoral Area Representative. Following the report, nominations from the floor will be requested as follows.

# **ELECTIONS PROCESS:**

The Nominations and Elections Process will then proceed in three steps:

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## **STEP 1 - ELECTION OF TABLE OFFICERS**

***(President, 1st Vice President, and 2nd Vice President)***

**FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 4:00 pm**

- Nominating Chair announces nominations for Table Officer positions (President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President);
  - Nominations from the floor for Table Officer positions may be received;
  - If there are nominations from the floor for any Table Officer Position(s), in-person candidate speeches will take place for each position, and the Nominating Chair will declare that an election will be held for that position.
  - If all Table Officer positions are acclaimed, the Nominating Chair will present the results;
  - If an election for Table Officers is declared, on-line voting for Table Officers will open April 11 at 5:30 pm and close April 12 at 10:30 am;
  - The results will be announced by the Nominating Chair on April 12 at 11:50 am.
- 

## **STEP 2 - ELECTION OF DIRECTORS AT LARGE**

***(3 positions)***

**SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 11:50 am**

- Nominating Chair announces nominations for the three Director at Large positions;
  - Nominations from the floor for Director at Large positions may be received;
  - In-person candidate speeches will take place for those positions;
  - The Nominating Chair will declare that an election will be held.
  - On-line voting for Director at Large positions will open April 12 at 3:00 pm and close April 13 at 7:30 am;
  - The results will be announced by the Nominating Chair on April 13 at 8:30 am.
- 

## **STEP 3 - ELECTION OF ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE**

***(1 position)***

**SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 8:30 am**

- Nominating Chair announces nomination for Electoral Area (EA) Representative
- Nominations from the floor for EA Representative may be received;
- If there are nominations from the floor, the Nominating Chair will declare that an election will be held for EA Representative, and in-person candidate speeches will take place;
- If the EA Representative position is acclaimed, the Nominating Chair will declare the result.
- If an election for EA Representative is declared, on-line voting will open April 13 at 9:00 am and close April 13 at 11:00 am – only EA Directors are eligible to vote.
- The results will be announced by the Nominating Chair on April 13 at 11:50 am.

# NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

## 2025-26 AVICC EXECUTIVE

As a result of the Call for Nominations, the Nominating Committee has received and will be placing the following names forward for consideration during the 2024 AGM and Convention:

**President** *(one to be elected/ acclaimed)*

- Councillor Ben Geselbracht, City of Nanaimo (incumbent)

**First Vice-President** *(one to be elected/ acclaimed)*

- Director Vanessa Craig, Regional District of Nanaimo (incumbent)

**Second Vice-President** *(one to be elected/ acclaimed)*

- Councillor Sarah Fowler, Village of Tahsis (incumbent)

**Director at Large** *(three to be elected)*

- Director Travis Hall, Central Coast Regional District (incumbent)
- Councillor Will Cole-Hamilton, City of Courtenay (incumbent)
- Councillor Alison MacKenzie, Town of View Royal
- Director Ian Morrison, Cowichan Valley Regional District

**Electoral Area Representative** *(one to be elected/ acclaimed)*

- Director Donna McMahon, Sunshine Coast Regional District (incumbent)

For further information on the nomination and election process contact:

Past President Penny Cote  
Chair, AVICC Nominating Committee  
c/o the Association of Vancouver Island & Coastal Communities  
P.O. Box 28058  
Victoria, BC V9B 6K8  
Phone: (236) 237-1202  
Email: [info@avicc.ca](mailto:info@avicc.ca)

# BEN GESELBRACHT

Councillor, City of Nanaimo  
Director, Regional District of Nanaimo

## Nomination for President (incumbent)



I am running for a second term as AVICC President to continue strengthening AVICC's ability to support regional collaboration and advocate for the needs of our communities.

As a second term Nanaimo City Councillor, I'm honored to live in the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. I am dedicated to building strong communities with resilient local economies that are environmentally sustainable and meet the needs of all residents. My dedication to local government issues and collaborative spirit is demonstrated through my participation in various roles:

- AVICC President 2024-2025; AVICC 1st /2nd Vice President 2021-2024
- UBCM Director AVICC rep 2024-2025; UBCM Director at Large on the 2019-2020 UBCM Executive;
- Chair of the Vancouver Island and Coastal Community Committee on Solid Waste and Circular Economy

This past year marked our Association's first full year as an autonomous organization, separate from UBCM. We have established robust practices to ensure the long-term sustainability of our organization and improve our ability to serve our members effectively. Additionally, we have been taking a leadership role in collaborating with the other BC area associations to strengthen the effort to advocate for the modernization of the *Local Government Act* and make it a priority for UBCM and Municipal Affairs. With your continued support as President, I am keen to continue with this work and further AVICC's capacity for regional collaboration and advocacy.

Thank you.

# VANESSA CRAIG

Electoral Area Director, Gabriola, Mudge, & DeCourcy Islands (Area B)  
Chair, Regional District of Nanaimo

## Nomination for 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (incumbent)



I am in my second term as an Electoral Area Director on the Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Board, where I am privileged to represent Gabriola, Mudge, and DeCourcy Islands, which are within the traditional territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. I am also in my third year serving as the Chair of the RDN. I have served on the AVICC Executive since December 2018; I was the Electoral Area representative for three years, 2nd Vice President for two and have been 1st Vice President for one year. I am also currently the AVICC representative on the Southern Resident Killer Whale Indigenous and Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group. This year I am seeking your support to serve again as the 1st Vice President.

I am a long-term resident of coastal communities, having lived and worked in different areas along the coast. For 25 years my husband Steve and I have called Gabriola Island home, and we are raising our two daughters here. I hold a PhD in biology, am a Registered Professional Biologist, and continue to work (very) occasionally as a small mammal and bat biologist with a focus on species at risk recovery and environmental assessment. In 2021 I completed 12 years of volunteer service on the Council of the College of Applied Biology, the regulator of professional biologists in the province, most recently serving as Past President after 4 years as President.

Of particular interest to me as an EA Director are the issues of emergency preparedness, housing accessibility, meaningful engagement with First Nations communities, potable water, positive working relationships with other elected officials including the Islands Trust, and the ecological health of our coastal communities. AVICC offers important opportunities for us to connect to discuss our common concerns, and I've benefited from speaking with the many knowledgeable people in the coastal communities.

This year is full of possibilities as we build on our successful last year with strong advocacy, including a member session from Tracey Lorensen and our recent legislative reform workshop. I would appreciate your support to continue serving on the AVICC Executive as your 1st Vice President, so that I can continue bringing my collaborative, engaged approach to these essential conversations.

# SARAH FOWLER

Councillor, Village of Tahsis

## Nomination for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President (incumbent)



Sarah Fowler lives in Tahsis and was elected to council there in 2018. You can contact her directly via email [sfowler@villageoftahsis.com](mailto:sfowler@villageoftahsis.com) if you have any questions regarding her ability to meet the needs of the position.

Local accomplishments included reduced (almost 20 000 kg of CO<sub>2</sub> since 2023 by neighbourhood cooperation and freight sharing) greenhouse gas emissions for food security work. Prior to the good food box program and serving as deputy mayor, she was a lifeguard at the Recreation Centre.

Community safety is still a top priority and is happy to report that our retrofitting of an existing building for our village's new volunteer fire hall is expected to be completed this spring. Other accomplishments include filing the roll of small community representative from 2020-2024 on the UBCM Executive and chairing the Community Economic Development Committee. It was in 2022 that she joined the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Executive Board as Director at Large.

With your vote of confidence, she hopes to continue her leadership and creativity by delivering on AVICC members needs as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for the 2025-26 term.

# TRAVIS HALL

Electoral Area Director, Bella Bella  
Director, Central Coast Regional District

## Nomination for Director at Large (Incumbent)



I was born and raised in Heiltsuk territory, in the village of Waglisla (known as Bella Bella) and maintain an active cultural role in my community. My Heiltsuk name, Gundaynuxv, was given to me in a potlatch; the name was passed down from my grandfather. The name carries many responsibilities, including advisor to a high-ranking Chief, Yimas Qai'ait and cultural leader. I remain active in these duties now.

I am passionate about Heiltsuk culture, language, harvesting and processing traditional foods. Spending time with our cultural leaders and advising on cultural traditions and practices remains a high priority of mine.

I began my education in earth sciences and anthropology but soon moved to finance. I spent a great deal of my working life in financial management and I currently am working on completing a Certified Management Accountant designation.

I hold several positions within the Heiltsuk community in addition to my responsibilities with the CCRD, including Interim Manager for Heiltsuk Fisheries Management Ltd., and Licence Coordinator for the Heiltsuk Nation. Previously, I worked as the Marine Use Planning Coordinator, I have held a seat on Heiltsuk Tribal Council and the Heiltsuk Health Board and I have worked on our Marine portfolio, and I was honoured to serve on the UBCM Executive.

I also harvest traditional food from my territory. This means I spend much of my free time on the water. Having such a strong connection to the ocean as a Nation means we will do everything we can to protect it. This led me to be involved with the clean up of the Nathan E. Steward as a first responder. My position in the clean up was with on water ops. I still feel more needs to be done in that clean up.

I strongly believe that developing and maintaining relationships between the Nations and local governments is key to building strong communities; this is my motivation for joining the CCRD and continues to drive my interest on the Board and AVICC Executive.

# WILL COLE-HAMILTON

Councillor, City of Courtenay  
Chair, Comox Valley Regional District



## Nomination for Director at Large (Incumbent)

Will Cole-Hamilton is a natural collaborator and advocate with a background in law, who brings a valuable skill set to the AVICC board. “Whether it’s meeting complex challenges, advocating for the needs of local governments, or creating new opportunities, I believe that we are stronger, smarter, and more inclusive when we work together.”

Will and his family live in Courtenay, on the unceded territories of the K’ómoks First Nation. First elected in 2018, Will is in his second term as a Councillor for the City of Courtenay.

Since being elected Will has consistently sought out opportunities to work with other local elected officials to advocate for change on shared goals. These policy-driven leadership roles have included:

- Chair, Comox Valley Regional District
- Director, FCM
- Chair of BC Caucus, FCM
- Director, UBCM
- Director, AVICC
- Co-Chair, [Comox Strathcona Waste Management](#), a 23-member board spanning two regional districts
- Director, Island Corridor Foundation
- Trustee, Vancouver Island Regional Library Board
- Chair, Courtenay Drug Strategy Committee (As past Chair, Will successfully led its expansion from a small municipal committee to a region-wide body with broader scope, expanded membership, and regional funding)
- Co-Chair, Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Steering Committee

Outside of his local government roles, Will works as a legal researcher at a family law firm in downtown Courtenay. He has a long history of contributing to his community: soccer coach; “chess club guy” at Puntledge Elementary School; Director of the Downtown Business Improvement Association; and Director of the Comox Valley International Film Festival.



# IAN MORRISON

Electoral Area Director, Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls (Area F)

## Nomination for Director at Large



I was elected in 2008 to serve the people of Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls (Area F) in the Cowichan Valley Regional District on Vancouver Island. I've been a tireless advocate on electoral area and Local Government issues since day one. My combination of experience and dedication will serve elected officials from all parts of the Province well. I served two years as President of The Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities-(AVICC) and during this tenure, on the UBCM Executive. I am honoured to be an AVICC Life Member.

While attending our AGMs and other events over the years, I have met and spoken with so many of you, which has given me broader insight into issues we all have in common. I want to hear about specific matters that occupy your lives as elected officials in this region, while continuing to work on the recurring themes we've all discussed over the years. This includes a modernized *Local Government Act* (LGA), MoTI/highways maintenance, unfair and outdated municipal boundary expansions, affordable housing, and provincial downloading. As your AVICC Director at Large, I will work together with all of you to move the Province on these priorities and other specific local issues we all face.

I am married to Brenda and proud parent of Rhianon. I moved to Victoria in 1982 and then to Mill Bay, before making Honeymoon Bay my home, some twenty years ago. My career, prior to Local Government, was in financial services where he advanced to become a Branch Manager and was involved in volunteering and serving the community.

# ALISON MacKENZIE

Councillor, Town of View Royal



## Nomination for Director at Large

Alison MacKenzie is a first term Councillor for the Town of View Royal. A township of 12,000+ residents, many communities in the CRD have interaction with the Town which shares borders with Songhees First Nation, Esquimalt First Nation, Town of Esquimalt, Saanich, Colwood, Langford and the Highlands. For this reason, Alison brings a fulsome perspective of both Victoria and the West Shore to AVICC.

Alison has worked in people policies for the Federal Government in Ottawa, the UK Government in England, and has worked for the BC Provincial Government since 2020. Her experience at every level of government has provided her a fulsome understanding of how things work, and roles and responsibilities.

She completed a Master's in Comparative Social Policy at the University of Oxford where she focused on labour market policies, and a Bachelor's of Commerce from the Telfer School of Management.

In her elected position, Alison is the Chair of the Environment, Parks and Recreation Committee and sits on the CRD's Intermunicipal Climate Action Task Force, is the PAC liaison, and a Board Director for the West Shore Parks and Recreation Society.

Outside of her Council appointments, Alison enjoys volunteering including working the check-in at West Shore Chamber of Commerce events, door-knocking on behalf of Provincial and Federal candidates, sitting on the Board of Directors for the Royal Oak Burial Park since 2020, and serving on her Strata Council since 2021 where she is currently the Vice President. Previous volunteer activities in the CRD include tutoring with the Victoria Literacy Connection, and being on the Board of Directors for the BC Association for Living Mindfully, and the Mental Health Recovery Partners.

# DONNA McMAHON

Electoral Area Director, Elphinstone (Area E)  
Director, Sunshine Coast Regional District

## Nomination for Electoral Area Representative (Incumbent)



I'm running for the EA Representative position because, once again, I feel my work isn't done. AVICC is in the middle of a significant advocacy initiative around the reform of the *Local Government Act*, and I want to be right in the middle of it. Updating the legislation that enables/disables us is not only a critical step for regional districts, but it's essential that electoral area directors' voices be heard in the process. We're the ones on the front lines trying to represent residents of unincorporated areas while constantly scuppered by legislation that's older than a BC ferry. 2025 marks 60 years since regional districts were created; time to quit patching this leaky vessel and launch a new one.

I've lived on the Sunshine Coast since 1996 and had many community involvements, including the Gibsons Public Library, Transportation Choices, Community Futures, the Self Employed Women's Network, the Coast Car Co-op, the Sunshine Coast Trails Society, and Streamkeepers.

I was elected to the Sunshine Coast Regional District in 2018, and acclaimed in 2022, as Director for Elphinstone (Area E), in the territory of the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh (Squamish) Nation. I maintain a constituency website ([EverythingElphinstone.ca](http://EverythingElphinstone.ca)), publish a monthly newsletter, and support the advocacy efforts of numerous community/neighbourhood associations and grassroots groups in my area. My full bio is on my website.

Issues at the top of my mind these days are too numerous to list, but include the province's approach to housing that ignores the realities of electoral areas, the dire condition of rural roads, and lack of timely enforcement for pretty much any provincial violation from tree poaching to illegal dumping.

Financial Statements of

**ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER  
ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES**

And Independent Auditor's Report thereon

Year ended December 31, 2024



**KPMG LLP**

St. Andrew's Square II  
800-730 View Street  
Victoria, BC V8W 3Y7  
Canada  
Telephone (250) 480 3500  
Fax (250) 480 3539

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Members of Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities

***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (the Entity), which comprise:

- the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2024
- the statement of operations and changes in net assets for the year then ended
- the statement of cash flows for the year then ended
- and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies

(hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at December 31, 2024 and its results of operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

***Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with Governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.



*Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities*

*Page 3*

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation
- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

***Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements***

As required by the Societies Act (British Columbia), we report that, in our opinion, the accounting policies applied in preparing and presenting financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations have been applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding period.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. Below the signature is a horizontal line that starts under the 'K' and ends under the 'P'.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Victoria, Canada

March 25, 2025

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2024, with comparative information for 2023

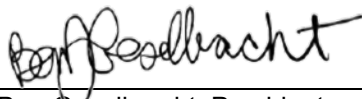
	2024	2023
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 2)	\$ 317,546	\$ 383,540
Prepaid expenses	15,592	6,245
Accounts receivable	-	700
	<u>333,138</u>	<u>390,485</u>
Investments (note 3)	50,000	-
	<u>\$ 383,138</u>	<u>\$ 390,485</u>

## Liabilities and Net Assets


Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (note 4)	\$ 23,530	\$ 23,993
Deferred revenue	4,500	-
Deferred contributions (note 5)	30,468	37,567
	<u>58,498</u>	<u>61,560</u>
Net assets:		
Unrestricted	324,640	328,925
	<u>\$ 383,138</u>	<u>\$ 390,485</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Elected Executive:



Ben Geselbracht, President



Penny Cote, Past-President



# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Statement of Operations and Changes in Net Assets

Year ended December 31, 2024, with comparative information for 2023

	2024	2023
Revenue:		
Association dues	\$ 121,036	\$ 111,663
Annual meeting - registration	150,045	117,721
Annual meeting - sponsorships	92,500	70,500
Annual meeting - exhibits	18,000	7,200
Interest	18,823	22,076
Other (note 5)	7,799	7,097
	<u>408,203</u>	<u>336,257</u>
Expenses:		
Annual meeting	223,863	138,422
Union of BC Municipalities contract fees	-	66,186
Salaries and benefits	122,188	53,094
Executive meetings	21,828	20,376
Postage, office and miscellaneous	9,664	13,737
Professional fees	12,505	11,200
Consulting fees	15,434	11,059
Communication and staff travel	3,992	4,112
Insurance	3,014	748
	<u>412,488</u>	<u>318,934</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(4,285)	17,323
Net assets, beginning of year	328,925	311,602
Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 324,640</u>	<u>\$ 328,925</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

## Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended December 31, 2024, with comparative information for 2023

	2024	2023
Cash provided by (used in):		
Operations:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ (4,285)	\$ 17,323
Changes in non-cash operating working capital:		
Increase in prepaid expenses	(9,347)	(417)
Decrease in accounts receivable	700	510
Decrease in accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(463)	(45,710)
Decrease in deferred revenue	4,500	(12,374)
Decrease in deferred contributions	(7,099)	(7,098)
	(15,994)	(47,766)
Financing:		
Investment in guaranteed investment certificate	(50,000)	-
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(65,994)	(47,766)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	383,540	431,306
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 317,546	\$ 383,540

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements

Year ended December 31, 2024

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## Nature of operations:

Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (the "Association") is registered under the Societies Act (British Columbia) and is exempt from the requirement to pay income taxes. Its purpose is to promote autonomy within local government and to advance the principles of local government. The Association represents the various municipalities and regional districts of Vancouver Island, Powell River and the Sunshine and Central Coasts.

## 1. Significant accounting policies:

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-For-Profit Organizations ("ASNPO") in Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook. The Association's significant accounting policies are as follows:

### (a) Basis of presentation:

These financial statements present the financial position, results of operations and changes in net assets of the Association and, as such, do not include all the assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses of the members of the Association.

There is no provision in the accounts for income taxes as the activities of the Association are conducted on a not-for-profit basis.

### (b) Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash and cash equivalents are defined as cash and highly liquid investments consisting of term deposits with original maturities at the date of purchase of three months or less.

### (c) Revenue recognition:

The Association follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when received or receivable if the amount received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Annual meeting sponsorships, registration and exhibit revenues are recognized as revenue when the conference takes place.

Association dues are recognized as revenue in the year they are earned and collection is reasonably assured.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2024

---

## 1. Significant accounting policies (continued):

### (d) Contributed materials and services:

Due to the difficulty in determining fair value, contributed materials and services are not recognized in the financial statements.

### (e) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition and are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. The Association has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment.

### (f) Capital assets:

In accordance with the ASNPO Handbook section 4433, *Tangible Capital Assets held by Not-for-profit Organizations*, and section 4434, *Intangible Assets held by Not-for-profit Organizations*, the Association has met the criteria to be considered a small organization and as such has not capitalized any expenditures. Capital assets and intangible assets owned by the Association but which have not been capitalized under this accounting policy include computer hardware and website costs. During the year, there were no acquisitions of capital assets (2023 - no acquisitions of capital assets or intangible assets).

### (g) Use of estimates:

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with ASNPO requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the year. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2024

## 2. Cash and cash equivalents:

	2024	2023
Cash	\$ 66,162	\$ 158,904
MFA Money Market Fund	76,048	224,636
MFA Government Focused Ultra-short Bond Fund	75,336	-
MFA high interest savings account	100,000	-
	<b>\$ 317,546</b>	<b>\$ 383,540</b>

## 3. Investments:

Investments consist of a two year guaranteed investment certificate, bearing interest at 3.6% per annum, maturing on October 29, 2026.

## 4. Accounts payable and accrued liabilities:

Included in accounts payable and accrued liabilities are government remittances payable of \$4,596 (2023 - \$4,181) related to payroll taxes.

## 5. Deferred contributions:

Deferred contributions include \$30,468 (2023 - \$37,567) of provincial grants restricted for the facilitation of the activities of the Treaty Advisory Committee. During the year, \$7,099 (2023 - \$7,097) was spent on initiatives to increase relations and reconciliation between the Association members and our local First Nations. The remaining balance will be used for the purposes of continuing and offsetting costs of future reconciliation initiatives.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2024

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## 6. Municipal pension plan:

The Association and its employee contribute to the Municipal Pension Plan (a jointly trustee pension plan). The board of trustees, representing plan members and employers, is responsible for administering the plan, including investment of assets and administration of benefits. The plan is a multi-employer defined benefit pension plan. Basic pension benefits are based on a formula. As at December 31, 2023, the plan has about 256,000 active members and approximately 129,000 retired members. Active members include approximately 45,000 contributors from local governments.

Every three years, an actuarial valuation is performed to assess the financial position of the plan and adequacy of plan funding. The actuary determines an appropriate combined employer and member contribution rate to fund the plan. The actuary's calculated contribution rate is based on the entry-age normal cost method, which produces the long-term rate of member and employer contributions sufficient to provide benefits for average future entrants to the plan. This rate may be adjusted for the amortization of any actuarial funding surplus and will be adjusted for the amortization of any unfunded actuarial liability.

The most recent actuarial valuation for the Municipal Pension Plan as at December 31, 2021, indicated a \$3,761 million funding surplus for basic pension benefits on a going concern basis.

The Association paid \$9,323 (2023 - \$3,735) for employer contributions while employees contributed \$8,622 (2023 - \$3,454) to the plan in fiscal 2024.

The next valuation will be as at December 31, 2024.

Employers participating in the plan record their pension expense as the amount of employer contributions made during the fiscal year (defined contribution pension plan accounting). This is because the plan records accrued liabilities and accrued assets for the plan in aggregate, resulting in no consistent and reliable basis for allocating the obligation, assets and cost to individual employers participating in the plan.

# ASSOCIATION OF VANCOUVER ISLAND AND COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended December 31, 2024

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## 7. Financial risks and concentration of risk:

The Association's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities. The Association believes that it is not exposed to significant interest rate or cash flow risk arising from its financial instruments.

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Association will be unable to fulfil its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. The Association manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. It prepares budget and cash forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfil its obligations.

There has been no change to the risk exposures from 2023.

## 8. Employee and director remuneration:

The BC Societies Act has a requirement for the disclosure in the financial statements of the remuneration of directors, employees and contractors. For the period ended December 31, 2024, nine directors received remuneration totaling \$18,750, with amounts ranging from \$675 to \$5,725 per director (2023 - nine directors received remuneration totaling \$17,925, with amounts ranging from \$525 to \$6,900 per director). For the period ended December 31, 2024, one employee received remuneration of \$100,358 (2023 - no employees received remuneration greater than \$75,000).

# AVICC 2025 DUES REPORT

Member	Pop 2024	Pop 2025	Ind. Pop % Δ	Dues 2024	Dues 2025	Overall change	Ind. \$\$ % Δ
1. Alberni-Clayoquot	8,678	9,105	4.92%	\$1,267.76	\$1,364.65	\$96.89	7.64%
2. Alert Bay	463	499	7.78%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
3. Bowen Island		4,677	?		\$747.27	\$747.27	?
4. Campbell River	38,658	38,028	(1.63%)	\$4,658.69	\$4,734.43	\$75.74	1.63%
5. Capital	24,737	25,599	3.48%	\$3,211.36	\$3,407.78	\$196.42	6.12%
6. Central Coast	1,593	1,815	13.94%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
7. Central Saanich	19,326	18,150	(6.09%)	\$2,601.38	\$2,542.87	(\$58.51)	(2.25%)
8. Colwood	21,874	22,151	1.27%	\$2,888.62	\$3,007.43	\$118.81	4.11%
9. Comox	15,902	15,962	0.38%	\$2,215.39	\$2,288.82	\$73.43	3.31%
10. Comox Valley	26,011	26,007	(0.02%)	\$3,354.98	\$3,455.15	\$100.17	2.99%
11. Courtenay	31,242	32,049	2.58%	\$3,927.17	\$4,126.97	\$199.80	5.09%
12. Cowichan Valley	37,922	36,863	(2.79%)	\$4,586.09	\$4,616.07	\$29.98	0.65%
13. Cumberland	4,901	4,962	1.24%	\$760.25	\$792.80	\$32.55	4.28%
14. Daajing Giids	1,033	992	(3.97%)	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
15. Duncan	5,513	5,669	2.83%	\$844.25	\$891.08	\$46.83	5.55%
16. Esquimalt	19,738	19,302	(2.21%)	\$2,647.82	\$2,676.63	\$28.81	1.09%
17. Gibsons	5,098	5,093	(0.10%)	\$788.72	\$811.70	\$22.98	2.91%
18. Gold River	1,296	1,318	1.70%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
19. Highlands	2,698	2,618	(2.97%)	\$418.52	\$418.29	(\$0.23)	(0.05%)
20. Islands Trust	1,593	1,815	13.94%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
21. Ladysmith	9,690	9,903	2.20%	\$1,403.18	\$1,474.63	\$71.45	5.09%
22. Lake Cowichan	3,748	3,717	(0.83%)	\$581.40	\$593.88	\$12.48	2.15%
23. Langford	52,953	58,320	10.14%	\$6,068.77	\$6,796.10	\$727.33	11.98%
24. Lantzville	4,099	4,210	2.71%	\$635.85	\$672.65	\$36.80	5.79%
25. Metchosin	5,271	5,331	1.14%	\$811.87	\$844.50	\$32.63	4.02%
26. Mount Waddington	2,372	2,042	(13.91%)	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
27. Nanaimo City	108,438	110,707	2.09%	\$11,541.86	\$12,118.62	\$576.76	5.00%
28. Nanaimo RD	45,371	45,810	0.97%	\$5,320.87	\$5,525.09	\$204.22	3.84%
29. North Coast	1,676	1,162	(30.67%)	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
30. North Cowichan	34,546	34,495	(0.15%)	\$4,253.08	\$4,375.48	\$122.40	2.88%
31. North Saanich	13,198	13,340	1.08%	\$1,872.58	\$1,948.33	\$75.75	4.05%
32. Oak Bay	19,703	18,813	(4.52%)	\$2,643.88	\$2,619.85	(\$24.03)	(0.91%)
33. Parksville	14,710	14,995	1.94%	\$2,074.91	\$2,176.43	\$101.52	4.89%
34. Port Alberni	20,264	19,685	(2.86%)	\$2,707.12	\$2,721.10	\$13.98	0.52%
35. Port Alice	700	810	15.71%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
36. Port Hardy	4,552	4,148	(8.88%)	\$706.12	\$662.75	(\$43.37)	(6.14%)
37. Port McNeill	2,591	2,384	(7.99%)	\$401.92	\$400.00	(\$1.92)	(0.48%)
38. Powell River	14,607	14,937	2.26%	\$2,061.12	\$2,168.44	\$107.32	5.21%
39. qathet	6,920	6,855	(0.94%)	\$1,032.53	\$1,054.54	\$22.01	2.13%



Member	Pop 2024	Pop 2025	Ind. Pop % Δ	Dues 2024	Dues 2025	Overall change	Ind. \$\$ % Δ
40. Qualicum Beach	9,663	9,363	(3.10%)	\$1,399.57	\$1,400.21	\$0.64	0.05%
41. Saanich	129,786	125,436	(3.35%)	\$13,647.65	\$13,615.09	(\$32.56)	(0.24%)
42. Sayward	305	363	19.02%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
43. Sechelt	11,707	11,492	(1.84%)	\$1,673.07	\$1,693.63	\$20.56	1.23%
44. shíshálh Nation	767	817	6.52%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
45. Sidney	12,951	13,288	2.60%	\$1,839.53	\$1,941.17	\$101.64	5.53%
46. Sooke	16,866	17,128	1.55%	\$2,324.06	\$2,424.20	\$100.14	4.31%
47. Strathcona	10,364	9,524	(8.10%)	\$1,493.37	\$1,422.40	(\$70.97)	(4.75%)
48. Sunshine Coast	15,723	16,827	7.02%	\$2,195.21	\$2,389.25	\$194.04	8.84%
49. Tahsis	277	378	36.46%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
50. Tofino	2,653	2,767	4.30%	\$411.54	\$442.10	\$30.56	7.43%
51. Toquaht Nation		157	?		\$400.00	\$400.00	?
52. Ucluelet	2,309	2,413	4.50%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
53. Victoria	99,792	102,856	3.07%	\$10,689.01	\$11,320.96	\$631.95	5.91%
54. View Royal	13,219	12,619	(4.54%)	\$1,875.39	\$1,848.96	(\$26.43)	(1.41%)
55. Zeballos	121	135	11.57%	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	0.00%
	960,188	969,901	1.0116%	\$121,036.46	\$126,132.30	\$5,095.84	4.2102%
			<b>Average Pop % Δ</b>				<b>Average \$\$ % Δ</b>
			1.4992%				2.2634%

2025 AVICC BUDGET	2025		2024		2023		2022		2021	
	BUDGET	ACTUALS	BUDGET	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS
<b>GENERAL BUDGET</b>										
<b>Revenues</b>										
Dues <sup>1</sup>	\$ 124,668	\$ 121,036	\$ 117,246	\$ 111,663	\$ 104,857	\$ 97,597				
Interest <sup>2</sup>	\$ 12,000	\$ 18,823	\$ 18,000	\$ 22,076	\$ 8,940	\$ 947				
Advocacy/ Grants <sup>16</sup>	\$ 4,250	\$ 700								
<i>Sub-Total General Revenues</i>	<b>\$ 140,918</b>	<b>\$ 140,559</b>	<b>\$ 135,246</b>	<b>\$ 133,739</b>	<b>\$ 113,797</b>	<b>\$ 98,544</b>				
<b>Expenses</b>										
Payroll and Benefits <sup>4</sup>	\$ 127,359	\$ 121,312	\$ 124,051	\$ 119,280	\$ 83,582	\$ 90,124				
Executive Meetings <sup>5</sup>	\$ 23,000	\$ 21,882	\$ 24,000	\$ 20,376	\$ 23,413	\$ 14,297				
Other Meetings <sup>6</sup>	\$ 5,500	\$ 3,100	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,662	\$ -	\$ -				
External Rep Participation <sup>16</sup>		\$ 548								
Staff Travel <sup>7</sup>	\$ 3,500	\$ 2,909	\$ 5,897	\$ 4,834	\$ 1,601	\$ 1,223				
Communication <sup>8</sup>	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,415								
Consulting Fees (Accounting) <sup>15</sup>	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,198	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,600						
IT Support (Technical and Software)	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,449	\$ 1,825	\$ 3,395						
Postage, office and miscellaneous <sup>9</sup>	\$ 5,250	\$ 981	\$ 500	\$ 866		\$ 395				
Audit <sup>10</sup>	\$ 12,840	\$ 12,505	\$ 11,770	\$ 11,200	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,955				
Advocacy <sup>11</sup>	\$ 17,000	\$ 4,419	\$ 2,500	\$ -		\$ 6,667				
INSURANCE	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,014	\$ 3,100	\$ 748						
Other <sup>12</sup>	\$ 1,258	\$ 804	\$ 3,126	\$ 2,454	\$ 3,785	\$ -				
Staff PD (previously included in 'other') <sup>17</sup>	\$ 2,500	\$ 875								
<i>Sub-Total General Expenditures</i>	<b>\$ 213,307</b>	<b>\$ 183,409</b>	<b>\$ 185,269</b>	<b>\$ 173,415</b>	<b>\$ 122,381</b>	<b>\$ 119,661</b>				
<b>Revenues Less Expenses - General</b>	<b>\$ (72,389)</b>	<b>\$ (42,850)</b>	<b>\$ (50,023)</b>	<b>\$ (39,676)</b>	<b>\$ (8,584)</b>	<b>\$ (21,117)</b>				
<b>AGM &amp; CONVENTION BUDGET (APPROVED)</b>										
AGM & Convention Revenue <sup>3</sup>	\$ 269,300	\$ 267,644	\$ 261,850	\$ 195,421	\$ 199,517	\$ 74,959				
AGM & Convention Expenses <sup>13</sup>	\$ 189,411	\$ 229,132	\$ 227,328	\$ 138,422	\$ 146,935	\$ 11,700				
<b>Revenues Less Expenses - Convention</b>	<b>\$ 79,889</b>	<b>\$ 38,512</b>	<b>\$ 34,522</b>	<b>\$ 56,999</b>	<b>\$ 52,582</b>	<b>\$ 63,259</b>				
<b>TOTAL PROFIT/ (LOSS)</b>	<b>\$ 7,500</b>	<b>\$ (4,338)</b>	<b>\$ (15,501)</b>	<b>\$ 17,323</b>	<b>\$ 43,998</b>	<b>\$ 42,142</b>				

### REVENUES

- Dues** - The dues are based on the prior year's population on a sliding scale- 3% increase for 2025 (5% for 2024)  
Source for population figures is BC Stats, a division of the Ministry of Citizens' Services as received from UBCM
- Interest** - MFA Investments/ Bank Interest
- AGM & Convention** - Includes both sponsorship and registration income

### EXPENSES

- Payroll and Benefits**- includes all payroll and benefits. Previous to August 1, 2023, -UBCM contract (for 82% contracted staff, and office rental)
- Executive Meetings** - Included **INSURANCE 2022 and PRIOR** - 2025 budget- 7 meetings, food, travel & President stipend & extra meetings
- Other Meetings** - expenses for meetings and events- reg fee for staff to attend UBCM & A/V costs for UBCM Luncheon
- Staff Travel** - covers staff travel not related to convention- 2025:includes staff travel to UBCM Convention, other AA convention, EA Forum
- Communications** - expenses for AVICC Website and cellphone - included staff travel until 2025
- Postage, Office, Miscellaneous** -PO Box, stamps, and Office supplies (unrelated to convention) ie. printer toner etc. - NEW LAPTOP 2025
- Audit** - annual expense- estimate only for 2025
- Advocacy** - consultant or meeting costs for advocacy initiatives- LEGISLATIVE REFORM AND VIRTUAL SESSION
- Other** - covers miscellaneous expenses not budgetted in other lines- includes misc. fees - STAFF PD included here previous to 2025
- AGM & Convention** - covers all the costs of the AGM & Convention except AVICC regular staffing
- Consulting Fees**- financial/ bookkeeping - 2024 increased to add Investment Policy work and clean-up - project work contingency added for 2025
- Advocacy/Grants & External Rep Participation**- 2024: Transport Canada Grant for SS Symposium, 2025 LEG REFORM AA CONTRIBUTIONS
- Staff Professional Development** - staff contract includes \$2500/year - included as 'other' until 2025

# AVICC MEMBERS

## CITIES

Campbell River  
Colwood  
Courtenay  
Duncan  
Langford  
Nanaimo  
Parksville  
Port Alberni  
Powell River  
Victoria

## DISTRICTS

Bowen Island  
Central Saanich  
Esquimalt  
Highlands  
Lantzville  
Metchosin  
North Cowichan  
North Saanich  
Oak Bay  
Port Hardy  
Saanich  
Sechelt  
Sooke  
Tofino  
Ucluelet

## TOWNS

Comox Gibsons  
Lake Cowichan  
Ladysmith  
Port McNeil  
Qualicum  
Beach Sidney  
View Royal

## VILLAGES

Alert Bay  
Cumberland  
Daajing Giids  
Gold River  
Port Alice  
Sayward  
Tahsis  
Zeballos

## FIRST NATIONS

shíshálh Nation  
Toquaht Nation

## REGIONAL DISTRICTS

Alberni-Clayoquot  
Capital  
Central Coast  
Comox Valley Cowichan  
Valley Mount  
Waddington Nanaimo  
North Coast  
qathet  
Strathcona  
Sunshine Coast Islands  
Trust

## AVICC LIFE MEMBERS

1949-1950	Lorne Jordan	Port Alberni
1951-1952	Earl Westwood	Nanaimo
1953	Bert Beasley	North Cowichan
1954	Bill Henderson	Cumberland
1955-1956	C.A.P. Murson	North Cowichan
1957	Alf Wurtele	Esquimalt
1958	Jack Dobson	Duncan
1959	Bill Moore	Courtenay
1960	George Chatterton	Saanich
1962	John Cook	Nanaimo
1963	Don Morton	North Cowichan
1964	Reeve Lee	Central Saanich
1965	Fred Bishop	Port Alberni
1966	Doug Watts	Oak Bay
1967	Les Hammer	Port Alberni
1968	Rob Baird	Victoria
1969	Kay Grouhel	Ladysmith
1970	S.A.D. Pike	Powell River
1971-1972	Archie Galbraith	Central Saanich
1973-1974	G.H.A. MacKay	Nanaimo
1974-1975	William (Bronco) Moncrief	Cumberland
1975-1976	Ed Lum	Victoria
1976-1977	George McKnight	Port Alberni
1977-1978	K. Paskin	Duncan
1978-1979	Ken Hill	Esquimalt
1979-1980	George Piercy	Comox
1980-1981	Mel Couvelier	Saanich
1981-1982	Anne Fiddick	Gold River
1982-1983	Dick Winkleman	Nanaimo
1983-1984	Norma Sealey	Sidney
1984-1985	Robert Ostler	Campbell River
1985-1986	Gillian Trumper	Port Alberni
1986-1987	William (Bill) Kinley	Port McNeill
1987-1988	Tom McCrae	Tahsis
1989-1990	Frank Ney	Nanaimo
	George Borza	Nanaimo RD
	George Cochrane	Courtenay
	Walter Behn	Port Alberni
	Eric Simmons	Victoria
1990-1991	Bill Cox	Ladysmith

1992-1993	Ron Webber	Courtenay
1993-1994	Al Huddleston	Port Hardy
1994-1995	Martin Segger	Victoria
1995-1996	Maxine Williams Jim	Alert Bay
1996-1997	Gurney	Sunshine Coast RD
1998-1999	James Lornie	Campbell River
1999-2000	John Crook	Langford
2000-2001	Frank Leonard Pearl	Saanich
2001-2003	Myhres	Zeballos
2003-2005	Mary Ashley	Campbell River
2005-2007	W. J. (Jack) Peake	Lake Cowichan
2007-2008	Bea Holland	Victoria
2008	Gerry Furney	40 Years Service
2008-2009	Rod Sherrell	Mt. Waddington RD
2009	Eydie Fraser	AVICC Executive Coordinator
2009-2011	Barry Janyk	Gibsons
2011	Christopher Causton	Oak Bay
2014	Larry Cross	Sidney
2017	Joe Stanhope	Nanaimo RD
2018	Barbara Price	Comox
2019	Mary Marcotte	Cowichan Valley RD
2020	Edwin Grieve	Comox Valley RD
2022	Carl Jensen	Central Saanich
2024	Ian Morrison	Cowichan Valley RD

## 2024-25 AVICC EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT

Councillor Ben Geselbracht  
City of Nanaimo

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Director Vanessa Craig  
Regional District of Nanaimo

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Councillor Sarah Fowler  
Village of Tahsis

ELECTORAL AREA REPRESENTATIVE

Director Donna McMahon  
Sunshine Coast Regional District

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE

Director Travis Hall  
Central Coast Regional District

Councillor Will Cole-Hamilton  
City of Courtenay

Councillor Tanille Johnston  
City of Campbell River

PAST PRESIDENT

Director Penny Cote  
Alberni-Clayoquot Regional District