

UBCM 2009 RESOLUTIONS AND POLICY DISPOSITION

The following is a preliminary summary of the resolutions and positions adopted at the 2009 Convention, as well as policy discussion outcomes. The full and exact wording of all resolutions, amendments and policy papers will appear in the Convention Minutes.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

SR1 INDUSTRIAL TAXATION

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM work with the provincial government on resolving industrial taxation issues within a framework that acknowledges:

- (1) the fundamental importance of local government control of property taxation for local purposes;
- (2) the need to gather and analyze data **with respect** to the taxation system as it relates to industrial properties;
- (3) the need to involve representatives from local governments and industry;
- (4) the effect that taxation of industrial properties within municipalities has on regional district revenues; and
- (5) local government's legitimate expectation of fair compensation if the principle of local autonomy in relation to this fundamental principle is set aside in any particular instance.

SR2 CHILD POVERTY

Endorsed

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM support the proposed initiative by the BC Representative for Children and Youth to bring forward a child poverty plan, similar to the Province of Ontario's Poverty Reduction Plan, that will include

the implementation of a comprehensive, cross-ministry strategy to address child poverty.

SECTION A

FINANCE

A1 STREAMLINED INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING PROGRAMS

Endorsed

SELECTED ISSUES

A2 BC LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEEK

Endorsed

A3 QUALIFICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM petition the federal government to **introduce the following changes to the EI system to ensure that all unemployed workers across Canada are treated equally:**

- a) allow more unemployed workers to be eligible for EI by reducing the number of hours of work hours required to qualify;
- b) eliminate regionalization of EI eligibility and benefits (which are tied to regional unemployment rates) and move towards a system which is

based on a minimum number of hours worked that would be the same across the country;

c) enhance benefits from current levels (55% of claimant's weekly average earnings); and

d) eliminate the 2-week waiting period for EI.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

A4 ORGANIZED CRIME

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the provincial government to take immediate action to implement changes to appropriate provincial legislation and lobby the federal government for changes to the Criminal Code;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the federal and provincial governments provide a long term, annual funding commitment to police forces to combat gang violence and that this funding enable the deployment of highly-intensive gang surveillance operations over an extended period of time.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

A5 HOUSING SHORTAGE STRATEGY

Endorsed

Please make copies of this circular and distribute to Council/Board Members /Staff.

TRANSPORTATION

A6 LICENSING AND REGULATING OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

Endorsed

A7 AERONAUTICAL SERVICES

Endorsed

LAND USE

A8 DISPOSAL OF SCHOOL PROPERTIES

Referred to UBCM Executive

SECTION B – PART I

[In keeping with UBCM resolutions procedures, Section B – Part 1 resolutions were passed as a block by the 2009 Convention on Wednesday, September 30 with the exception of B1, B20, B25, B38 and B42, which were pulled for individual debate. Consideration of these five resolutions followed passage of the block.]

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the following resolution be added to the Section B – Part 1 block, was endorsed.

B1-A MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

WHEREAS the increase in logging truck traffic due to the catastrophic mountain pine beetle outbreak has led to increased pressure on the public road system;

AND WHEREAS the Province of BC has established a fund to assist communities with a population of less than 5,000 to maintain and repair transportation infrastructure:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the Province of BC to ensure the continuance of the fund that assists communities with populations of under 5,000 to maintain and repair transportation infrastructure that is

subject to increased logging truck traffic due to the mountain pine beetle outbreak.

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the recommendations of the Resolutions Committee for Section B – Part I resolutions as amended be adopted, was endorsed.

TRANSPORTATION

B1-A MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

Endorsed

COMMUNITY SAFETY

B1 MUNICIPAL BYLAW FINES

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of British Columbia amend the Community Charter to provide local governments other methods of collecting outstanding Municipal Ticket Information (MTI) tickets including legislative changes.

B2 COMMUNITY JUSTICE

Endorsed

B3 FLOOD PROTECTION MANAGEMENT IN BC

Endorsed

B4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO PROCEEDS OF CRIME

Endorsed

B5 FIRE UNDERWRITERS STUDY

Endorsed

B6 PST EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER SEARCH AND RESCUE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Endorsed

B7 FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAMS

Endorsed

B8 FLOOD MITIGATION AND DYKE REPAIRS

Endorsed

C-1**B9 PERMANENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE RESPONSE FUNDING PROGRAM**

Endorsed

B10 CALL ANSWER LEVY FOR WIRELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS

Endorsed

B11 FUNDING OF VOLUNTEER SEARCH AND RESCUE SERVICES

Endorsed

B12 RCMP LEAVE COVERAGE

Endorsed and referred to RCMP contract discussions

B13 PROGRAM FUNDING FOR CRYSTAL METHAMPHETAMINE PREVENTION

Endorsed

B14 FIRST RESPONDER PROGRAM FUNDING

Endorsed

TRANSPORTATION

B15 EXPANSION OF THE HEALTH CONNECT TRANSIT SYSTEM IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Endorsed

B16 UPGRADE HIGHWAY SAFETY THROUGH RURAL COMMUNITIES

Endorsed

B17 RAILS WITH TRAILS

Endorsed

B18 LOGGING TRUCKS ON MUNICIPAL BRIDGES

Endorsed

B19 ENABLING LEGISLATION TO ALLOW MUNICIPALITIES TO CREATE BLANKET SPEED ZONES

Endorsed

C-1

B20 COMMERCIAL VEHICLE DRIVER TRAINING AND LIABILITY ISSUES

Endorsed

B21 COMMERCIAL VEHICLE INSPECTION PROGRAM

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the provincial government be requested to:

[Note: retain the first nine bullet points and amend the final bullet point to read:]

- Examine potential of using truck inspection technology (FLIR) on a collaborative cost-sharing basis with all jurisdictions.

FINANCE

B22 DOWNTOWN BUILDING FAÇADE REVITALIZATION GRANT PROGRAM

Endorsed

B23 EXPANDED USE OF SECTION 941 FUNDS PROVIDED IN LIEU OF PARKLANDS

Endorsed

B24 PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ARTS CUTS

Endorsed

B25 NEW SIGNIFICANT, DIVERSIFIED REVENUE SOURCES

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities lobby the federal government for significant, assured and stable revenue sources;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a condition be included to ensure that the first priority for application is to fund the infrastructure gap.

B26 PUSH BACK ON DOWNLOADING AND OFFLOADING

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM strongly urge the provincial government to cease their downloading or offloading of services to local governments;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any future services, if devolved in any manner, whether subtle or not, must be accompanied by sufficient, sustainable revenues which will be in the control of the local governments.

B27 INSURANCE COMPANY REIMBURSEMENT FOR FIRE PROTECTION

Endorsed

B28 COMPENSATION FOR ASSISTANCE TO VICTIMS OF VEHICULAR ACCIDENTS

Endorsed

B29 FEDERAL PROVINCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM FUNDING

Endorsed

B30 REVENUE SHARING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) pursue discussions with the provincial and federal governments as per the 2008 policy paper "Financing Local Government: Achieving Fiscal Balance";

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide unconditional revenue sharing to municipalities and regional districts in the form of a share of the Provincial Social Service Tax to be distributed to municipalities and regional districts on a per capita basis;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UBCM pursue discussions with the provincial government to provide local governments with a share of natural resource revenue.

ENVIRONMENT

B31 PRODUCT PACKAGING

Endorsed

B32 MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT FUNDING

Endorsed

B33 CONSULTATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

Endorsed

B34 ALTERNATIVE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY IMPACTS

Endorsed

B35 PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS

Endorsed

B36 STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR RECYCLABLES

Endorsed

B37 SUPPORT FROM THE BRITISH COLUMBIA PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the Province to ensure that industry stewards provide adequate funding for the advertisement of industry stewardship collection facilities.

B38 PROVINCIAL COSMETIC PESTICIDE BAN

Endorsed

B39 EPR LEGISLATION – PACKAGING

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM lobby the provincial government to place all packaging under the BC Extended Producer Responsibility legislation.

C-1

LAND USE

**B40 REGIONAL DISTRICT
CONSULTATION ON INDEPENDENT
POWER PROJECTS**

Endorsed

**B41 REGULATION OF NUISANCES
ON PRIVATE MANAGED FOREST
LAND**

Endorsed

**B42 COMPENSATION FOR LARGE
SCALE MINING ACTIVITIES**

Endorsed

B43 GRAVEL MINING OPERATIONS

Endorsed

**B44 BC HYDRO TRANSMISSION
LINES**

Endorsed

**B45 RESTORATION OF BC HYDRO
MANDATE**

Endorsed

B46 PARK LAND DEDICATION

Endorsed

**COMMUNITY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**

B47 TIMBER – POINT OF APPRAISAL

Endorsed

B48 STUMPAGE SYSTEM

Endorsed

B49 HIGHWAY 37 ELECTRIFICATION

Endorsed

**B50 AGRICULTURE IS IN ALL OF US
– EAT BC**

Endorsed

HEALTH

**B51 WATER FILTRATION
REQUIREMENTS**

Endorsed

**B52 FUNDING STRATEGY FOR
RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES**

Endorsed

**B53 MEDICAL SERVICE PLAN
COVERAGE**

Endorsed

SELECTED ISSUES

**B54 PROVINCE OF BRITISH
COLUMBIA TO SUPPORT LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

Endorsed

B55 INCREASE OF MINIMUM WAGE

Endorsed

**B56 LIMITATION ON MUNICIPAL
LIABILITY REGARDING BUILDING
PERMITS AND INSPECTIONS**

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of BC Municipalities recommend to the provincial government that the Local Government Act be amended to abolish the system of joint and several liability and replace it with proportionate liability, under which defendants are responsible only to the degree to which they contributed to the loss and that the Province reduce the limitation period from 30 years to 10 years.

B57 COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Endorsed

**B58 FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR
PUBLIC EDUCATION**

Endorsed

SECTION B – PART II

LEGISLATIVE

**B59 LEGISLATIVE REVIEW OF THE
LIBRARY ACT**

Endorsed

**B60 INTERNET ACCESS IN PUBLIC
LIBRARIES**

Endorsed

**B61 REMEDIAL ACTION
REQUIREMENTS AND CORPORATE
LAND OWNERS**

Endorsed

**B62 NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR
REVENUE POLICY DISCLOSURE**

Endorsed

COMMUNITY SAFETY

**B63 SUPPORT FOR SMALL FIRE
DEPARTMENTS**

Endorsed

**B64 USE OF CELL PHONES WHILE
DRIVING**

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM ask that the Province of British Columbia move forward with legislation prohibiting the use of hand held communications devices while operating a motor vehicle with exemption provided for police and emergency services and on radio-controlled roads.

**B65 LICENSES ISSUED UNDER
MEDICAL MARIHUANA USE
REGULATIONS**

Not endorsed

**B66 SAFER COMMUNITIES AND
NEIGHBOURHOODS**

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that

the Government of British Columbia work with UBCM to create or improve existing legislation in order to address the public disorder and neighbourhood deterioration caused by illicit drug houses, problem addresses, businesses and the issues associated with them.

B67 POLICE STAFFING RESOURCES

Endorsed and referred to RCMP contract discussions

B68 BC AMBULANCE SERVICE

Referred to UBCM Executive

B69 ROAD RESCUE / SEARCH AND RESCUE

Endorsed

B71 BENEFIT PLAN FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS

Endorsed

B72 PROPOSED FIRE RESCUE SYSTEM MODEL

Endorsed

B73 BC FIRE CODE – SMOKE ALARM MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS

Endorsed

B74 FIRE INSURANCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS IN THE INSURANCE ACT

Not endorsed

B75 UNINTERRUPTED USE OF COMMUNICATION DEVICES IN CONCRETE BUILDINGS

Endorsed

B76 AIRPORT SECURITY MEASURES FOR 2010 OLYMPICS

Endorsed

TAXATION

B77 PROPOSED TAX AUTHORITY RESTRICTIONS

Endorsed

B78 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTONOMY IN APPORTIONING PROPERTY TAX BURDEN AMONG ASSESSMENT CLASSES

Endorsed

B79 PST ON INDUSTRIAL USE OF ELECTRIC POWER

Not endorsed

B80 TAX CREDIT PROGRAM

Not endorsed

B81 AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CARBON TAX EXEMPTION

Endorsed

B82 CARBON TAX NEUTRALITY FOR HEALTH AUTHORITIES

Not endorsed

FINANCE

B83 REVENUE SHARING FOR MAJOR ROADS INTERSECTING WITH PROVINCIAL HIGHWAYS

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that provincial funding be reinstated to assist municipalities with improvements to major roads that intersect the provincial highway system, including improvements related to capacity increases as well as pedestrian and cycling facilities associated with those roadways.

B84 DEFERRAL OF DEVELOPMENT COST CHARGES FOR NON-PROFIT HOUSING

Endorsed

B85 PROPERTY TAX DEFERMENT PROGRAM

Endorsed

B86 REDUCTION IN HYDRO AND NATURAL GAS RATES FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Endorsed as amended:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that

the UBCM urge the Province to consider the elimination of the tiered rate system for municipal recreation facilities, given that such facilities promote healthy living and reduce provincial health costs.

C-1

B87 AMEND SHORT TERM BORROWING LIMIT REGULATION

Endorsed

B88 FIRE DEPARTMENT CHARGES

Endorsed

B89 AGRICULTURE FUNDING

Endorsed

B90 COSTS OF RESPONDING TO PROVINCIAL REFERRALS

Endorsed

B91 GRANTS AND FUNDING FOR MUNICIPALITIES OF 5,000 TO 10,000 POPULATION

Not endorsed

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the following resolution be admitted for debate ahead of the order in which it was printed in the Resolutions Book, was endorsed.

B177 TERMINATION OF THE TRANSPORTATION LOAN PROGRAM FOR REFUGEES

Endorsed

REMAINING SECTION B – PART II AND PART III

[In accordance with Section 18 of the Conference Rules and Procedures for Handling Resolutions, the remaining resolutions within Section B – Part II and Part III that were not debated by the Convention are submitted to the Executive for appropriate action. The Executive will consider these resolutions at its November 27, 2009 meeting, and the sponsors will be notified of the Executive action.

The recommendation for each resolution is printed in the Resolutions Book.

Sponsors of resolutions for which **no recommendation** has been made are encouraged to provide the Executive with clarification prior to this meeting if required.]

SECTION C

On motion, duly moved and seconded, that the following resolution be admitted for debate, was endorsed.

C28 AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Endorsed

RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE

[The following late resolutions were not admitted for debate and, in keeping with UBCM procedures, will be forwarded to the appropriate Area Associations for consideration in the 2010 resolutions cycle, pending approval of the sponsor: LR10, LR11, LR12, LR13, LR14, LR15, LR16, LR17, LR18, LR19, LR20.]

LR1 DE-STAFFING OF LIGHTHOUSES

Endorsed

LR2 HARMONIZED SALES TAX (HST)

Endorsed

LR3 HARMONIZED SALES TAX

Not endorsed

LR4 HARMONIZED SALES TAX

Not endorsed

LR5 PROPOSED HARMONIZED SALES TAX FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA

Not endorsed

LR6 HEAVY INDUSTRY MILL RATE

Referred to UBCM Executive

LR7 INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY TAXES

Referred to UBCM Executive

LR8 REQUISITION OF MAJOR INDUSTRY TAX

Referred to UBCM Executive

LR9 TRAFFIC FINE REVENUE SHARING

C-1

Referred to UBCM Executive

RESOLUTIONS RECEIVED OFF THE FLOOR

REGIONAL DISTRICT TASK FORCE REPORT

Not admitted for debate

POLICY PAPERS

POLICY PAPER #1 – POLICE SERVICES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA: AFFORDABILITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Endorsed

POLICY PAPER #3 – UBCM RESOLUTIONS PROCESS: DISCUSSION ON SCOPE AND OPTIONS

Endorsed

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