



SALMON ARM GOLF COURSE IN AUTUMN

SILGA

Fall 2016 Newsletter

2016 -2

SILGA Educational Sessions

On October 26th and 27th in Kamloops and West Kelowna, almost 60 SILGA members participated in two educational sessions. The first session looked at the new Firefighters Playbook - why did the Playbook get changed, how the playbook is implemented and the education and training requirements of the playbook. The BC Fire Commissioner and the Interior Fire Service Advisor, along with members of the RDNO Fire department were the presenters for this session.

Laboucane helped the group gain awareness and understanding of Aboriginal people through historical events, helped them to build trusting, respectful relationships and provided necessary tools to effectively communicate with our aboriginal neighbours.



In the afternoon session Robert

SILGA has a new email and address

Please update your contacts with the following information

Email: yoursilga@gmail.com

Address: PO Box 27017 Cityview PO, Kamloops, BC V2E 0B2

The SILGA phone number 250-851-6653 remains the same

2017 SILGA Convention Sun Peaks

Save these dates!
April 25th to 28th

Keynote Speaker



Nik Badminton
Futurist

Minister Meetings at UBCM

HEALTH

Ministry of Health staff have identified these priorities:

- 1) Primary care access
- 2) Improving senior care
- 3) Improving mental health support
- 4) Rural Services

MOH acknowledged that up to now they have made doctor recruitment a priority. They will start concentrating on incentives for nurse practitioners and other health care professionals.

MOH will start to provide educational and training opportunities in medical fields outside the lower mainland.

MOH is also identifying 8 or 9 prototype communities that will be providing integrated services through working with MD's and Health Authorities. This will hopefully expand capacity through teamwork and at the same time decrease bureaucracy.

EDUCATION

Minister Bernier commended SILGA for their youth participation initiative at UBCM. He also was gratified that the Rural Enhancement Education fund worked to keep the Osoyoos High School open.

He commented that his ministry needs to look at a more holistic approach to a community by including School Districts, local governments and province when making decisions. Joint use

agreements between S/D's and local governments improve cost efficiencies of facilities. He hopes to streamline the process to make S/D facilities available to community groups.

ENVIRONMENT

SILGA continued to emphasize their concern to keep our waterways protected from the mussel invasion. Minister Polak noted that protection can happen a number of different ways:

- Inspection stations/dogs
- Surveillance
- Education and awareness of the contamination issue

Funding is an issue and MOE is working with corporate partners to support the fight.



SILGA Youth at UBCM

SILGA was very pleased to sponsor Kamila Jones from Oliver and Stacia Panko from Clearwater at UBCM. These young ladies participated in both the formal and informal sessions at UBCM and here are a couple of excerpts from their reports.

"I realized just how little students are taught about the structure and responsibilities of local government. We are educated in great detail about federal government,

a fair amount of provincial, but municipal government is often squeezed into a lesson or two. This causes a trend, I believe, in young people to assume that federal politics are the most valuable and important and, therefore, where the most change can be made. As I was told emphatically by many over the week, this was not the case, and adjustments often start at the local level. "



"It was an eye-opening experience that introduced me to a new perspective on municipal government. This experience showed me firsthand how the communities in our province come together and discuss their issues as a whole."

"Though I was nervous about being so inexperienced in a sea of seasoned elected officials, I was soon set at ease by meeting many of them. What was astonishing to me was the fact that as knowledgeable, respectable, and often professionally stoic as the officials I met were, once I spoke to them in a more informal environment, it became clear that they were also extremely down to earth, humble, and unabashedly witty. "

Thanks to everyone that made this experience such a positive one for both Kamila and Stacia. Please remember that we will be looking for youth to participate for the 2017 UBCM Convention.