

SOUTHERN INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on
April 28th and 29th, 2022 in Salmon Arm, BC

1. Call to Order

President Karla Kozakevich called the meeting to order at 8:17 am on April 28, 2022.

2. President's Report

President Kozakevich acknowledged that she and the rest of the SILGA board are so excited to be able to bring delegates together after a three year hiatus. Even the SILGA board is looking forward to meeting each other in person for the very first time!

2021 was a very difficult year for many communities in SILGA. Not only was the pandemic still raging, but Mother Nature battered numerous communities with both fires and floods. Our thoughts continue to be with Lytton, Merritt, Princeton, and the smaller communities within our regional districts that saw devastating destruction and losses. You are resilient; you will rebuild.

The conference's theme is "All Together Now", to acknowledge the ability to meet in person and return to connecting normally with one another. The conference is also about connections and fostering a network that catalyzes various experiences that can be drawn upon when faced with issues or problems or the need for innovative thoughts. In short, together we are stronger.

On behalf of the SILGA Executive, we would like to extend our gratitude to each of you who have chosen to serve your communities. You have stepped up - you have chosen to serve. In this election year I hope you will consider putting your name forward again; but if you do not, know that you've had an impact during the past four years.

3. Adoption of Minutes

Moved/Seconded by Aimee Grice/Bill Sarai THAT:

The minutes of the April 28th, 2021 Virtual Annual General Meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Business Arising From the Minutes

There was no business arising from the minutes.

5. Financial Report

Angie Spencer from BDO Canada presented the Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2021. BDO Canada gave a clean report for SILGA as a not for profit association.

With no income generated from an in-person convention, SILGA had a small loss in 2021. With the losses over the last two years, SILGA needed to readjust their reserves in 2021. SILGA received the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) loan for of \$60,000, of which only \$40,000 is repayable.

The 5 year plan was presented by General Manager Alison Slater who commented that SILGA will continue its austerity program established in 2020 when the 2020 Convention was cancelled because of the pandemic. SILGA has included only essential costs to show a balanced budget to its members. At the time of the preparation of the budget it was unknown how much revenue the 2022 convention would generate so the

numbers are conservative. If possible, SILGA would like to build back their reserves to pre-pandemic levels as it became very apparent that these reserves are necessary to ensure SILGA is able to continue its operations.

Moved/Seconded by Bill Sarai/Judy Sentes THAT:

The Financial Statement and Statement of Activities of SILGA for the period ending December 31, 2021 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

6. Nomination Committee Report

Nomination Committee Chair Lori Mindnich read out the nominations and after calling three times for nominations from the floor, the following results were announced for the 2022-23 term.

Table Officers:

President:	Karla Kozakevich, RDOS (acclaimed)
First Vice-President	Toni Boot, Summerland (acclaimed)
2 nd Vice-President	Aimee Grice, Oliver (acclaimed)

For the 7 positions of Director at Large Past President Mindnich read out the names recorded in the nomination package:

Mayor Spencer Coyne, Princeton
Councillor Tony Luck, Merritt
Councillor Bill Sarai, Kamloops
Councillor Judy Sentes, Penticton
Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond, Salmon Arm
Councillor Barb Wiebe, Lillooet

Past President Mindnich then asked for nominations from the floor:

Councillor Ruth Hoyte, Coldstream
Councillor Jen Leach, Lillooet

Past President Mindnich announced that the following will be Directors at Large for SILGA for the 2022/23 term.

Mayor Spencer Coyne, Princeton
Councillor Ruth Hoyte, Coldstream
Councillor Jen Leach, Lillooet
Councillor Tony Luck, Merritt
Councillor Bill Sarai, Kamloops
Councillor Judy Sentes, Penticton
Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond, Salmon Arm

7. Resolutions

Moved/Seconded by Sylvia Lindgren/Steve Scott THAT:

Keri-Ann Austin be appointed as the SILGA parliamentarian for the resolutions session.

CARRIED

Moved/Seconded by Sue Peters/Sylvia Lindgren THAT:

Debate to be allowed on late resolutions

CARRIED

2022 SILGA RESOLUTIONS

LEGISLATIVE

1. Summerland Local Elected Official Benefits

COMMUNITY SAFETY

- 2. Lillooet Criminal Justice Reform for Repeat, Convicted Offenders
- 3. Lake Country RCMP Population Thresholds for Cost Sharing
- 4. Salmon Arm Rural Policing
- 5. Chase Fuel Mitigation outside Community Boundaries
- 6. Lillooet BC Forest Management and Wildfire Prevention Reform
- 7. Keremeos/RDOS Flood Mitigation Service
- 8. Lillooet Emergency Management Program Reform
- 9. Chase Emergency Evacuation Transportation
- 10. Chase Highway Rescue Funding

TRANSPORTATION

- 11. RDOS Safety and Speed Mitigation Measures on Provincial Roads
- 12. RDOS Reprioritizing Snow Clearing
- 13. Merritt On Road Use of Off-Road Vehicles for Snow Clearing
- 14. Lake Country Mandatory Winter Tires for Rental Vehicles
- 15. RDOS Ride Sharing

FINANCE

16. RDOS Sustainable Funding for Libraries

ASSESSMENT

17. Ashcroft Reclassification of Properties Ancillary to Railway Operations

ENVIRONMENT

18. Coldstream Exterior Lighting Pollution

LAND USE

- 19. RDOS Retroactive Development and the Riparian Area Protection Regulation
- 20. SLRD Local Governments to have Legislated Input into Cutting Permits

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

- 21. Lake Country Family Physician Funding
- 22. RDOS Physician (Specialist) Recruitment in Rural Areas
- 23. Spallumcheen BC Emergency Health Services Funding
- 24. Chase First Responders Program Funding
- 25. RDOS BC Emergency Health Services (BCEHS) – Partnership with Local Government
- 26. Penticton/RDOS Provincial Car Program
- 27. Spallumcheen Regional Food Supply Feasibility Study

HOUSING

- 28. Lumby Home Affordability & Transfer Tax Levels
- 29. Oliver Tiny Homes
- 30. Lumby Bare Land Strata Development Minimum Standards

SELECTED ISSUES

- 31. Sicamous Paid Protestors

LATE

- 1. Clinton Reverse PST On Fossil Fuel Heating
- 2. Logan Lake Thresholds for Disregarding Access Requests

LEGISLATIVE

(1) TITLE: LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL BENEFITS

SPONSOR: District of Summerland

Whereas one barrier to attracting a diversity of candidates to local government participation is the low compensation received by local government elected officials;

And whereas benefits typically available to public servants at all levels of government are not readily available to local government elected officials, further widening the gap between elected officials and other public servants or private sector employees:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province of British Columbia to establish an accessible benefits program for local government elected officials to support attracting diverse local government candidates.

Proposed Amendment: change “establish” to “investigate” in the TBIR clause

1st Penny Gambell, Lake Country

2nd Bill Scarrow, Lake Country

Vote on Amendment: DEFEATED

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

COMMUNITY SAFETY

(2) TITLE: CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM FOR REPEAT, CONVICTED OFFENDERS

SPONSOR: District of Lillooet

Whereas the RCMP are overworked and understaffed in the Province of BC;

And whereas many BC residents are frustrated with the low sanction sentences imposed by the Provincial Court criminal justice system;

And whereas criminals may not choose the path to recovery as provided for by various provincial, federal, or First Nations government-created mental health programs, Indigenous court systems, reform programs, safe injection sites, methadone, or Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) clinics;

And whereas many thefts and drug-related crimes are perpetrated by criminals who are “well known to police” and have multiple or long criminal records:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC and the BC’s Attorney General to immediately begin working with the Government of Canada to address issues with Canada’s and British Columbia’s justice system including the proposed imposition of weightier consequences and greater accountability for repeat offenders, thereby supporting the rights of all Canadians to live in safe communities.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(3) TITLE: RCMP POPULATION THRESHOLDS FOR COST SHARING

SPONSOR: District of Lake Country

Whereas during the 1992 negotiations between the federal Solicitor General and the provincial negotiating team it was agreed that the Province of BC would be responsible for 90 percent of the share of the RCMP costs in communities with more than 15,000 residents and for 70 percent of the costs in communities with less than 15,000 residents;

And whereas there have been significant increases in RCMP costs as a result of the collective bargaining process that municipalities must pay since the thresholds were set in 1992;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to consider increasing the population thresholds to recognize the increased burden on emerging municipalities and inability for the current population thresholds to support the increasing costs of policing.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(4) TITLE: RURAL POLICING

Sponsor: City of Salmon Arm

Whereas public safety is of equal concern to both municipal and regional district residents;

And whereas rural populations are growing steadily;

And whereas provincial policing complements have not been increased at the same rate as municipally funded positions;

And whereas lack of police resources affects rural safety and is putting a strain on municipal budgets:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the province increase the provincially funded positions immediately;

And be it further resolved that future resource allocations accurately reflect the rural demands for policing services.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(5) TITLE: FUEL MITIGATION OUTSIDE COMMUNITY BOUNDARIES

SPONSOR: Village of Chase

Whereas climate change is real and causing significant changes in the way local, provincial, and federal governments do business and provide services;

And whereas the Province of BC has provided funding for Community Wildfire Protection Plans and Fire Smart programs for local governments;

And whereas the continual drying and heating of our forests in British Columbia causes wildfires to ignite much more readily and to travel at higher speeds across the forested areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the BC Wildfire Service to take action to reduce fuel loading around the perimeter of communities in British Columbia which will work in conjunction with initiatives undertaken in communities to protect themselves from wildfires.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(6) TITLE: BC FOREST MANAGEMENT AND WILDFIRE PREVENTION REFORM

SPONSOR: District of Lillooet

Whereas the residents of BC are calling for our provincial government to provide better forest management and wildfire prevention by assessing the current policies and guidelines to enhance those that are working and to re-evaluate and change those that are not;

And whereas Ontario created an 'All Hazards Agency' that employs people to manage fire, flood, and slides year-round;

And whereas the trickle effect of lumber prices and availability along with jobs, mill closures, current and future mudslides, damage to critical habitat, and house insurance will continue to increase and have an alarming effect on BC's future if we do not change the current forest practice procedures:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC immediately create an "All Hazards Agency" that employs people full time, year-round to manage fire, flood and slides as part of a comprehensive forest restoration and management program;

And be it further resolved that the Province of BC be requested to empower local people, working with licensees, industry and contractors, Indigenous communities, ranchers, and boots-on-the-ground workers such as fire fighters, forestry workers, and all those that see day to day issues and have the frontline knowledge to provide feedback on inconsistencies in forest management and offer recommendations to the "All Hazards Agency" with the aim of improving forest management practices and preventing wildfires in BC.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(7) TITLE: FLOOD MITIGATION SERVICE

SPONSOR: Town of Keremeos/Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas climate change has accelerated the frequency and intensity at which high water events occur in the Province British Columbia;

And whereas orphan dikes in British Columbia no longer adequately protect BC communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to implement a flood mitigation service in consultation with local governments, including Indigenous partners.

Motion for Amendment:

1st Tim Palmer, Revelstoke

2nd Karla Kozakevich, RDOS

Amend the TBIR to read:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to implement a flood mitigation service, **with particular focus on the ongoing provincial maintenance of orphan dikes**, in consultation with local governments and Indigenous partners.

Motion for Amendment:

1st Ken Gillis, TNRD

2nd Wendy Coomber, Cache Creek

Amend the TBIR amendment: add “and dams” after the orphan dikes

Vote on amended amendment: CARRIED

Vote on the resolution as amended: CARRIED

(8) TITLE: EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM REFORM

SPONSOR: District of Lillooet

Whereas local governments and other local authorities in rural British Columbia are under-resourced to effectively respond to ever-increasing climate related disasters;

And whereas the elected officials and staff of local governments and other local authorities are often themselves personally and tragically impacted by these disasters;

And whereas the emergency management program provides provincially administered funding for on-the-ground efforts that largely rely on the victims of the disaster to be responsible for disaster response and recovery:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of BC offer on-the-ground provision of the emergency management program for local governments that opt-in to this service to ensure that adequate resources are always available and can be dynamically allocated throughout the province based on capacity and need.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(9) TITLE: EMERGENCY EVACUATION TRANSPORTATION

SPONSOR: Village of Chase

Whereas many small local governments not in close proximity to larger centres do not have publicly provided or privately provided bus service available;

And whereas in the event of an emergency evacuation, the provision of one or more busses would be an integral part of the evacuation of individuals particularly those vulnerable, mobility challenged and without their own or supportive transportation;

And whereas most small local governments have school bus services provided by the school districts to transport children to and from school but the buses are not stationed in the local governments in the summer which is the critical time particularly for wildfire risk and potential evacuation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC to require school districts to keep some buses in the local government they serve during summer months to provide for the evacuation of vulnerable individuals if required.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(10) TITLE: HIGHWAY RESCUE FUNDING

Sponsor: Village of Chase

Whereas many small local governments provide highway rescue services in large geographic areas outside of their jurisdictions;

And whereas the Province of BC has increased funding to communities in the past several years to help offset the costs of the service provided;

And whereas costs continue to rise for components of the service including fuel, vehicle repairs, vehicle replacement and training:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC to review the funding allowances to cover more costs associated with the provision of highway rescue services by small local governments.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

TRANSPORTATION

(11) TITLE: SAFETY AND SPEED MITIGATION MEASURES ON PROVINCIAL ROADS

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure does not install speed mitigation measures on provincial roads, giving the rationale that provincial roads belong to all the citizens of British Columbia as they serve to promote the economy and inter-provincial movement of people and goods;

And whereas the criteria provided by the Ministry of Transportation applies to all roads under the Province's jurisdiction, whether they are numbered highways, rural roads or local subdivision roads:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure to develop a matrix to determine the primary use(s) of the provincial roads, and base safety and speed mitigation measures on the primary use(s) of provincial roads rather than a blanket criteria.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(12) TITLE: REPRIORITIZING SNOW CLEARING

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas there is increased concern about the state of public roads in rural communities during and after major weather events;

And whereas the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure's road classification system defines levels and response times for maintenance standards for each specific service area in order to prioritize service:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to work with local governments to review the existing road classification system to consider reprioritizing the order in which roads are cleared or maintained;

And be it further resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure increase funding for maintenance of secondary roads to ensure safe and accessible transportation options for rural communities.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(13) TITLE: ON ROAD USE OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES FOR SNOW CLEARING

SPONSOR: City of Merritt

Whereas the provincial *Motor Vehicle Act* prohibits private owners from driving off-road vehicles on municipal streets;

And whereas Division 24 of the *Motor Vehicle Act* Regulations allows RCMP discretion to issue operation permits for non-standard vehicles, including off-road vehicles;

And whereas heavy snowfall can render streets and sidewalks impassable, requiring substantial effort to clear them, which residents sometimes wish to perform expeditiously using off-road vehicles:

Therefore be it resolved that the provincial government and RCMP work with local governments to develop transparent and consistent frameworks allowing the on-road use of off-road vehicles within a prescribed, permit-specific area, for the purpose of clearing snow.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(14) TITLE: MANDATORY WINTER TIRES FOR RENTAL VEHICLES

SPONSOR: District of Lake Country

Whereas winters in many parts of British Columbia are subject to icy road conditions and snowfall accumulation;

And whereas most rental vehicles are only equipped with all season tires rather than winter tires:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC to make it mandatory that winter rated tires be installed on rental vehicles during the winter months in those areas of BC that experience snow and ice conditions.

Proposed Amendment: Change " in those areas of BC that experience snow and ice conditions" to "in BC"

1st Rhona Martin, CSRD

2nd Blair Ireland, Lake Country

Vote on amendment: CARRIED

Vote on resolution: CARRIED

(15) TITLE: RIDE SHARING

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas ride sharing is a convenient, safe, and responsive service which benefits local residents and the tourism industry as well as fosters economic growth;

And whereas there exists a public need for the service and within smaller communities, ride sharing offers a more reliable option where traditional services are often inconsistent;

And whereas it has been shown that taxi companies can financially tolerate the introduction of ride sharing companies, and ride sharing has been proven as a benefit to impaired driving reduction:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the BC Passenger Transportation Board to implement a viable ride sharing service regulation which will address passenger transportation issues outside of Metro Vancouver including small, rural, and remote communities.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

FINANCE

(16) TITLE: SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by levies paid by local governments, and where provincial library funding has remained stagnant for the past 10 years;

And whereas public libraries are central to communities, providing equitable access to vital resources, including internet, computers, digital library tools, and in-person services from expert staff;

And whereas public libraries provide British Columbians with low-barrier services, that support job seekers and small businesses, that increase literacy in communities, that advance reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and that promote equity and inclusion;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to provide long-term sustainable funding for public libraries in BC;

And be it further resolved that the Province of BC ensure that BC libraries will henceforth receive regular increases to provincial government funding in subsequent years.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

ASSESSMENT

(17) TITLE: Reclassification of Properties Ancillary to Railway Operations

SPONSOR: Village of Ashcroft

Whereas land used for the purposes of extracting, storage of products manufacturing or transporting of goods are categorized as Class 5 Light Industry in the BC *Assessment Act* – Prescribed Classes of Property Regulations BC Reg. 438/81 with the exception of lands used or held for the purposes of, or for purposes ancillary to, the business of transportation by railway;

And whereas ancillary rail operations such as transloading facilities are a heavy burden on local government infrastructure through trucking activity and movement of product and require a higher level of government support including fire services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to review the assessment classifications in the BC *Assessment Act* – Prescribed Classes of Property Regulations BC Reg. 438/81 and that business for the purposes ancillary to railway operations including transloading facilities be reclassified as Class 5 Light Industry in order to create fair taxation from railway operations and further that, Section 5(e) be repealed from the Act.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

ENVIRONMENT

(18) TITLE: EXTERIOR LIGHTING POLLUTION

SPONSOR: District of Coldstream

Whereas excessive lighting causes light pollution and glare;

And whereas light pollution may have a negative impact on quality of life, contribute to adverse health effects and pose potentially harmful consequences to the natural environment by disrupting ecosystems:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Building and Safety Standards Branch amend the BC Building Code to allow, facilitate and empower local governments to exercise control of lighting fixtures, including intensity and directionality, as part of their permitting and inspection process for all new construction and major renovations.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

LAND USE

(19) TITLE: RETROACTIVE DEVELOPMENT AND THE RIPARIAN AREA PROTECTION REGULATION

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas the introduction of the Riparian Area Regulation (RAR) in 2006 was intended to improve the protection of riparian areas in British Columbia;

And whereas the transition to the Riparian Area Protection Regulation (RAPR) in 2019 whereby the Ministry reviews all assessments was not intended to create a burden on local governments;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to amend the Riparian Area Protection Regulation to allow the minister to issue a notification to a local government regarding an assessment report that has been prepared in relation to a “retroactive development”.

Motion to withdraw Resolution:

1st Mark Pendergraft RDOS

2nd Spencer Coyne, Princeton

Vote on motion to withdraw resolution: CARRIED

(20) TITLE: LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO HAVE LEGISLATED INPUT INTO CUTTING PERMITS

SPONSOR: Squamish Lillooet Regional District

Whereas local communities currently have no legal avenue for providing input into forest land cutting permits before they are approved and issued by the Province;

And whereas communities are often impacted by harvesting and log hauling, with environmental impacts, visual impacts, road safety issues and little economic benefit:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to give local governments a legislated avenue for providing input before cutting permits for forest licensees and woodlot tenure holders are approved and issued by the Province.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

(21) TITLE: FAMILY PHYSICIAN FUNDING

SPONSOR: District of Lake Country

Whereas British Columbians are continuing to struggle to access primary care and establish relationships with a family doctor despite a Provincial commitment to a new primary care network model in 2018;

And whereas the Province of British Columbia offers limited alternatives with limited funding to the fee for service model for physician compensation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to consider, implement and adequately fund alternative physician compensation models to replace the fee for service model to better support continuity of care and encourage doctors to practice family medicine.

Proposed Amendment: Change TBIR clause to *“Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to consider implement and adequately fund alternative general practitioner compensation models to replace the fee for service model to better support continuity of care and encourage general practitioners to practice family medicine.”*

1st Toni Boot, Summerland

2nd Sally Watson, TNRD

Vote on Amendment: DEFEATED

Vote on Resolution as presented: CARRIED

(22) TITLE: PHYSICIAN (SPECIALIST) RECRUITMENT IN RURAL AREAS

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas the Ministry of Health and Health Authorities, in partnership with Divisions of Family Practice, have initiated programs to develop Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and Urgent and Primary Care Centres (UPCCs) throughout the province to respond to a shortage of general practitioners and to provide conditions to attract general practitioners to rural areas;

And whereas rural communities are extremely challenged to recruit and retain medical specialists in many fields:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of British Columbia to establish a long-term program to identify the root cause of the chronic shortage of physicians, including specialists, and that they initiate a program to remove obstacles and fill vacancies in this essential service.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(23) TITLE: BC EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES FUNDING

SPONSOR: Township of Spallumcheen

Whereas the high number of call volumes for volunteer fire departments to respond to medical calls far exceeds regular fire related needs;

And whereas the resources of volunteer fire departments and concerns for volunteer retention and burnout is a concern due to excessive medical calls:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to support additional funding and review any feasibility studies to ensure that provincial resources for BC Ambulance and 911 services are adequate to service local populations.

Motion for Proposed Amendment:

1st Cindy Fortin, Peachland

2nd Spencer Coyne, Princeton

Change the TBIR clause as follows:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government to support additional funding and review any feasibility studies to ensure that provincial resources for BC Ambulance and 911 services are adequate to service local populations with a minimum of one ambulance be available 24 hours a day in any one community where an ambulance service exists.

Vote on Amendment: DEFEATED

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(24) TITLE: FIRST RESPONDERS PROGRAM FUNDING

SPONSOR: Village of Chase

Whereas many small local governments provide First Responder Program services to assist the BC Emergency Health Services Ambulance services;

And whereas the provision of assistance to the BC Ambulance Services is very valuable;

And whereas some costs associated with providing the service on behalf of BC Emergency Health Services are paid for by BC Emergency Health Services while hourly pay for First Responders and all vehicle costs are paid by the taxpayers of the local governments that assist the BC Ambulance Services:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the BC Emergency Health Services to increase the funding to local governments who provide First Responder Program to assist the BC Ambulance Service.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(25) TITLE: BC EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES (BCEHS) - PARTNERSHIP WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SPONSOR: Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas BCEHS ground ambulances are designed and equipped to provide emergency care and patient transport throughout British Columbia;

And whereas BCEHS personnel work closely with local governments in emergencies and disasters;

And whereas the lack of consultation with local government in the development of BCEHS policy that impacts life and safety may be harmful to our mutual constituents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to require BCEHS to report regularly to local government prior to the initiation of a policy where that policy may have an impact on local government resources or the safety of our mutual constituents.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(26) TITLE: PROVINCIAL CAR PROGRAM

SPONSOR: City of Penticton and Regional District Okanagan Similkameen

Whereas Car 40 Programs, which aim to support the diversion of those suffering with mental health issues from the criminal justice system, and reduce patrol response and unnecessary hospital admissions have been successful in a variety of formats across the Province since 1978;

And whereas a Provincially integrated and funded Car 40 program would provide consistency to communities seeking new ways to support the health and safety of their residents:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province support an integrated Car 40 Program with appropriate and sustainable funding.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

(27) TITLE: REGIONAL FOOD SUPPLY FEASIBILITY STUDY

SPONSOR: Township of Spallumcheen

Whereas the effects of climate change, primarily flooding and wildfire events, have highlighted how fragile our food supply chain can be;

And whereas the need for a regional food supply system is greater than ever:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM lobby the provincial government, primarily the Ministry of Agriculture and the Premier of British Columbia, to support and fund local food supply feasibility studies, to ensure that as much food as possible can be grown, processed, and purchased within regional areas to sustain the local populations.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

HOUSING

(28) TITLE: HOME AFFORDABILITY & TRANSFER TAX LEVELS

SPONSOR: Village of Lumby

Whereas in BC home buyers pay a provincial Property Transfer Tax (PTT) at a rate of 1% on the first \$200,000 of the purchase price and 2% on the remainder up to and including \$2 million;

And whereas according to the BC Real Estate Association the average single-family home increased 22% in value in the past 2 years since June 2020 to \$915,000;

And whereas the Property Transfer Tax is not related to the cost of services provided, the 2% tax on amounts over \$200,000 creates an additional cost to homeowners making affordability more out-of-reach for more homebuyers:

Therefore be it resolved that SILGA and UBCM request that the BC government reduce the tax burden on home purchasers by applying the 1% tax rate to the first \$700,000 of the purchase price and 2% on the remainder up to and including \$2 million.

Motion on Proposed Amendment:

1st Nicole Cherlet, Revelstoke

2nd Blair Ireland, Lake Country

Change the TBIR clause as follows:

Therefore be it resolved that SILGA and UBCM request that the BC government reduce the tax burden on home purchasers by applying the 1% tax rate to the first \$700,000 of the purchase price and 2% on the remainder up to and including \$2.5 million.

Vote on Amendment: CARRIED

Vote on Resolution as amended: CARRIED

(29) TITLE: TINY HOMES

SPONSOR: Town of Oliver

Whereas owning a home in British Columbia is becoming increasingly unaffordable. During the 2020/2021 fiscal year, BC Housing subsidized nearly 19,000 shelter spaces, housing units and rent supplements. It was reported by the Bank of Canada that in Quarter 3 of 2021, Canadian's needed to spend over 37% of their household income to service a mortgage;

And whereas tiny homes offer an affordable, quick to build and green alternative to standard housing;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province of BC to review the BC Building Code to address barriers such as, but not limited to, egress, headroom and window and door size, and to recognize, allow and provide building requirements for tiny homes;

And be it further resolved that the Province should incorporate these changes into Part 9 of the BC Building Code that would define tiny houses as allowable permanent dwellings, and thus permit them to be constructed where local government official community plans and zoning bylaws deem them appropriate.

Motion for Proposed Amendment:

1st Aimee Grice, Oliver

2nd Karla Kozakevich, RDOS

Whereas during the 2020/2021 fiscal year BC Housing subsidized nearly 19,000 shelter spaces and housing units and provided rent supplements and, further, it was reported by the Bank of Canada that in Quarter 3 of 2021 Canadians needed to spend over 37% of their household income to service a mortgage;

And whereas owning a home in British Columbia is becoming increasingly unaffordable and tiny homes offer an affordable, quick to build and green alternative to standard housing;

Vote on Amendment: CARRIED

Vote on Resolution as Amended: CARRIED

(30) TITLE: BARE LAND STRATA DEVELOPMENT MINIMUM STANDARDS

SPONSOR: Village of Lumby

Whereas bare land strata plan requirements for the strata's internal works and services are outside of local government purview;

And whereas it is recognized that municipalities should prescribe all developments standards as the municipality is concerned with how infrastructure is originally built and with the standards of living in its community;

And whereas current bare land strata developments do not have to meet minimum municipal standards, and as such may devolve into undesirable neighbourhoods that are inconsistent with other neighbourhoods, adversely affecting the land value beyond the area of the bare land strata subdivision:

Therefore be it resolved that SILGA and UBCM asks the BC Government to amend the Bare Land Strata Regulation to require that bare land strata developments meet the same minimum standards set by local governments, as required in their subdivision servicing bylaws, to ensure consistency across all developments throughout the community, in areas such as street lighting, sidewalks, curb heights, paved roads etc.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

SELECTED ISSUES

(31) TITLE: PAID PROTESTORS

SPONSOR: District of Sicamous

Whereas the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms provides that every person in Canada has the right to freedom of expression and freedom of peaceful assembly as part of a democratic nation;

And whereas lawful protests provide citizens the opportunity to express views and grievances for government to respond to;

And whereas individuals that are recruited and paid by organizations to protest on their behalf create a false perception of public opinion on matters of community interest:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to investigate and lobby for the prohibition of organizations paying individuals to protest of their behalf.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

LATE (1) REVERSE PST ON FOSSIL FUEL HEATING

SPONSOR: Village of Clinton

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia announced in the Provincial Budget on February 22, 2022, that Provincial Sales Tax would be added to all fossil fuel heat and hot water appliances to encourage British Columbians to revert to electric heat pumps and hot water heaters;

AND WHEREAS even though heat pump technology may be improving, currently heat pumps are not sufficient to heat homes and businesses in the British Columbia Interior and Northern Regions which would necessitate auxiliary heat sources to augment heat pumps during the coldest days of winter in those regions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM request the Provincial Government of British Columbia to reverse this decision until such time as heat pump technology has improved sufficiently to adequately heat buildings in the Interior and Northern Regions of the Province.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

LATE (2) THRESHOLDS FOR DISREGARDING ACCESS REQUESTS

SPONSOR: District of Logan Lake

WHEREAS public bodies are responsible for the management and protection of personal information under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;

AND WHEREAS under this Act, the requirements to meet the threshold to disregard a request because it is frivolous or vexatious or would unreasonably interfere with the operations of the public body because the request is excessively broad or is repetitive or systematic is unconscionably high and hard to obtain;

AND FURTHER WHEREAS public bodies can be subjected to harassment, defamation, accusations and abuse of staff time with little to no protection and a legal requirement to respond to malicious requests;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM asks that the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner for British Columbia review its thresholds for disregarding requests submitted under Section 43 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Vote on Resolution: CARRIED

8. Community Excellence Awards

Social Responsibility	District of Summerland	George Ryga Arts & Cultural Centre
Economic Development	City of Salmon Arm	Zest Food Hub
Environmental Sustainability	RDCO	Flood Mitigation Planning

9. President's Closing Remarks

President Karla Kozakevich addressed the delegates and expressed appreciation for all the hard work of the Salmon Arm Convention Committee for putting on such a great convention. She thanked the outgoing SILGA director Barb Wiebe and welcomed new directors to the SILGA team.

10. 2023 Convention – Vernon

The 2023 Convention will be held in Vernon from April 25th to 28th, 2023. Mayor Victor Cumming invited all the delegates to join him in his community and showed a short video promoting his community.

11. Adjournment

Moved/Seconded by Victor Cumming/Ward Stamer THAT:

The meeting be adjourned at 12:05 am on April 29, 2022.

CARRIED

Alison Slater, Secretary Treasurer