

2025 AGM & CONFERENCE

ANNUAL REPORT

MAY 13-15, 2025



NORTH COAST
REGIONAL DISTRICT



Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS (FOR DELEGATES AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS)

1. All delegates and conference participants have the right to a safe, fun and enjoyable experience. NCLGA will not tolerate any communication or behaviour that demeans, threatens, or harasses anyone at its events.
2. All delegates regardless of their employer, their position, their perspectives or priorities will treat others, and be treated, in a respectful, understanding and cooperative manner.
3. The primary purpose of the annual NCLGA Convention is to provide the membership with an opportunity to set the association's policy direction for the year ahead.
4. The Convention also provides delegates with an opportunity to learn, share and meet with other local, provincial and federal government officials in addition to other associations that are interested in engaging with local governments.
5. Only local elected officials who are NCLGA members are entitled to speak and vote on matters put forward to the membership. However, the annual Convention is open to the public. Anyone may attend the conference so long as they register.
6. All NCLGA members are viewed as equal regardless of their population, location, or their ability to attend the annual Convention.

CODE OF CONDUCT (FOR DELEGATES AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS)

1. This Code of Conduct is intended to deal with complaints of inappropriate behaviour by participants in the NCLGA Convention; and sets out standards of behaviour for all delegates, participants, and event sponsors (collectively referred to as "participants") during the NCLGA Convention and related events.
2. Participants shall abide by this Code of Conduct during their attendance at NCLGA organized, and NCLGA sanctioned, events during the week of Convention; and are expected to adhere to the Code of Conduct at other non-NCLGA organized events associated with the conference. Participants will be required to indicate that they have read, understood, and agree to this Code of Conduct at time of registration.
3. All participants at the Convention, regardless of their employer, their position, their perspectives or priorities will treat others, and be treated, in a respectful, understanding and cooperative manner and behave in a manner that is respectful to other participants and their guests, and will not do anything that threatens the health, safety, security, or dignity of other participants or their guests, and agree:
 - a) To abide by the provisions of this Code of Conduct, including the complaint process set out in this document for the duration of the Convention.
 - b) To respect the views of others, even when one disagrees.
 - c) To recognize and value individual differences.
 - d) To communicate openly.
 - e) To support and encourage each other.
 - f) To refrain from conduct that is prohibited under the British Columbia Human Rights Code, including discrimination toward another person or group of persons based on their race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age of that person or that group or class of persons.

Discrimination is behaviour that involves words, conduct, or other behaviour toward others that is based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age of that person or that group or class of persons.

- g) To refrain from harassment, bullying, and intimidation.

Harassment includes sexual harassment and is objectionable behaviour which may include actions, language, gestures, and/or written or photographic material, and which the harasser knows or ought to know is abusive and/or unwelcome.

Bullying is a form of harassment which is serious behaviour that targets an individual or group and which threatens the mental or physical well-being of that person or persons.

Intimidation is the use of threats or behaviour that induces fear in another person.

- h) To refrain from offensive behaviour or language.
- i) To refrain from abuse of a position of authority or trust in all interactions with others.

- j) That consumption of alcohol or drugs is not an excuse for breaching this Code of Conduct.
- k) That this Code of Conduct is not to replace applicable human rights and other legislation and is to enhance the rights and obligations of participants in the Convention.

COMPLAINT AND ENFORCEMENT PROCESS

4. To provide enforcement of this Code of Conduct, and to ensure procedural fairness, complaints relating to this Code of Conduct will be handled as follows during the Convention and, should a complaint process continue after the Convention, until resolution or until the mediator signs off:
 - a) A mediator or mediators (the "mediator(s)") shall be appointed and vested with authority by NCLGA to handle such complaints as may arise during the Convention, and the mediator(s) will be on site at the venue, or available electronically for the purpose of dealing with complaints in an expeditious manner;
 - b) A participant with a complaint (the "complainant") may choose to deal directly with the person alleged to have engaged in the impugned behaviour (the "respondent") in an attempt to resolve the issue, but shall be at liberty to bring forward a complaint under this process regardless of whether direct dealings have been attempted;
 - c) All complaints alleging a breach of this Code of Conduct shall be initiated by submitting a written complaint to the mediator(s);
 - d) All initial responses to a complaint under this procedure shall be submitted by written response to the mediator(s);
 - e) Except as otherwise provided all complaints and responses and related communications to the mediator are confidential;
 - f) The participants who are the parties to a complaint are entitled to a written copy of the complaint and of the initial response, and are entitled to know of any subsequent communications to the mediator in relation to the matter of the complaint, whether by the parties to the complaint or by witnesses;
 - g) If the mediator(s) determines, in his or her sole discretion, that the alleged conduct might be construed as falling within the Criminal Code of Canada, the mediator(s) shall so notify the parties and the matter is excluded from this procedure;
 - h) The mediator(s) shall provide a written report of any complaints arising during the Convention, but shall maintain confidentiality except as required for the purpose of resolving the complaint or for the purpose of reporting to the NCLGA President and Convention Committee Chair(s);
 - i) Upon receipt of a complaint the mediator(s) shall work to seek resolution by mutual agreement of the parties to the complaint;
 - j) The mediator shall report in writing to the NCLGA Executive Committee a summary of all complaints and their outcome within 14 days following conclusion of the Convention.

REMEDIES

5. If the complaint is not resolved consensually, the mediator(s) will report in writing to the UBCM President and Convention Committee Chair sharing, in confidence all written materials received, along with the mediator's summary of the outcome to that point. The NCLGA President and Convention Committee Chair(s) may:
 - a) Determine that the complaint is not justified or is beyond the scope of this Code of Conduct, in which case the complaint must be dismissed.
 - b) Determine that the complaint is justified the NCLGA President and Convention Committee Chair(s) may sanction the respondent by any or all of the following:
 - i. Expulsion of the respondent from the Convention with or without refund of registration and other fees;
 - ii. Prohibition of the respondent from attendance at subsequent NCLGA functions for a fixed period of time or permanently;
 - iii. Report in writing to the respondent's employer or sponsor organization.
- The President and Convention Committee Chair(s) shall maintain confidentiality throughout the process except as required for the purpose of resolving the complaint. Upon completion of their deliberations, the President and Convention Committee Chair(s) will follow similar reporting out processes employed by local governments when dealing with "in camera" matters.
6. Nothing in this Code of Conduct shall be construed as limiting a person's right to seek legal redress under applicable common law, criminal law, human rights, workers' compensation or other legislation.

Table of Contents

Statement of Expectations and Code of Conduct	2
NCLGA Board of Directors 2024/2025	4
President's Report	5
Committee Reports	6
<hr/>	
Draft Minutes of the 2024 NCLGA Annual General Meeting	7
Bylaw and Constitution Review	25
Membership List 2024/2025	25
<hr/>	
NCLGA Budget Report 2024-2025	26
Budget 2025/2026	33
Multiyear Budget Report	35
Notice: Potential Membership Fee Benchmarking to British Columbia Consumer Price Index (April 2026)	38
<hr/>	
Board of Directors Nominations Report	39
Nominees for Executive	40
Nominees for Director At Large	41
<hr/>	
Resolution Report	42
Resolution Debate Process	42
2025 NCLGA Resolutions	43

ABOUT NCLGA

Established in 1955, the North Central Local Government Association is a non-profit, non-partisan association of elected officials representing local governments in north-central BC. Our jurisdiction covers 70% of BC's landmass.

We advocate for solutions to shared issues in member communities and also help to articulate member perspectives and priorities to a broader audience.

NCLGA operates according to the following four core values:

- Well-being – environmental, social, and economic
- Non-partisan – exploring the risks, benefits, and alternatives that lead to the best outcome or solution
- Regional focus – collaborating on shared commitments for achieving positive impacts
- Transparency – building trust and increasing access to information.

CONTACT

To connect with NCLGA staff and Board members, members are encouraged to contact us via the following channels:

Email: admin@nclga.ca


















Facebook: www.facebook.com/northcentrallocalgovernmentassociation/

Twitter: @NCLGA

Website: www.nclga.com



NCLGA Board of Directors 2024/2025

NAME	ELECTED TITLE	NAME	ELECTED TITLE
 Judy Greenaway REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO	PRESIDENT	 Barry Cunningham NORTH COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 Gladys Atrill TOWN OF SMITHERS	1 ST VICE PRESIDENT	 Leonard Hiebert PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 Tony Zabinsky FORT ST. JOHN	2 ND VICE PRESIDENT	 Lorraine Gerwing NORTHERN ROCKIES REGIONAL DISTRICT	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 Sheila Boehm CITY OF WILLIAMS LAKE	PAST PRESIDENT	 Sarrah Storey REGIONAL DISTRICT OF BULKLEY-NECHAKO	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 Jerrilyn Kirk FRASER FORT GEORGE REGIONAL DISTRICT	DIRECTOR AT LARGE	 Julie Maitland REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KITIMAT-STIKINE	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
 Kyle MacDonald CITY OF DAWSON CREEK	DIRECTOR AT LARGE	Staff	
 Jesse Wright DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE	DIRECTOR AT LARGE		
 Dannielle Alan FRASER FORT GEORGE REGIONAL DISTRICT	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE		
 Betty Anderson CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT	APPOINTED REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE		
		 Sandra Moore BOARD SUPPORT	STAFF
		 Bettina Johnson COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT	STAFF
		 Terry Robert EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	STAFF



President's Report



Dear members and guests,

Thank you for joining us in beautiful Prince Rupert, BC, for the highly anticipated 2025 North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) AGM and Convention, co-hosted with the City of Prince Rupert, the District of Port Edward, and the North Coast Regional District. Your presence and support enables us to advance the NCLGA's priorities, which include promoting shared advocacy, addressing emerging and shared issues from within our member communities, and fostering relationship building. The NCLGA continues to be well-positioned to advance work on these key priorities.

Our keynote address this year will be provided by Janet Austin, former Lieutenant Governor of BC, whose extensive experience in community service and working in the non-profit sector offers particular insight into our theme, "Tides of Change". A fitting theme for the 2025 AGM, signifying opportunities for growth as we work towards a more resilient future.

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for 2025, highlighting some of the key successes achieved this past year, thanks to the collective efforts of our Board, members, and partners. Advocacy activities have included letters sent to Ministers on resolutions passed at the 2024 AGM, and inviting collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce in British Columbia on shared advocacy goals. Additionally, we are working on legislative reform, as a joint collaboration with the other four Area Associations, to bring the Local Government Act into the 21st century.

The inaugural Mental Health and Addictions Symposium was held on November 13 and 14, 2024, in Prince George, and was a great success with over 300 participants and 30 Accord signatories to date. Thanks to our Past President, Sheila Boehm, who spearheaded the development of the Symposium in 2023. Building on the broad support and lessons learned, we are gearing up to co-host a one-day Symposium again this fall in Prince George, set for October 15, 2025. The Symposium signifies a collaborative step forward in addressing the complex challenges our communities face and paves the way for meaningful change, stronger advocacy, and improved mental health outcomes for everyone in our region.

I would like to express my appreciation to the NCLGA Executive Committee, Board members, staff, and all of the membership for your continued support and dedication. The NCLGA is a strong association because of all of you.

Sincerely,

JUDY GREENAWAY

President, NCLGA

Area Director, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako



Committee Reports

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Standing Committee chaired by President Judy Greenaway.
- Meets multiple times per year between Board meetings.
- Provides oversight, addresses operational decisions and general advocacy.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

- Standing Committee chaired by 1st Vice President Gladys Atrill.
- Meets 4 times per year.
- Guides financial development and management (Reporting, Preliminary, Annual, and Multi-year Budgets).

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

- Standing Committee chaired by 2nd Vice President Tony Zabinsky.
- Meets 4 times per year.
- Guides the nomination, election, orientation, committee and bylaw processes.

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

- Standing Committee chaired by Director at Large Jesse Wright.
- Meets during Board meetings.
- Directs the development, implementation, and monitoring of the 2023 to 2026 NCLGA Strategic Plan, as well as the AGM and Conventions.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

- Standing Committee chaired by Director at Large Jerrilyn Kirk.
- Meets during Board meetings.
- Directs the development and implementation of the resolutions process.

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

- Task committee Co-Chaired by Directors at Large Kyle MacDonald and 2nd Vice President Tony Zabinsky.
- Meets 4-6 times per year.
- Directs the development and enhancement of Indigenous relations and membership.

HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

- Task committee chaired by President Judy Greenaway.
- Meets 4-6 times per year.
- Directs healthcare-related advocacy and collaborations.

AGM & CONVENTION COMMITTEE

- Task committee Co-Chaired by 1st Vice Gladys Atrill and Host Communities Representative.
- Meets more than 20 times per year.
- Provides oversight and recommendations for event decisions.



Draft Minutes of the 2024 NCLGA Annual General Meeting

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – BUSINESS SECTION A, held on Tuesday May 14, 2024

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) President Sheila Boehm provided opening remarks and offered a Territorial Acknowledgement. She introduced herself as the Master of Ceremonies (M/C) and welcomed past NCLGA Presidents, sponsors, Co-hosts, and the President of the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM).

President Boehm invited Director Stoney Stoltenberg, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN), Electoral Area A, to the podium to address the delegates. Director Stoltenberg welcomed the delegates to the Regional District, acknowledged the 14 First Nations within the Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako (RDBN), and reflected on the previous evening's keynote address by Mary French.

CALL TO ORDER:

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm called to order the 2024 NCLGA AGM & Convention at 9:04 am on May 14, 2024.

NCLGA President Boehm invited the Mayors of the co-host local governments, Town of Smithers and District of Houston, Mayors Atrill and Brienien to address delegates from the region. Mayor Brienien acknowledged the traditional territory of the Wet'suwet'en and welcomed the delegates to the 2024 NCLGA Annual General Meeting (AGM) & Convention. Mayor Atrill invited Susie Naziel from Witset, of the Wet'suwet'en First Nation, to sing a welcome song. She then introduced Emma Widen to sing the National Anthem.

NCLGA President Boehm introduced the Moose Hide Campaign and invited the delegates to watch a virtual presentation by Raven Lacerte, Lake Babine First Nation, and Paul Lacerte, Nadleh Whuten Band, about the grassroots movement to end gender-based violence by creating safer communities across Canada and wearing a moose hide pin to spread awareness.

Following this, NCLGA President Boehm introduced the 2024 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) President, Trish Mandewo, and invited her to the podium to address the delegates. The NCLGA President took a moment to name and thank the members of the 2024 NCLGA AGM & Convention Organizing Committee for their hard work in preparing for the event and thanked all local and provincial government representatives for attending. She then referenced the 2024 NCLGA Annual Report and Program which were provided to all delegates prior to the event.

2. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

AGENDA

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the Agenda of the North Central Local Government Association 2024 Annual General Meeting, held in Smithers, BC, from May 14-16, 2024, be APPROVED as presented.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

MINUTES

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the minutes of the North Central Local Government Association 2023 Annual General Meeting, held in Dawson Creek, BC from May 10-12, 2023, be APPROVED as presented.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

NCLGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm provided the President's Report to delegates. NCLGA staff and Board were recognized and thanked for their service.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association President's Report be RECEIVED as presented.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

FINANCIAL REPORT

NCLGA First Vice-President, Judy Greenaway, reviewed the 2023/24 Financial Report and presented the North Central Local Government Association financial budget/statements.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association 2023/24 Financial Statements, be RECEIVED as presented
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

2023/2024 NOTICE TO READER

NCLGA First Vice-President, Judy Greenaway, reviewed the 2023/24 Notice to Reader.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's 2023-2024 Notice to Reader be RECEIVED as presented.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

APPROVAL OF 2% MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's Membership Fee Increase of 2% be APPROVED as presented.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

BUDGET

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's 2024/2025 Budget be APPROVED as presented.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

MULTI-YEAR BUDGET

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's Multi-year Budget be RECEIVED as presented.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

AUDITOR

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the appointment of KPMG as the North Central Local Government Association's 2024/25 Annual Auditor be APPROVED as presented.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

BOARD NOMINATIONS REPORT

NCLGA President, Sheila Boehm, explained the nominations and election process contained in the Annual Report for the Board positions of Executive, Directors at Large and Regional Representatives for 2024/25.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the 2024/25 NCLGA Board Nominations Report be RECEIVED as presented.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED - President Boehm recessed the Annual General Meeting - Business Session A at 10:03 am on May 14, 2024, and reconvened at 10:25 am on May 14, 2024.

3. EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR AT LARGE NOMINATIONS

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm, read out the names of nominations received in advance for the First Ballot (Executive):

- President: Judy Greenaway, Area Director, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- First Vice-President: Gladys Atrill, Mayor, Town of Smithers
- Second Vice-President: Tony Zabinsky, Councillor, City of Fort Saint John

NCLGA President Boehm then called for any additional nominations from the floor. No nominations were received and the following NCLGA Executive Members were announced as the successful nominees:

President:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Judy Greenaway, Area Director, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, be ELECTED NCLGA President by acclamation.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

First Vice-President:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Gladys Atrill, Mayor, Town of Smithers, be ELECTED NCLGA First Vice- President by acclamation.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

Second Vice-President:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Tony Zabinsky, Councillor, City of Fort Saint John, be ELECTED NCLGA Second Vice-President by acclamation.
CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

NCLGA President Boehm read out names of nominations received in advance for the Second Ballot (Directors at Large):

- Director at Large: Jerilynn Kirk, Director, Fraser-Fort George Regional District
- Director at Large: Jesse Wright, Councillor, District of Mackenzie
- Director at Large: Kyle MacDonald, Councillor, City of Dawson Creek

NCLGA President Boehm then called for any additional nominations from the floor, and seeing there were none, called the vote.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the three nominated Directors at Large on the Second Ballot be appointed by acclamation.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

NCLGA President Boehm announced the 2024-2025 Appointed Regional Representatives.

4. RESOLUTIONS SESSIONS – PART 1

NCLGA Directors at Large, Jerilyn Kirk, and Tony Zabinsky, Moderated Part 1 of the NCLGA Resolutions Session and described the resolution process.

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

E1. ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHALLENGES IN AGRICULTURE AND SUPPORTING FARMERS

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS farmers across British Columbia face escalating challenges due to climate change, including increasingly frequent and severe droughts, highlighting the urgent need for regionally relevant agricultural research to address these issues effectively; and

WHEREAS the government of British Columbia has demonstrated commendable leadership by allocating substantial funding, including an additional \$80 million, to expand the Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program, aimed at enhancing water management practices and resilience in the agricultural sector; and

WHEREAS while investments in infrastructure are crucial, there is also a critical need for targeted funding for regionally relevant agricultural research to develop innovative solutions tailored to the specific challenges faced by farmers in different regions of British Columbia; and

WHEREAS regionally relevant research is essential for identifying sustainable agricultural practices, crop varieties, and water management strategies that are best suited to the unique climatic conditions and agricultural landscapes of each region;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the Federal and Provincial Governments to prioritize funding for regionally tailored agricultural research to develop sustainable solutions for diverse farming challenges across British Columbia.

CARRIED

E2. ENHANCED ECONOMIC SUPPORT FOR FORESTRY COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the economic landscape of forestry communities is constantly evolving, requiring proactive measures to ensure their continued growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS it is imperative to invest in the people and opportunities of the future to foster resilience and sustainability in these communities; and

WHEREAS discussions with provincial counterparts in Victoria have highlighted the importance of addressing the challenges faced by forestry communities, including the need for transitioning local economies towards sustainability; and

WHEREAS the Ministry of Forests has recognized the potential of a decentralized model to revitalize forestry communities, leveraging their expertise and resources to become hubs of value-added products and services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to provide additional economic assistance and support to forestry communities to facilitate the transition towards a diversified and sustainable economy.

CARRIED

E3. EQUITABLE STUMPAGE RATES TO SUPPORT LOCAL ECONOMIES

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS stumpage rates play a significant role in shaping the dynamics of the timber industry and local economies; and

WHEREAS while increases in stumpage rates may generate additional revenue for the Provincial Government, there is a risk of unintended consequences, including economic hardship and reduced revenue for local businesses and governments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM advocate for equitable stumpage rates that balance the need for Provincial Government revenue generation with the economic sustainability of forestry-dependent communities.

CARRIED

E4. TRANSPARENT COST ESTIMATES AND EQUITABLE FUNDING FOR HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the Assembly calls for division of the Therefore, Be It Resolved clauses into two separate resolutions (E4A and E4B), keeping the Whereas Clauses the same for both, for Resolution E4.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

E4-A. TRANSPARENT COST ESTIMATES FOR HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS local governments are crucial stakeholders in ensuring the provision of essential healthcare infrastructure within their communities; and
WHEREAS transparent and accurate cost estimates for healthcare infrastructure projects are essential to enable effective budget planning and financial management by local governments; and

WHEREAS recent experiences with escalating costs for hospital projects highlight the importance of transparent cost estimates and equitable funding arrangements to mitigate potential financial strain on taxpayers; and

WHEREAS equitable funding arrangements are necessary to ensure that the financial burden of healthcare infrastructure projects is distributed fairly among communities, taking into account factors such as population density and tax base;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM advocate the Provincial Government for transparent and accurate cost estimates for healthcare infrastructure projects, enabling accountability and effective financial planning by local governments.

CARRIED

E4-B. EQUITABLE FUNDING FOR HEALTHCARE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS local governments are crucial stakeholders in ensuring the provision of essential healthcare infrastructure within their communities; and
WHEREAS transparent and accurate cost estimates for healthcare infrastructure projects are essential to enable effective budget planning and financial management by local governments; and

WHEREAS recent experiences with escalating costs for hospital projects highlight the importance of transparent cost estimates and equitable funding arrangements to mitigate potential financial strain on taxpayers; and

WHEREAS equitable funding arrangements are necessary to ensure that the financial burden of healthcare infrastructure projects is distributed fairly among communities, taking into account factors such as population density and tax base;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM call for equitable funding arrangements for healthcare infrastructure projects, ensuring that the financial burden is distributed fairly among communities based on their capacity to contribute.

CARRIED

E5. ENSURING SAFETY MEASURES FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN RESPONSE TO DRUG DECRIMINALIZATION

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS reports indicate an increase in patients possessing or using drugs while in hospitals, posing risks to the safety and well-being of healthcare staff; and

WHEREAS the safety of nurses and other healthcare workers is paramount, and measures must be taken to protect them from exposure to illicit substances and potentially dangerous situations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM call upon the Provincial Government to prioritize the safety of healthcare workers by providing clear guidelines and resources to address the risks associated with drug use in hospitals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to work collaboratively with healthcare organizations, including the BC Nurses' Union, to develop comprehensive safety protocols and training programs to safeguard healthcare workers and patients alike.

CARRIED

E6. STRENGTHENING PROVINCIAL-LOCAL GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION FOR HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Executive Resolution E6, Strengthening Provincial-Local Government Collaboration for Homelessness Solutions, be amended by adding the wording, "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of BC pay for any costs incurred by Local Governments to address homelessness costs, (e.g. costs associated with cleaning up homeless camps, mental health issues, Fire Department call-outs to camps), as this is not the responsibility of the Local Government".

DEFEATED

POINT OF ORDER:

In response to a point of order, President Boehm advised the assembly that major amendments must be drafted in writing and submitted in to NCLGA staff to be considered.

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS Local Governments across British Columbia continue to collaborate with Provincial authorities in addressing homelessness and housing challenges, recognizing the Province's responsibility for housing, healthcare, and encampments; and

WHEREAS initiatives led by the Province through various programs aim to provide housing solutions and support services for unhoused individuals, requiring close coordination between Provincial and Local Government agencies; and

WHEREAS Local Governments acknowledge the complexities of responding to homelessness and the critical role of the Province in providing resources and expertise, with a commitment to supporting these efforts and advocating for effective collaboration between all stakeholders;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM emphasize the importance of expediting proposed transitional shelter facilities and supportive housing projects in partnership with relevant Provincial agencies to address immediate and long-term housing needs;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM oppose legislative measures that may hinder local responses to homelessness and support efforts to ensure that any new legislation aligns with the needs and priorities of local communities.

CARRIED**E7. SUPPORTING THE EXPANSION OF CELL COVERAGE IN RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS**

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS rural and remote areas across British Columbia continue to face challenges in accessing adequate cell coverage, hindering connectivity and safety for residents; and

WHEREAS initiatives to extend cell coverage, such as the proposed Telus tower near Puntzi Lake, present opportunities to address these challenges and improve connectivity in underserved communities; and

WHEREAS community engagement and environmental considerations are crucial in the development of such projects to ensure they meet the needs of local residents and mitigate potential impacts;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM extend their full support to initiatives aimed at expanding cell coverage in rural and remote areas to enhance connectivity and safety for residents;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM encourage telecommunications providers, such as Telus, to engage in ongoing consultation with local communities and stakeholders throughout all stages of project development to ensure transparency, address concerns, and maximize benefits for residents.

CARRIED**E8. ADDRESSING CHALLENGES FACED BY RURAL SENIORS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT Executive Resolution E8, Addressing Challenges Faced by Rural Seniors in British Columbia, be amended by adding the wording "and Community Care" after "assisted living plan" in bullet #2 and removing bullet #4. "Establish a ministry or minister devoted to addressing the unique needs of rural communities in BC" to be a separate Resolution.

CARRIED**MOVED/SECONDED**

WHEREAS a recent report by the Office of the Seniors Advocate highlights the significant challenges faced by seniors aged 65 or older living in rural regions of British Columbia (BC), including limited access to healthcare, lower incomes, and inadequate options for long-term care and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS rural seniors constitute a significant portion of BC's population, with projections indicating a further increase in their proportion by 2032; and

WHEREAS the resilience of rural seniors is admirable, but it is evident that they face substantial barriers due to the lack of resources and supports available in their communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM acknowledge the findings of the Seniors Advocate's report and recognize the urgent need to address the inequities faced by rural seniors in British Columbia;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM call upon the Provincial Government to take immediate action by implementing the following recommendations put forth by the Seniors Advocate:

1. Develop and implement strategies on rural seniors housing, rural health, rural seniors home and community care, and rural transportation.
2. Create and implement a long-term care and assisted living plan and community care based on equity.
3. Improve upon and better promote the Travel Assistance Program and Hope Air to facilitate access to healthcare services for rural seniors.

CARRIED

E8-A. ADDRESSING CHALLENGES FACED BY RURAL SENIORS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS a recent report by the Office of the Seniors Advocate highlights the significant challenges faced by seniors aged 65 or older living in rural regions of British Columbia (BC), including limited access to healthcare, lower incomes, and inadequate options for long-term care and affordable housing; and

WHEREAS rural seniors constitute a significant portion of BC's population, with projections indicating a further increase in their proportion by 2032; and

WHEREAS the resilience of rural seniors is admirable, but it is evident that they face substantial barriers due to the lack of resources and supports available in their communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM acknowledge the findings of the Seniors Advocate's report and recognize the urgent need to address the inequities faced by rural seniors in British Columbia;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM call upon the Provincial Government to take immediate action by implementing the following recommendation put forth by the Seniors Advocate:

1. Establish a ministry or minister devoted to addressing the unique needs of rural communities in BC.

CARRIED

E9. URGENT INVESTMENT IN HEALTHCARE FOR CENTRAL AND NORTHERN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS healthcare facilities in Central and Northern British Columbia (BC) are confronting a myriad of pressing challenges, including but not limited to limited emergency room capacity, insufficient operating room hours, inadequate capital upgrades, and critical staffing shortages; and

WHEREAS the residents of Central and Northern BC endure significant hardships as they are compelled to undertake extensive journeys to access essential medical procedures, owing to the dearth of specialized healthcare facilities in the region, thereby leading to considerable delays in receiving vital healthcare services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM vehemently call upon the Provincial Government to undertake a comprehensive audit of healthcare services throughout Central and Northern BC, with the explicit aim of identifying areas for enhancement and utilizing the findings to inform future healthcare planning initiatives.

CARRIED

E10. STANDARD OF CARE DISCREPANCIES IN HEALTHCARE SERVICES

Submitted by: NCLGA Executive

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Executive Resolution E10, Standard of Care Discrepancies in Healthcare Services, be amended by adding the wording, "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate for shared patient records between Health Authorities".

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS there has been a noticeable increase in delays in treatment and testing for all British Columbians, with a particularly significant impact on residents in rural areas; and

WHEREAS there is an expectation of a standard of practice that every individual should be able to rely on, ensuring that test results are promptly reviewed; however, delays in testing and review processes are causing undue stress and potential health risks, especially in rural communities; and

WHEREAS the discrepancy in wait times for test result reviews, such as heart halter monitors, between urban and rural locations can lead to adverse health outcomes, including increased mortality rates;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM jointly lobby the Provincial Government to compel the Health Authorities to review and address the discrepancies in the standard of care, particularly in wait times for test result reviews, across the province, with a specific focus on addressing the disparities between rural and urban areas;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate for shared patient records between health authorities.

CARRIED

REGULAR RESOLUTIONS

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R1. HEALTHCARE WORKER SHORTAGE – REDUCING BARRIERS TO TRAINING

Submitted by: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS there is a shortfall of qualified staff to provide healthcare services, particularly in rural and remote communities, across the province; and

WHEREAS some of the training requirements for healthcare workers pose significant barriers in terms of time, cost, and accessibility, thereby hindering the potential influx of qualified individuals into the healthcare workforce; and

WHEREAS reducing unnecessary barriers and streamlining training opportunities for healthcare workers would promote professional growth, enhance healthcare delivery, and ultimately benefit the residents of our communities:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and NCLGA advocate to the Province and relevant authorities to put in place the necessary framework, tools and incentives to address the shortfall of qualified healthcare workers and reduce the barriers for healthcare training opportunities.

CARRIED

R2. REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT CAPITAL COST-SHARING SPLIT

Submitted by: Peace River Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Regular Resolution R.2, Regional Hospital District Capital Cost-Sharing Split, be amended by removing the wording “BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to have one on one conversations with each Regional Hospital District and discuss how to make capital infrastructure projects more affordable for each Regional Hospital District.”

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS capital infrastructure project costs for healthcare facilities in North and Central British Columbia have been shared between the provincial government and Regional Hospital Districts with 60 percent contributed by the Province and 40 percent contributed by Regional Hospital Districts; and

WHEREAS since 2004 local governments in British Columbia have raised concern that the 60:40 cost-sharing split is financially unsustainable because it necessitates continuous increases in local property taxation being the primary source of revenue available to local governments; this revenue already stretched to meet the diverse and growing demands facing local governments further impacted by escalating construction costs and inflation:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM continue to lobby the provincial government to consult with Regional Hospital Districts to reconsider the existing capital infrastructure project funding split as the 60:40 percentages are not legislated in the Hospital District Act.

CARRIED

R3. REDUCING NEURODEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT WAIT TIMES

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the wait time for diagnostic assessment for children and youth who are suspected of having an Autism Spectrum Disorder or other neurodevelopment conditions is unacceptable at 2 years; and

WHEREAS these extended wait times puts delays on youth getting the support they need and deserve and puts pressure on other institutions to fill the gaps while families wait:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to reduce the wait time for diagnostic assessment for children and youth who are suspected of having an Autism Spectrum Disorder or other neurodevelopment conditions.

CARRIED

R4. COMMUNITY SAFETY RESOURCES

Submitted by: City of Terrace

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS local governments are facing increased pressures to address immediate, emerging, and persistent social issues in their local communities that impact the safety, security, and well-being of residents; and

WHEREAS the provincial government does not respond as quickly as needs arise, forcing local governments to take increased action to address community mental health and substance misuse/toxicity challenges with limited and often inadequate resources:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and NCLGA lobby the Province of British Columbia to commit to provide adequate, ongoing, and direct funding in order to support local government needs for community safety.

CARRIED

R5. PROVINCIAL VACCINE MANDATE

Submitted by: District of Kitimat

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS British Columbia is one of the last remaining provinces in Canada requiring a vaccine mandate for healthcare professionals; and

WHEREAS British Columbia's healthcare system is under severe stress:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM ask the Province for the provincial criteria that must be in place in order to remove the vaccine mandate for healthcare workers.

CARRIED

R6. VACCINE MANDATE FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

Submitted by: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS British Columbia continues to have a healthcare worker shortage from a growing and aging patient population, impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, and the ongoing need to recruit, retain and train more healthcare workers at a rapidly growing pace to mitigate the healthcare crisis for the Province's population; and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has taken steps to expand the healthcare workforce and increase patient access through its BC's Health and Human Resources Strategy:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA lobby the provincial government to expand the healthcare workforce by lifting the COVID-19 vaccination requirement and allow for unvaccinated healthcare workers to return to work immediately lessening the strain on the healthcare system and providing better access and healthcare for everyone in the province.

DEFEATED

MEETING ADJOURNED

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm adjourned the Annual General Meeting - Business Session A at 12:22 pm on May 14, 2024, and the delegates continued to attend Plenary Session 5: Local Member of Parliament Address, Taylor Bachrach, Skeena-Bulkley Valley, and Plenary Session 8, and Concurrent Panel Sessions 6 to 7, which started at 1:35 pm and 2:50 pm on the following topics:

- a) First Nation Taxation and Assessment;
- b) Sustainable Growth: Navigating the Future of Forestry Communities; and
- c) Talent Traction: Strategies for Small Community Sustainability.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – BUSINESS SECTION B, held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024

9. REFLECTIONS OF DAY ONE

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm reconvened the Annual General Meeting - Business Session B at 9:00 am on May 15, 2024, and introduced Sponsor, BC Lottery Corporation, to address the delegates. President Boehm introduced the 2024-2025 Board of Directors elected on the previous day and reflected on the resolutions and debate before outlining the Agenda for Day 2.

10. PLENARY SESSION: KEYNOTE SPEAKER: COLIN ANGUS

NCLGA Second Vice-President, Gladys Atrill, introduced guest speaker Colin Angus, who shared techniques to deal with changing environments including altering our perception, preparing for the unexpected, assessing risks, and improving communication.

11. MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED

Second Vice-President, Gladys Atrill, recessed the Annual General Meeting - Business Session B at 10:24 am on May 15, 2024, and President Boehm reconvened the meeting at 10:40 am on May 15, 2024.

12. PLENARY SESSION: MUNICIPAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF BC (MIABC)

Troy Reitsma, Councillor, District of Houston, introduced guest speaker Gord Klassen, MIABC Regional Area Association Representative, who provided an update on the Municipal Insurance Association of BC.

13. PLENARY SESSION: NORTHERN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE TRUST (NDIT)

Jonathan Van Barneveld, Councillor, District of Houston, introduced guest speaker Joel McKay, CEO, who provided an update from the Northern Development Initiative Trust.

14. PLENARY SESSION: INVESTMENT IN ELECTRIFICATION

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm recognized Sponsor, Hy-tech Drilling, and introduced guest speaker Keith Anderson, Vice-President, Business Development and Energy Management, BC Hydro, who shared strategic approaches aimed at bolstering capacity building, enhancing infrastructure, optimizing the supply chain, and implanting crucial upgrades across the region, with a particular focus on capital projects. She then opened the floor to a Question & Answer period.

MEETING RECESSED / RECONVENED

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm recessed the Annual General Meeting - Business Session B at 12:00 pm on May 15, 2024, for the lunch break and reconvened at 12:40 pm on May 15, 2024.

15. PLENARY SESSION: MARC VON DER GONNA, DIRECTOR OF NORTHERN REGION FOR SMALL BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BRANCH

During the lunch break, NCLGA First Vice-President, Judy Greenaway, introduced Marc von der Gonna, Director, Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development, and Innovation, who provided a regional update on economic operations.

16. RESOLUTIONS SESSIONS – PART 2

NCLGA Directors at Large, Jerrilyn Kirk, and Tony Zabinsky, returned to moderate Part 2 of the NCLGA Resolutions Session.

REGULAR RESOLUTIONS

HOUSING

R7. HOUSING SUPPORT IN NORTHERN AND SMALL COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Regular Resolution R.7, Housing Support in Northern and Small Communities, be amended by adding the wording “NCLGA and” before “UBCM”.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS there is a housing crisis throughout BC requiring a range of solutions that address housing affordability issues in large and small communities; and

WHEREAS the Province's Homes for People's plan focuses on addressing housing supply issues in larger communities in high growth areas of the province:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM ask the Province to engage with small and northern communities to identify housing solutions outside of high growth areas.

CARRIED

R8. AGRICULTURAL LAND COMMISSION AND BC BUILD

Submitted by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the BC Building Code contains a definition for floor area, and floor area measures the total inside space of a building; and

WHEREAS the Agricultural Land Commission has resolved on a definition of “total floor area for principal residences” and “total floor area of an additional 90m² or 186m² residence” that is not consistent with the BC Building Code:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Agricultural Land Commission to adopt the definition of floor area within the BC Building Code Regulations for buildings in the Agriculture Land Reserve.

CARRIED

R9. SPECULATION AND VACANCY TAX

Submitted by: City of Prince Rupert

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS housing availability and affordability challenges all municipalities in British Columbia; and

WHEREAS these housing challenges impact the health, social and economic well-being of all British Columbia communities:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the Province to amend the Speculation and Vacancy Tax Act to have all British Columbia municipalities included in the applicable areas where the tax applies.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R10. INTERSECTION SAFETY CAMERA PROGRAM EXPANSION

Submitted by: City of Dawson Creek

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Regular Resolution R.10, Intersection Safety Camera Program Expansion, be amended by removing the wording “particularly in North Central British Columbia”.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS due to the high frequency of crashes at intersections in British Columbia, the province implemented an Intersection Safety Camera (ISC) program to save lives and reduce injuries; and

WHEREAS the ISC program consists of 140 red light and speed cameras at high-risk intersections in British Columbia, with only one of the locations being in North Central British Columbia thus limiting the opportunity for remote municipalities to use red-light or speed cameras as a traffic safety feature:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA lobby the provincial government to expand the Intersection Safety Camera program.

CARRIED

R11. EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT CAPACITY FUNDING

Submitted by: District of Hudson's Hope

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has enacted legislation known as the Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA) that constitutes a significant download of responsibilities and addition of new legislative and regulatory requirements that will significantly and permanently add to the workload of municipalities and regional districts; and

WHEREAS the opportunities for local governments to raise funds required to support these legislative changes are limited, and where the provincial government has provided some proactive capacity funding in specific areas, such as First Nations consultation, but has not provided any guarantee of ongoing capacity funding to support the legacy of these legislative changes:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Province of British Columbia to commit to providing long-term sustainable capacity funding to municipalities and regional districts to fulfill their emergency management duties, including responsibilities under the Emergency and Disaster Management Act.

CARRIED

R12. SEARCH AND RESCUE – CAPABILITY APPROVAL PROCESS

Submitted by: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the current response capability approval process for individual ground search and rescue (SAR) teams is hindering the ability of teams to respond to known hazards and utilize local capabilities and innovative technology; and

WHEREAS while the Province is responsible for administration of the SAR Program, local SAR expertise, community needs, and local authorities and agencies input must be a greater part of the capability approval process; and

WHEREAS capability decisions must not include call volume, as saving one life makes the investment of time and money worthwhile, and strengthens the overall SAR capacity to assist our counterparts across the region and province when called upon:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to change the search and rescue capability approval process from the Emergency Management and Climate Readiness Search and Rescue (EMCR SAR) Unit, to a collaborative process involving the ground search and rescue team, local authorities, and the EMCR SAR Unit.

CARRIED

R13. SEARCH AND RESCUE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND CLIMATE READINESS MORATORIUM

Submitted by: District of Fort St. James

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the current search and rescue director of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) imposed a moratorium on all of the Province's search and rescue teams, prohibiting those groups from expanding their capabilities until the Province has conducted a needs assessment study; and

WHEREAS Search and Rescue groups provide invaluable services crucial to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, tourist safety, and overall community well-being:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to promptly lift this moratorium and allow Search and Rescue groups to add to their list of capabilities.

CARRIED

R14. INITIAL FIRE ATTACK CREW RELOCATION

Submitted by: District of Chetwynd, District of Hudson's Hope, District of Mackenzie, and District of Tumbler Ridge

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the BC Wildfire Initial Attack Crews are a critical component of the wildfire response and rapid wildfire suppression in the Province of British Columbia; and

WHEREAS Initial Fire Attack Crew Base locations are key to providing timely wildfire suppression efforts; especially in remote and rural areas;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Provincial Government to maintain the Initial Fire Attack Crew Bases in their current locations, and not relocate them without significant local stakeholder consultation.

CARRIED

ENVIRONMENT

R15. SMALL SCALE COMMERCIAL CONTAMINATED SITES

Submitted by: District of Kitimat

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the contaminated site remediation process is required when an application is made for many types of redevelopment; and

WHEREAS the environmental remediation process is so onerous and costly for small scale commercial development that it can delay development:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM ask the Province to reassess the contaminated sites provincial legislation to alleviate the negative economic impacts for small scale commercial redevelopment and provide more options for economic development opportunities on these properties.

CARRIED

TAXATION

R16. TAXATION ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY

Submitted by: City of Prince George

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS there does not readily appear to be a mechanism by which local governments can recover the equivalent of property tax for childcare centers operating on school property, a placement that is encouraged by provincial policy; and

WHEREAS local governments need every opportunity to collect the appropriate revenue for providing our wide range of services considering inflationary pressures and the challenges posed by asset management:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and NCLGA advocates to the Minister of Education and Child Care that a mechanism by which local governments can recover the equivalent of property tax for childcare centers operating on school property be established.

CARRIED

TRANSPORTATION

R17. JASPER NATIONAL PARK WEST GATE UPGRADES

Submitted by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS all commercial truck traffic that passes through the East gate of Jasper National Park also uses the West gate of the park; and

WHEREAS Highways 16 and 5, the Yellowhead Highway, are the primary transportation corridors for critical supply chain transportation, tourism and local traffic and the designated over-size route for industrial movements for British Columbia:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Province to communicate with the Government of Canada and Parks Canada requesting that the Jasper National Park West gate be upgraded to a standard consistent with the East gate improvements that have been completed to improve the efficiency of moving goods and travelers through this critical corridor to the rest of British Columbia.

CARRIED

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R18. HIGHWAY CELLULAR INFRASTRUCTURE

Submitted by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the lack of cellular service along many highways throughout British Columbia poses significant safety concerns, impeding the ability of motorists to communicate in emergencies, access navigation services, or contact roadside assistance; and hampers economic development by limiting opportunities for businesses and travelers to stay connected and conduct transactions while on the move; and

WHEREAS advancements in cellular and satellite technology have made it increasingly feasible to extend coverage to previously underserved areas, including highways, through the deployment of new cell towers and signal booster infrastructure:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Province of BC to advance the installation of new cellular infrastructure along sections of Highway 16 East from Prince George to the Alberta border, and other British Columbia highways, without adequate cell service, prioritizing the safety, connectivity, and economic well-being of our citizens and travelers, and to work collaboratively with telecommunications companies, government agencies, rail transportation sectors and other stakeholders to identify optimal locations for new cellular infrastructure, ensuring efficient deployment and minimal disruption to surrounding communities.

CARRIED

R19. LOCAL CONSULTATION FOR PROVINCIAL IMPACTS TO RESOURCE SECTOR JOBS

Submitted by: Village of Pouce Coupe and District of Chetwynd

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the provincial government does not currently have the obligation to meaningfully consult with municipalities and/or regional districts regarding provincial policy changes or decisions that impact employment for people that live in those municipalities and/or regional districts; and

WHEREAS the recent provincial policy changes and decisions have and will continue to negatively impact resource sector-based employment that disproportionately impacts rural, northern, and remote communities; and

WHEREAS rural, remote and northern communities local tax bases are dependent on a strong resource sector in order to provide services to those that live there:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to engage in meaningful consultation with the municipalities and/or regional districts whose people's employment in the resource sector may be negatively impacted by those provincial policy changes.

CARRIED

R20. REVIEW OF TIMBER ALLOCATION TO MITIGATE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: District of Fort St. James

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the closure of all timber processing facilities that cause significant economic hardship within the affected community and its surrounding area; and

WHEREAS the sustainability and vitality of local economies are intricately linked to the health and prosperity of timber processing facilities:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and NCLGA request the Ministry of Forests to review the Timber Allocation quota upon the closing of a facility, prioritizing the mitigation of adverse impacts on the economics of the affected community.

CARRIED

R21. INDUSTRY SHUTDOWN – TIMBER RIGHTS

Submitted by: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the closure of sawmills in the region has caused significant economic distress within local communities that has led to a decline in local employment opportunities which negatively impacts the livelihoods of residents and local businesses; and

WHEREAS recent shutdowns provide a concern that wood harvested in one area will be transported to another for processing, thus jeopardizing the local economic value for communities most impacted:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA requests that the Province considers policy to ensure that timber rights that can reasonably be considered "attached" to a sawmill that is being closed, or that were originally provided to the company (or companies) that owned that sawmill, be transferred to local and/or Indigenous governments upon closure in order to foster economic diversification and community resilience.

CARRIED

SELECTED ISSUES

R22. MANDATORY HOLOCAUST EDUCATION IN BC'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Submitted by: City of Prince George

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Regular Resolution R.22, Mandatory Holocaust Education in BC's Elementary Schools, be amended by removing the wording "as of the 2024-25 academic year".

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS Statistics Canada reported that there were 750 police-reported hate crimes targeting religious minorities during 2022, of which 502 or 66.9% were aimed at Jews; and

WHEREAS Ontario recently became the first province to introduce mandatory Holocaust education into the elementary school curriculum:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and NCLGA recognizes the dangers of Holocaust denial and distortion, which so often targets our young people, and urges the Ministry of Education and Child Care to introduce mandatory Holocaust education to elementary schools.

CARRIED

R23. REMOVAL OF ALTERNATE DIRECTOR FROM THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT

Submitted by: Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the Local Government Act provides that an Electoral Area Director must appoint an Alternate Electoral Area Director and the council of a municipality may appoint a council member as an alternate director who may take the place of, vote and generally act in all matters for the absent Director; and

WHEREAS the Alternate Electoral Area Director is appointed, not elected; therefore, they are accountable to the elected officials, not the constituents; and

WHEREAS Alternate Electoral Area Directors do not have full authority or rights in the stead of the Elected Official such as in the provision of the NCLGA and UBCM bylaws which prohibit Alternate Electoral Area Directors from participating and voting at the annual and special conventions as NCLGA and UBCM bylaws require voting delegates to be elected officials; and

WHEREAS Alternate Electoral Area Directors and Alternate Municipal Directors do not always have depth of knowledge or understanding of Regional District Board matters resulting in decisions and actions taken by a Board that may not be in the best interests of the Regional District Board as a whole, or its residents:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM lobby the Province to remove the legislative requirement in the Local Government Act to appoint an Alternate Electoral Area Director and an Alternate Municipal Director.

WITHDRAWN

R24. ALTERNATE DIRECTOR INCLUSION IN NCLGA AND UBCM

Submitted by: Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

WHEREAS the Local Government Act provides that an Electoral Area Director must appoint an Alternate Electoral Area Director who may take the place of, vote and generally act in all matters for the absent Electoral Area Director; and

WHEREAS Alternate Electoral Area Directors do not have full authority or rights in the stead of the elected official such as in the provision of the NCLGA and UBCM bylaws which prohibit Alternate Electoral Area Directors from participating and voting at the annual and special conventions as NCLGA and UBCM bylaws require voting delegates to be elected officials:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM change its bylaws to enable an Alternate Electoral Area Director, in their elected officials stead, to participate in debate and vote at annual and special conventions of NCLGA and UBCM; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCLGA lobby the Province to change the Local Government Act to give Alternate Directors full authority and rights as their elected officials in their stead.

WITHDRAWN

R25. HOST COMMUNITY RECEPTION CENTRE IN THE CITY OF PRINCE GEORGE

Submitted by: City of Prince George

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the City of Prince George is proud, well positioned, and routinely provides host community support to the region as community's grapple with more frequent emergencies; and

WHEREAS no dedicated facilities have been constructed in the region to appropriately manage this response, leading to frequent reception center relocations which add unnecessary strain on all involved:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA requests the Province fund a permanent Host Community Reception Centre in the City of Prince George for the North Central Local Government Area.

CARRIED

LATE RESOLUTIONS

L1. CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS, effective communication, collaboration, and engagement between provincial ministries and local governments are essential to ensure that decisions made at the provincial level are well-informed and considerate of the unique needs and perspectives of local governments; and

WHEREAS, a lack of meaningful consultation and collaboration between provincial ministries and local governments may lead to unintended consequences, challenges, and dissatisfaction within local communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge all provincial ministries to seek input from local governments during the early stages of decision-making processes to identify potential impacts and explore collaborative solutions that benefit both provincial and local interests, and to provide timely and relevant information to local governments regarding proposed changes.

CARRIED

L2. ENACTING THE SAFETY AMENDMENT ACT

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS, ensuring the safety and well-being of our communities is of utmost importance, and recent events in the Province highlight the urgent need for proactive measures to tackle emerging social and criminal challenges; and

WHEREAS, the Province of BC previously created and did not enact the Community Safety Act and Community Safety Amendment Act, providing authorities with effective tools to respond to chronic and illegal behaviour from problematic properties,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM actively lobby the Provincial Government to bring into force the Community Safety Act and Community Safety Amendment Act to address challenges related to crime and illegal activity and associated threats to public safety.

CARRIED

L3. SALVAGE LOGGING OF WILDFIRE IMPACTED AREAS

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the 2023 wildfire season was the most destructive in British Columbia's recorded history, with more than 2.84 million hectares of forest and land burned, and there is limited time to recover value from fire-impacted standing timber before the wood quality deteriorates, and the forest industry in British Columbia is facing significant timber shortage challenges leading to mill closures across the province; and

WHEREAS the fire-impacted standing timber poses a significant threat to public safety through the potential for future wildfires,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to work with the forest industry and relevant agencies to enhance access and utilization of fire-impacted standing timber across the province.

CARRIED

L4. YEAR-ROUND FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Late Resolution L4, Year-Round Forest Fire Management Program, be amended by adding the word, "holdover" before "fires" in all three sections of the resolution.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS, current fire management practices do not adequately address the unique challenges posed by holdover fires, necessitating a comprehensive and year-round approach to forest fire management; and

WHEREAS a comprehensive and year-round forest fire management program can help reduce the risks associated with holdover fires, protect ecosystems, and enhance the safety and well-being of communities,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial government to allocate the appropriate resources and adopt a comprehensive and sustainable year-round forest fire management program to address the threat of holdover fires.

CARRIED

L5. ALC NOTICE OF INTENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ANCILLARY RESIDENTIAL STRUCTURES

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the ALC has unilaterally changed their interpretation of the ALC regulation, requiring a notice of intent for the import of soil or fill onto properties and its subsequent approval prior to construction of any detached ancillary residential structure; and

WHEREAS local governments are prohibited from issuing building permits prior to receipt of such approvals, creating an unnecessary regulatory burden on both land owners, local governments, and ALC staff for structures which are regulated through size restrictions in local government zoning bylaws;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities call on the Agricultural Land Commission to cease requiring notices of intent to be made under section 20.3 of the Agricultural Land Commission Act for residential ancillary buildings and structures on lands in the Agricultural Land Reserve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any future requirements conform clearly with the Agricultural Land Commission Act and enabling Regulations, and changes to requirements be done through legislative and regulatory amendments, not interpretive judgement.

CARRIED

L6. LEGISLATIVE CHANGES TO PERMIT ALKALINE HYDROLYSIS FUNERALS

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District and City of Williams Lake

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS Alkaline Hydrolysis Process funeral services present an opportunity to reduce the environmental impact of preparing and interring human remains by significantly reducing the amount of carbon dioxide emitted from burials and land use requirements for storing human remains; and

WHEREAS the Cremation, Interment and Funeral Services Act does not permit Alkaline Hydrolysis as an acceptable process for preparing a deceased person's remains;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of B.C. Municipalities call on the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General and Deputy Premier to prepare and introduce a bill in the Legislative Assembly of B.C. to amend the Cemetery, Interment and Funeral Services Act to allow the alkaline hydrolysis process as a permitted funeral service.

CARRIED

L7. ACTION TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACING B.C.'S RURAL SENIORS

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS rural B.C. has a proportionately larger and faster growing seniors' population than urban B.C., yet has less infrastructure and resources to support its aging population; and

WHEREAS a greater and more focused provincial response to ongoing concerns about inequities in services and supports for seniors in rural B.C. is required to address the inadequacies of current approaches to such issues;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of B.C. Municipalities endorse the recommendations of the Office of the Seniors Advocate's report titled "Challenges Facing B.C.'s Rural Seniors" and dated February 2024, and calls on the Provincial Government to implement said recommendations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM call on the Province of B.C. to begin doing so first by establishing a Ministry or Minister of State for rural B.C. in recognition of the geographic imbalance of regional representation in the Legislative Assembly.

WITHDRAWN

L8. FEDERAL CONSULTATION PRIOR TO ISSUING MEDICAL CANNABIS PRODUCTION CERTIFICATES

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Late Resolution L8, Federal Consultation Prior to Issuing Medical Cannabis Production Certificates, be amended by adding the wording, "the Union of British Columbia Municipalities" before "and Federation of Canadian Municipalities".

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS Health Canada issues certificates to persons permitting individuals to grow marijuana plants at designated locations for the purpose of producing cannabis for personal medical use; and

WHEREAS the number of plants which may be possessed under a medical certificate can permit a person to possess a number of plants similar to an industrial marijuana grow facility;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities, and Federation of Canadian Municipalities call on Health Canada to refer and consult with local governments prior to issuing medical certificates authorizing individuals to possess a number of marijuana plants at any location within a given local government's jurisdictional boundaries which, by Health Canada's calculation, could produce more than 150 grams per day of dried cannabis effectively running a marijuana grow facility with resulting issues involving nuisance in neighbourhoods not zoned for such land use.

CARRIED

L9. WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the Government of Canada, through Health Canada, is responsible for establishing the standards for drinking water quality as codified by the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality; and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has adopted the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality as the standard for drinking water quality under the Safe Drinking Water Act, which community water systems are required to meet;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities call on the Government of Canada and Province of British Columbia to provide ongoing, long-term, and stable funding for local governments to upgrade community water distribution and treatment systems to enable compliance with the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality and all subsequent amendments thereto.

CARRIED

L10. FIREWORKS SALES BAN DURING WILDFIRE SEASON

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS fireworks are a known fire hazard which can start wildfires when conditions are dry with sufficient forest fuels;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities urge the Province of B.C. to prohibit the sale of fireworks in any area for which an open burning ban has been issued.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the Assembly extend the Resolutions Session – Part Two for fifteen minutes.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

L11. EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT FOR REGIONAL DISTRICTS

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the Emergency and Disaster Management Act seeks to set out a comprehensive framework for the management of wildfires, floods, and other disasters in a manner consistent with the SENDAI Framework; and

WHEREAS the statutory responsibilities, geographic disparity, and legal powers of regional districts are not recognized by the Emergencies and Disaster Management Act;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities call on the Province of BC to develop regulations under the Emergencies and Disaster Management Act in collaboration with representatives of each regional district, to ensure that emergency powers and responsibilities impacting regional districts are designed in consideration of their powers, jurisdiction, and areas of responsibility.

CARRIED

L12. UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES NAME CHANGE

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS the Union of B.C. Municipalities (“UBCM”) was established to provide a common voice for local governments across B.C. and has done so since 1905; and

WHEREAS the membership of UBCM consists of more than just municipalities, including regional districts, Indigenous governments, and improvement districts, for which the name of UBCM does not adequately represent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that North Central Local Government Association and Union of B.C. Municipalities call on the Union of BC Municipalities Executive, as empowered by the bylaws of the Union of B.C. Municipalities, to initiate the process of formally requesting an amendment to the Union of BC Municipalities Act to change its statutorily established name to be reflective of the diversity of local governments in B.C. by means of an Extraordinary Resolution to be considered at Convention 2025.

CARRIED

ON THE FLOOR RESOLUTIONS

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Late Resolutions O1 – O2 submitted from the Floor at the 2024 NCLGA AGM & Convention be approved for consideration.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

O1. INCREASING INVESTMENT IN TOURISM

Submitted by: District of Houston

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Off the Floor Resolution O1, Increasing Investment in Tourism, be amended by adding the wording, “and UBCM” before “call on the Province”.

CARRIED

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS North-Central BC has reached the low levels of timber harvest that was projected in the mid-term timber supply; and

WHEREAS the need to diversify rural economies and make our communities more attractive and livable places to be is more crucial than ever.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that NCLGA and UBCM call on the Province to dramatically increase the funding and mandates for Northern BC Tourism, BC Parks, and Rec Sites and Trails BC to help our communities start to accelerate economic diversification.

CARRIED

02. DOWNLOADING COSTS BY THE PROVINCE OF BC TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FOR THE RESULTING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS, MENTAL HEALTH & ADDICTIONS SUPPORTS

Submitted by: Two Directors (Barb Bachmeier, Electoral Area B Director, Caribou Regional District & Lara Beckett, Electoral Area C Director, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George)

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS Local Governments are dealing with the results of homelessness without financial supports due to new legislative changes by the Province of BC and funding mechanisms are insufficient to meet the growing demand for services in our communities; and

WHEREAS not enough supports have been put in place by the Province of BC for Mental Wellness, increased appropriate healthcare workers in communities, and Addiction Recovery Services & Supports;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of BC pay for costs incurred by Local Governments to address the lack of homelessness support, mental health and wellness issues, and addictions recovery services and supports; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM mandate their Executives to engage in discussions with the Province of BC to negotiate a fair and equitable reimbursement framework for downloading services related to homelessness and Mental Health and Addictions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Premier of BC, the Minister of Municipal Affairs, and all relevant stakeholders to advocate for immediate action.

CARRIED

POINT OF ORDER: A point of order was raised that a motion was not made to vary the agenda to begin the Resolution Session – Part Two early and that a Parliamentarian should be on hand for future NCLGA conventions.

17. PLENARY SESSION: TOURISM/BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT

NCLGA Second Vice-President, Gladys Atrill, acknowledged Sponsor, Prince Rupert Port Authority, and introduced panel speakers Clint Fraser, CEO, Northern BC Tourism, Laurey-Anne Roodenburg, Director, West Quesnel Business Association, and Derek Botchford and Steve Morrow, Owners of Epic Waters Angling. The panel discussed the history of tourism in Smithers, community to community collaboration and spoke to the value of tourism (7.2 billion) to the provincial economy and local economic impacts. They discussed ways to become more creative and support local businesses and entrepreneurship.

18. MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm recessed the Annual General Meeting - Business Session B at 3:35 pm on May 15, 2024, for the afternoon break and reconvened the meeting at 3:50 pm on May 15, 2024.

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the Assembly vary the agenda by moving Item #20, Plenary Session: Host Community Updates, to replace Item #29, Plenary Session: Minister's Panel, Minister Anne Kang on May 16, 2024.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS

19. PLENARY SESSION: EMERGENCY / DISASTER MANAGEMENT PANEL

Mark Parker, Regional District of Bulkley Nechako Chair, introduced guest speakers Ryan Chapman, Deputy Fire Centre Manager, Northwest Fire Centre, and Deborah Jones-Middleton, Director of Protective Services, Regional District of Bulkley Nechako, to address the delegates regarding proactive planning, collaboration among agencies, community resilience, continuous training, effective communication strategies, and cultural sensitivity in disaster management. He then opened the floor to a Question & Answer period.

MEETING ADJOURNED

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm adjourned the Annual General Meeting - Business Session B at 4:47 pm on May 15, 2024, and reminded the delegates that the evening dinner and musical entertainment would begin at 6 pm.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – BUSINESS SECTION C, held Thursday, May 16, 2024

NCLGA President Sheila Boehm reconvened the Annual General Meeting – Business Session C at 9:00 am on May 16, 2024. She provided a Territorial Acknowledgement, recapped the events of Day 2, and outlined the Agenda for Day 3.

NCLGA President Boehm invited the new NCLGA President, Judy Greenaway, to the podium. On behalf of the 2023/24 NCLGA Board, newly elected President Judy Greenaway thanked Past President Sheila Boehm for her service to the NCLGA. She thanked all the sponsors, NCLGA staff, the host communities, event planner, and the NCLGA organizing committee for an excellent convention and then delivered the new NCLGA President's Address. The 2025 Host Community for the 2025 NCLGA AGM and Convention was announced: City of Prince Rupert, with co-host communities: District of Port Edward, and North Coast Regional District.

24. PLENARY SESSION – ELECTORAL AREA DIRECTOR OVERVIEW

NCLGA President, Sheila Boehm, introduced Jerrilyn Kirk, NCLGA Director at Large and Chair of Resolutions Committee, to address the delegates regarding electoral areas and effective engagement in rural advocacy; she then opened the floor to a Question & Answer period.

25. PLENARY SESSION – NCLGA STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

NCLGA Executive Director Terry Robert and NCLGA Director Tony Zabinsky moderated an interactive session to identify what the NCLGA can do collectively to support officials, explore accomplishments and priorities, break down silos, and improve open dialogue and communication.

MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED

NCLGA President Boehm recessed the Annual General Meeting - Business Session C at 9:45 am on May 16, 2024, and Michael Moses, Director at Large, invited the delegates to show support for the Moosehide Campaign Day event by taking a short walk outside altogether. President Boehm reconvened the meeting at 10:16 am on May 16, 2024.

26. PLENARY SESSION – COMMUNITY SAFETY

Frank Wray, Councillor, Town of Smithers, introduced guest speakers, Lorne Benson, Smithers Citizens on Patrol, Trudy Klassen, Councillor, City of Prince George, and Dillon Rochon, Owner, Digital Shield Group, who presented on critical issues surrounding community safety from innovative approaches to social development to culturally sensitive initiative.

27. PLENARY SESSION: OFFICIAL OPPOSITION ADDRESS, MLA MIKE BERNIER, MLA FOR PEACE RIVER SOUTH AND OFFICIAL OPPOSITION SHADOW MINISTER FOR FORESTS

NCLGA First Vice-President, Judy Greenaway, introduced MLA Mike Bernier (Peace River South) and welcomed him to provide comments as the Official Opposition in the BC Legislature.

28. PLENARY SESSION: LOCAL MLA ADDRESS, MINISTER OF LAND, WATER, AND RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP, THE HON. NATHAN CULLEN (MLA STIKINE-BULKLEY VALLEY)

NCLGA 2nd Vice-President, Gladys Atrill, introduced guest speaker, Nathan Cullen, MLA Stikine, who virtually addressed the delegates regarding current provincial initiatives and how they specifically impact the local area. He passed on regrets from Minister Kang who was unable to attend.

29. PLENARY SESSION: HOST COMMUNITY UPDATES

Leonard Hiebert, NCLGA Appointed Regional Representative, acknowledged Sponsor, MIABC, and introduced guest panel speakers Gladys Atrill, Mayor, Town of Smithers, Shane Brienien, Mayor, District of Houston, and Mark Parker, Chair, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako, who provided updates on the co-host communities projects, challenges, and recent initiatives.

30. CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE 68TH ANNUAL NCLGA AGM

NCLGA President Boehm provided closing comments, thanked all sponsors, NCLGA staff, the host communities and host communities staff, the Event Planner and the NCLGA Organizing Committee members following which the draw/prize winners were announced.

MOVED/SECONDED THAT the 69th Annual North Central Local Government Association Annual General Meeting held from May 13-16, 2024, be ADJOURNED at 12:31 pm on May 16, 2024.

CARRIED BY CONSENSUS



Bylaw and Constitution Review

CURRENT STATUS

As of the preparation of this report, no proposed bylaw changes have been put forward for consideration at the 2025 AGM. The existing bylaws remain in effect without modification. However, the Governance Committee and Board of Directors have initiated an engagement process with NCLGA members and key stakeholders to assess potential amendments that could be brought forward at a future AGM.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

While no amendments are proposed for the 2025 AGM, the Board is actively engaged in discussions on two key governance priorities that may result in bylaw changes for a future AGM:

1. Expansion of Executive (President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President) Term Lengths

The Board is exploring the concept of extending the term of Executive positions from the current one-year term to a two-year term. This change aims to provide greater continuity in leadership, allowing the President and other Executive members more time to implement strategic initiatives and oversee long-term organizational goals.

- A consultation process (see below) with NCLGA members is underway to gather feedback and assess levels of support before bringing forward any formal amendment.
- If there is broad member support, a bylaw amendment will be drafted for consideration at the 2026 AGM.

Consultation Process

1. Member Consultation: Engage members through email and information sessions (Zoom Meetings) to gather feedback, address concerns, and refine the proposal.
2. Legal Review: Ensure Legal Review of proposed changes has been completed.
3. Final Board Review: Present the final draft to the NCLGA Board for approval.
4. Pre-AGM Distribution: Share the final draft of the bylaw change with members well in advance of the AGM, providing detailed explanations and resources to aid understanding.

2. Enhancing First Nations Membership and Governance Representation

The Board is committed to ensuring that First Nations have an active role within NCLGA's governance structure. A careful, deliberate approach is essential to ensure meaningful engagement with First Nations and members, and an engagement process is being developed with the Indigenous Relations Committee to explore ways to enhance First Nations representation, which may include bylaw amendments. Discussions with First Nations governments and regional members will take place to assess perspectives on governance representation, and cultural competency training for the Board and staff is planned to foster a respectful and inclusive environment.

CONCLUSION

While no bylaw amendments are scheduled for the 2025 AGM, NCLGA remains committed to continuous improvement in governance. The expansion of Executive terms and enhancement of First Nations representation are two priority areas where consultation is currently underway. These discussions reflect NCLGA's commitment to inclusive governance and long-term organizational stability.

MEMBER FEEDBACK

Your input is essential as we explore these governance changes. We encourage all members to provide feedback on these potential amendments or any other governance matters you believe should be considered.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact Sandra Moore at admin@nclga.ca. We appreciate your engagement and look forward to hearing your perspectives.

Membership List 2024/2025

Cariboo Regional District
City of Dawson Creek
City of Fort St. John
City of Prince George
City of Prince Rupert
City of Terrace
City of Quesnel
City of Williams Lake
District of 100 Mile House
District of Chetwynd
District of Fort St. James
District of Houston

District of Hudson's Hope
District of Kitimat
District of Mackenzie
District of New Hazelton
District of Port Edward
District of Stewart
District of Taylor
District of Tumbler Ridge
District of Vanderhoof
District of Wells
Nisga'a Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks
Nisga'a Village of Gitwinksihlkw

Nisga'a Village of Laxgalts'ap
Northern Rockies
Regional Municipality
North Coast Regional District
Peace River Regional District
Prophet River First Nation
Regional District of Bulkley Nechako
Regional District of Fraser-Fort George
Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine
Town of Smithers

Village of Burns Lake
Village of Fraser Lake
Village of Granisle
Village of Hazelton
Village of Masset
Village of McBride
Village of Port Clements
Village of Pouce Coupe
Village of Telkwa
Village of Valemount

NCLGA Budget Report 2024–2025

INTRODUCTION

Fiscal Year: April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025.

The North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) is pleased to present the 2024-2025 Budget to our members. Total revenue was \$468,339 with expenses amounting to \$561,144. (please refer to the NCLGA 2024-25 Budget Versus Actuals Table). A transfer of \$121,653 from the funds held in trust by the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) was approved by the NCLGA board at the March 1, 2025, Board meeting to support projected NCLGA operational expenses in 2024-2025.

REVENUE OVERVIEW

The total membership fees contributed \$166,339, accounting for 36% of the organization's total revenue, highlighting the significant role of member contributions in financial sustainability. Event revenues were largely derived from sponsorships and registration fees, reflecting strong financial support from both corporate partners and participants. Event revenues included a total of \$118,480 for the 2024 NCLGA AGM and Convention, and a total of \$69,582 for the 2024 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium. In addition to the annual convention, other key events contributed to overall revenue, including the 2024 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Luncheon in Victoria, which brought in \$9000 from sponsorships. The reliance on sponsorship revenues underscores the importance of maintaining strong relationships with corporate and government partners.

EXPENSE OVERVIEW

The NCLGA's total expenses for the fiscal year amounted to \$561,144, distributed across core operations, event management, and member engagement initiatives.

The 2024 AGM & Convention in Smithers incurred expenses covering catering and venue services, audio-visual and technical support, staging supplies and registration fees, with increased expenses related to food and venue costs. The fall 2024 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium in Prince George was within budget for expenses. Additionally, expenses included work on advocacy and outreach, including travel, research, and stakeholder engagement to advance key initiatives.

RATIONAL FOR DEFICIT

While AGM Sponsorship targets were increased from 2023, the increased revenue targets were not met for the 2024 AGM, and the event was over budget due to increased tour, food and audio/visual costs. The 2024 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium as a new event with anticipated variables, reached expense targets and revenue targets from registration fees, while revenue targets from sponsorships were not met. NCLGA was not successful in getting a positive response from the Provincial government related to fund development activities.

TRANSFER OF FUNDS HELD IN TRUST BY NDIT

The NCLGA Board approved the transfer of \$121,653 from the funds held in trust by the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT) at the March 1, 2025, Board meeting to support NCLGA operational expenses in 2024-2025.

Table: NCLGA Funds Held in Trust by NDIT

Category	Amount (\$)
Starting Balance - March 31, 2024	\$ 427,344
Investment Income and Market Change	\$ 32,007
Fees	\$ - 1,221
Disbursements	\$ - 121,653
Ending Balance – March 31, 2025	\$ 336,477

KEY OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

To maintain activities that align with NCLGA's organizational priorities, it is important to strengthen a balanced approach to revenue generation and expenses. In order to keep actual expenses in line with projected expenses, NCLGA continues to monitor expenses and update expense tracking systems with the event planner for the 2025 AGM & Convention and the 2025 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium. The importance of maintaining strong relationships with corporate and government partners is underscored by the reliance on sponsorship revenues. Monitoring of Accounts Receivables is ongoing to ensure timely collection of membership fees, registration fees, and sponsorship revenues, alongside the monitoring of projected budget vs actuals.

CONCLUSION

The 2024/25 NCLGA Budget Summary reflects activities and events that align with NCLGA's organizational priorities, with impact in key areas of advocacy activities, core initiatives and events, including the Annual AGM and Convention and the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium. The support and input of NCLGA membership and stakeholders is invaluable as we work towards strengthening our financial foundation and enhancing the value we provide to local governments across the region.

Table: NCLGA 2024-2025 Budget Versus Actuals

Category	Budget	Actual (Total)	Variance (%)	Amount	Notes
REVENUE					
4100 Annual Membership	\$ 166,464	\$ 166,339	100%	\$ (125)	One invoice was written off
Deferred Revenue		\$ 8,284		\$ 8,284	Deferred revenue received
Event 1 2024 AGM & Convention	\$ 247,145	\$ 118,480	48%	\$ (128,665)	Newly increased sponsorship target not achieved, Re-allocation of funds
Event 2 2025 AGM & Convention	\$ 55,645	\$ 94,655	170%	\$ 39,010	Revenue for 2025 arriving after fiscal year end, Re-allocation of funds
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon	\$ 8,000	\$ 9,000	113%	\$ 1,000	
Event 4 Symposium	\$ 130,500	\$ 69,582	53%	\$ (60,918)	Sponsorship targets not achieved
Member Webinars	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	100%	\$ -	
Fund Development	\$ 22,545	\$ -	0%	\$ (22,545)	Funding requests not approved by Provincial government
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 632,299	\$ 468,339	74%	\$ (163,960)	
EXPENSES					
Professional Services - Operational (FBC Support)	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	100%	\$ -	
Professional Services - Accounting	\$ 7,839	\$ 4,051	52%	\$ (3,788)	
Liability Insurance	\$ 4,886	\$ 4,795	98%	\$ (91)	
Administrative Expenses		\$ 1,519		\$ 1,519	
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 275	\$ 763	277%	\$ 488	Over budget due to maintaining Scotiabank account
Telephone	\$ 1,832	\$ 573	31%	\$ (1,259)	
Office Expense	\$ 3,570	\$ 74	2%	\$ (3,496)	
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,069	\$ 3,385	317%	\$ 2,316	Bad debts
Communications	\$ 5,622	\$ 3,025	54%	\$ (2,597)	
Board and Committee Meetings	\$ 41,000	\$ 57,553	140%	\$ 16,553	
Advocacy and Outreach	\$ 22,000	\$ 6,600	30%	\$ (15,400)	
Event 1 2024 AGM & Convention	\$ 216,000	\$ 187,484	87%	\$ (28,516)	Under budget due to expense re-allocation
Event 2 2025 AGM & Convention	\$ 58,145	\$ 89,499	154%	\$ 31,354	
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon	\$ 7,500	\$ 4,663	62%	\$ (2,837)	
Event 4 Symposium	\$ 112,561	\$ 47,160	42%	\$ (65,401)	Under budget due to expense re-allocation
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 632,299	\$ 561,144	89%	\$ (71,155)	
Event 4 Symposium	\$ 130,500	\$ 69,582	53%	\$ (60,918)	Sponsorship targets not achieved
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 632,299	\$ 561,144	89%	\$ (71,155)	
NET	\$ (0)	\$ (92,805)	-15%	\$ (92,805)	

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR APPROVAL: BUDGET REPORT 2024-2025

Be it resolved that, the North Central Local Government Association Budget Report, for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, be RECEIVED.



Financial Information of

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

And Compilation Engagement Report thereon

Year ended March 31, 2025



KPMG LLP

177 Victoria Street, Suite 400
Prince George, BC V2L 5R8
Canada
Telephone (250) 563 7151
Fax (250) 563 5693

COMPILATION ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Directors of North Central Local Government Association

On the basis of information provided by management, we have compiled the balance sheet of North Central Local Government Association as at March 31, 2025, the statement of earnings and change in net financial assets for the year then ended, and note, which describes the basis of accounting applied in the preparation of the compiled financial information and, if applicable, other explanatory information ("financial information").

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial information, including the accuracy and completeness of the underlying information used to compile it and the selection of the basis of accounting.

We performed this engagement in accordance with Canadian Standard on Related Services (CSRS) 4200, *Compilation Engagements*, which requires us to comply with relevant ethical requirements. Our responsibility is to assist management in the preparation of the financial information.

We did not perform an audit engagement or a review engagement, nor were we required to perform procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion, or provide any form of assurance on the financial information.

We have provided certain bookkeeping services to the North Central Local Government Association in the conduct of the compilation engagement.

Readers are cautioned that the financial information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'KPMG LLP' in a cursive, stylized font. A horizontal line is drawn underneath the signature.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Prince George, Canada

April 17, 2025

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet

March 31, 2025, with comparative information for 2024

	2025	2024
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 130,638	\$ 45,198
Accounts receivable	87,755	96,039
Investments and marketable securities	463,593	432,807
	<u>\$ 681,986</u>	<u>\$ 574,044</u>
Liabilities		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 217,525	\$ 40,799
Deferred revenue	87,755	96,039
	<u>305,280</u>	<u>136,838</u>
Net assets	376,706	437,206
	<u>\$ 681,986</u>	<u>\$ 574,044</u>

See accompanying note to financial information.

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Statement of Earnings and Change in Net Financial Assets

Year ended March 31, 2025, with comparative information for 2024

	2025	2024
Revenue:		
Membership fees	\$ 166,339	\$ 164,763
Annual general meeting	221,419	146,591
Events	80,581	7,500
	468,339	318,854
Expenditures:		
Symposium expenses	47,160	-
Annual general meeting	276,984	122,330
Bad debts	3,385	-
Bank charges	2,281	1,503
Communications	3,025	12,748
Executive meetings and travel	64,153	24,970
Insurance	4,795	5,045
Legal and accounting	4,051	3,906
Office supplies and miscellaneous	74	130
Solid waste forum	-	276
Subcontracting	150,000	116,050
Telephone	573	523
UBCM luncheon	4,663	9,048
	561,144	296,529
Excess of revenue (under) over expenditures before other income	(92,805)	22,325
Other income:		
Gain on sale of marketable securities	83,015	5,891
Investment	14,008	13,829
Unrealized (loss) gain in value of marketable securities	(64,718)	22,119
	32,305	41,839
Excess of revenue (under) over expenditures	(60,500)	64,164
Net assets, beginning of year	437,206	373,042
Net assets, end of year	\$ 376,706	\$ 437,206

See accompanying note to financial information.

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Note to Financial Information

Year ended March 31, 2025

Basis of accounting:

The financial information has been prepared on the cash-basis of accounting with adjustments for the following:

- Accounts receivable less an allowance for doubtful accounts.
- Investments and marketable securities recorded at fair market value.
- Accounts payable and accrued liabilities.
- Revenue received in advance of being earned is recorded as deferred revenue.



Budget 2025/2026

INTRODUCTION

Fiscal Year: April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026.

The North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) is pleased to present the 2025-2026 Budget (refer to NCLGA Budget 2025-2026 Table) to our members. This financial plan reflects our commitment to fiscal responsibility while continuing to support our core initiatives, events, and advocacy efforts. The budget is balanced, with total projected revenue and expenses amounting to \$476,093.

REVENUE OVERVIEW (\$476,093)

The total membership fees contribute \$171,458, accounting for 36% of the organization's total revenue, highlighting the significant role of member contributions in financial sustainability. Beyond membership fees, event revenues serve as a crucial funding source, largely derived from sponsorships and registration fees.

The 2025 AGM & Convention in Prince Rupert is projected to be a major revenue-generating event, with \$70,000 secured in sponsorships, supplemented by an additional \$35,000 received in the previous fiscal year. Anticipated registration revenues include \$112,500 from attendees, reinforcing the financial impact of member engagement in these events. Looking ahead to the 2026 AGM & Convention, \$35,000 in sponsorships is projected to be committed, although registration revenue is not expected within the fiscal year as these revenues materialize after the event date.

In addition to the annual convention, other key events contribute to overall revenue. The 2025 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Luncheon in Victoria is expected to bring in \$10,000 from sponsorships, with no associated registration revenue, indicating a focus on sponsored partnerships rather than direct attendee fees (all fees charged go to UBCM). Similarly, the fall 2025 Symposium in Prince George is forecasted to generate \$56,250 from sponsorships, alongside \$16,250 in registration fees, reflecting strong financial support from both corporate partners and participants.

Overall, a strategic balance between membership fees, event sponsorships, and registration revenue ensures a robust financial outlook. The reliance on sponsorships underscores the importance of maintaining strong relationships with corporate and government partners, while the anticipated registration revenues reflect continued member engagement in key events.

NOTICE: PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP FEE ADJUSTMENT

To maintain the financial health of NCLGA and deliver valuable programs and services, a 3% increase in membership fees is proposed for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. This adjustment reflects rising operational costs and aligns with the most recent annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for BC. Ensuring a steady and measured fee adjustment will help sustain NCLGA's core activities without creating financial strain on members.

The decision to propose a 3% increase is based on several key factors:

- **Keeping Pace with Inflation:** The costs of providing advocacy, events, and member services continue to rise. Aligning fee adjustments with CPI ensures that NCLGA can manage these increases without reducing service quality.
- **Ensuring Financial Resilience:** A modest and steady increase helps maintain a stable financial foundation, preventing the need for larger, unpredictable fee hikes in the future.
- **Supporting Organizational Growth:** NCLGA continues to expand its advocacy work, networking opportunities, and educational offerings. Adjusting membership fees allows for ongoing investment in these essential initiatives.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR APPROVAL: MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE 2025-2026

Be it resolved that the North Central Local Government Association membership fee 3% increase for the 2025-2026 fiscal year be APPROVED.

EXPENSE OVERVIEW (\$476,093)

The organization's total projected expenses for the fiscal year amount to \$476,093, distributed across core operations, event management, and member engagement initiatives. A major component of expenditures is event and program costs, ensuring high-quality experiences for members. The 2025 AGM & Convention in Prince Rupert is expected to incur \$172,030 in expenses, covering catering services (\$84,975), venue rental (\$10,300), audio-visual and technical support (\$27,500), staging supplies (\$17,500), marketing and promotional materials (\$8,000), and transportation (\$7,500).

Additionally, preliminary planning and deposits for the 2026 AGM & Convention will require \$10,964 in early-stage expenditures to secure the venue. The 2025 UBCM Luncheon in Victoria is projected to cost \$7,725, covering catering and event logistics. Similarly, the fall 2025 Symposium in Prince George will require \$27,809, with venue and catering making up \$15,000, followed by audio-visual (\$5,200), registration processing fees (\$3,109), and staging (\$2,000). Additionally, \$8,500 is earmarked for advocacy and outreach, including travel, research, and stakeholder engagement to advance key initiatives.

Overall, the organization's expense plan reflects a strategic approach to balancing operational efficiency, event execution, and member engagement. By investing in governance, events, and advocacy, the organization aims to ensure financial sustainability while delivering value to members and stakeholders. Forward-looking investments in future events, such as the 2026 AGM & Convention, demonstrate a commitment to long-term planning and fiscal responsibility.

KEY OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The organization's financial sustainability remains heavily reliant on membership fees and event revenues, which together account for 70% of total revenue. At present, there is no secured funding from external sources, such as government grants, private sector contributions, or foundation support, creating a financial vulnerability tied to fluctuations in membership and event participation.

To strengthen financial resilience, it is recommended that the organization expand sponsorship efforts and actively pursue external funding opportunities. A critical avenue for this approach is advocating for direct provincial support for Area Associations through regional program development, as outlined in the Executive resolution titled, "Provincial Support for Area Associations through Regional Program Development". This resolution calls upon the Province of BC, in collaboration with UBCM to establish funding mechanisms that enable Area Associations, including the NCLGA, to develop and deliver regionally relevant programs. By securing such support, NCLGA could diversify its revenue streams, enhance local government capacity, and provide more value to its members without increasing financial pressure on existing revenue sources.

In addition to revenue diversification, high event costs—particularly catering—remain a significant budget challenge. Catering expenses for the AGM & Convention and the Symposium alone amount to \$94,975, making it the largest single budget item. To optimize resource allocation, it is recommended that the organization explore cost-saving measures, seek alternative catering options, and increase sponsorship efforts to offset these expenses. If the proposed provincial funding mechanism for Area Associations is realized, it could further alleviate financial pressures by enabling the development of regionally tailored programs without relying solely on event revenues.

Furthermore, membership fees serve as a primary revenue source, yet they are not currently indexed to inflation. Over time, this results in a gradual erosion of the organization's purchasing power, impacting its ability to maintain service levels and operational effectiveness. To address this, it is recommended that NCLGA index membership fees to the CPI to ensure sustainable revenue growth that keeps pace with inflationary pressures (refer to Notice: Potential Membership Fee Indexing to British Columbia Consumer Price Index, April 2026). This approach will provide financial stability by allowing the organization to plan for incremental cost increases without imposing abrupt fee hikes on members. Implementing this adjustment will enhance fiscal predictability, safeguard essential programs, and support long-term organizational sustainability.

By aligning financial strategies with both expanded sponsorship opportunities, provincial advocacy efforts, and an indexed membership fee structure, NCLGA can ensure greater long-term financial stability while continuing to deliver high-value services to its members.

CONCLUSION

The 2025-2026 NCLGA Budget reflects a carefully structured financial plan that aligns with our organizational priorities while maintaining a balanced approach to revenue generation and expenses. As we continue to advocate for our members and deliver key events, we remain committed to financial sustainability.

We appreciate the ongoing support of our members and stakeholders. Your input is invaluable as we work towards strengthening our financial foundation and enhancing the value we provide to local governments across the region.

Category	Budget
REVENUE	
Annual Membership Fees	\$ 171,458
Event 1 AGM & Convention (MAY 2025)	
Deferred from previous fiscal	\$
Sponsorship	\$ 70,000
Registration (in person)	\$ 112,500
Registration (online)	\$ 2,575
Event 2 AGM & Convention (May 2026)	
Sponsorship	\$ 35,000
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon (SEPT 2025)	
Sponsorship	\$ 10,000
Registration (in person)	\$ -
Event 4 Symposium (OCT 2025)	
Sponsorship	\$ 56,250
Registration (in person)	\$ 16,250
Member Webinars	
Sponsorship	\$ 2,060
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 476,093

EXPENSES	Budget
Professional Services - Operational	
Board and Committee Support	\$ 68,273
Advocacy and Outreach	\$ 29,581
Member Event Planning	\$ 39,370
Administration	\$ 17,275
Professional Services - Accounting	
Annual Financial Review	\$ 5,500
Professional Services - Event Planner	

EXPENSES	Budget
AGM and Symposium Support	\$ 45,000
Administration	
Liability Insurance	\$ 5,033
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 283
Telephone	\$ 500
Office Expense	\$ 500
Communications	
Webinars	\$ 500
Website	\$ 500
Outreach	\$ 2,000
Board and Committee meetings	
Venue	\$ 5,000
Catering	\$ 4,000
Travel and Accommodations	\$ 25,750
Advocacy and Outreach	
Venue	\$ 1,000
Travel and Accommodations	\$ 7,500
Event 1 AGM & Convention (May 2025)	
Venue	\$ 10,300
Catering	\$ 84,975
Staging	\$ 17,500
Audio/visual	\$ 27,500
Registration Processing	\$ 8,755
Transportation	\$ 7,500
Communications	\$ 8,000
Speaker fees	\$ 7,500
Event 2 AGM & Convention (MAY 2026)	
Venue	\$ 10,964
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon (SEPT 2025)	
Catering	\$ 7,725
Event 4 Symposium (OCT 2025)	
Venue	\$ 5,000
Catering	\$ 10,000
Staging	\$ 2,000
Audio/visual	\$ 5,200
Registration Processing	\$ 3,109
Speaker and entertainment fees	\$ 2,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 476,093
NET	\$ -

**RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR APPROVAL:
NCLGA MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE 2025-2026**
Be it resolved that the 2025-2026 Membership Fee 3.00% increase be APPROVED.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR APPROVAL:
NCLGA BUDGET 2025-2026**
Be it resolved that the North Central Local Government Association Budget for the 2025-2026 fiscal year be APPROVED.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR APPROVAL:
NCLGA BUDGET REPORT 2025-2026**
Be it resolved that the North Central Local Government Association Budget Report for the 2025-2026 fiscal year be RECEIVED.



Multiyear Budget Report

INTRODUCTION

Fiscal Years: April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2031.

The North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) continues to advance its mission through strategic financial management, ensuring the sustainability of its operations and services. This multi-year budget report outlines projected revenues, expenses, key financial trends, and recommendations to strengthen fiscal resilience. The report covers fiscal years 2025-26 to 2030-31, reflecting estimated annual increases and operational priorities.

REVENUE OVERVIEW

NCLGA's primary revenue streams include membership fees, sponsorships, event registrations, and limited external funding. The total projected revenue for 2025-26 is \$476,093, with a steady increase to \$534,457 by 2030-31, driven by:

- **Annual Membership Fees:** Indexed to the Consumer Price Index (CPI), ensuring stable, incremental growth from \$171,458 in 2025-26 to \$192,477 in 2030-31.
- **Event Revenue:** AGM, Symposium, and other events contribute significantly through sponsorships and registrations. For example, AGM sponsorship revenue is projected at \$70,000 in 2025-26, growing to \$78,581 in 2030-31.
- **Sponsorship and Grants:** While sponsorship growth is anticipated, reliance on event-driven revenue highlights the need for diversified funding sources.
- **Limited External Funding:** The financial plan currently does not project secured funding from provincial/federal sources, private sector contributions, or foundations, aside from a \$17,500 anticipated foundation grant in 2026-27 to support strategic planning.

EXPENSE OVERVIEW

Total projected expenses mirror revenue trends, with costs increasing from \$476,093 in 2025-26 to \$534,457 in 2030-31, including:

- **Personnel and Administration:** Board support, advocacy, and event planning remain key expenditures, increasing in line with CPI.
- **Event Costs:** AGM, Symposium, and other event costs (e.g., venue, catering, audiovisual, transportation) continue to represent a significant portion of expenses. For instance, AGM catering costs are projected at \$84,975 in 2025-26, increasing to \$95,392 in 2030-31.
- **Professional Services:** Strategic planning, accounting, and financial reviews contribute to operational efficiency but require ongoing funding support.
- **Advocacy and Outreach:** Travel, accommodations, and communication efforts are necessary to maintain engagement with stakeholders and partners.

KEY OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Revenue Stability Through CPI Indexing: The decision to index membership fees to CPI would help ensure a predictable revenue stream while avoiding sudden fee hikes (refer to Notice: Potential Membership Fee Indexing to British Columbia Consumer Price Index, April 2026).

- **Diversification of Revenue Streams:** Securing external funding (e.g., government grants, private sector partnerships) remains critical to reducing reliance on membership and event-driven income.
- **Cost Optimization for Events:** With AGM and Symposium expenses being the largest budget items, exploring cost-saving measures such as alternative catering and sponsorship-driven funding is recommended.
- **Strategic Funding Advocacy:** Advocacy for direct provincial support for Area Associations should continue, as outlined in the Executive resolution titled, "Provincial Support for Area Associations through Regional Program Development".
- **Long-Term Financial Planning:** Establishing multi-year funding agreements could provide greater financial predictability and security.

CONCLUSION

The NCLGA multi-year budget reflects a balanced approach to financial planning, ensuring operational sustainability while identifying areas for strategic improvement. Continued efforts to secure external funding, optimize expenses, and maintain revenue growth through CPI indexing will be essential to long-term financial health. Proactive budget management and advocacy will position NCLGA for ongoing success in serving its members and advancing regional priorities.

Fiscal year	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
REVENUE						
Annual Increase (*Estimated CPI)	3.00%	2.70%*	2.50%*	2.30%*	2.20%*	2.00%*
Annual Membership Fees	\$ 171,458	\$ 176,087	\$ 180,489	\$ 184,641	\$ 188,703	\$ 192,477
Event 1 AGM & Convention Current						
Sponsorship	\$ 70,000	\$ 71,890	\$ 73,687	\$ 75,382	\$ 77,040	\$ 78,581
Registration (in person)	\$ 112,500	\$ 115,538	\$ 118,426	\$ 121,150	\$ 123,815	\$ 126,291
Registration (online)	\$ 2,575	\$ 2,645	\$ 2,711	\$ 2,773	\$ 2,834	\$ 2,891
Event 2 AGM & Convention Upcoming						
Sponsorship	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,945	\$ 36,844	\$ 37,691	\$ 38,520	\$ 39,291
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon						
Sponsorship	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,270	\$ 10,527	\$ 10,769	\$ 11,006	\$ 11,226
Event 4 Symposium						
Sponsorship	\$ 56,250	\$ 57,769	\$ 59,213	\$ 60,575	\$ 61,908	\$ 63,146
Registration (in person)	\$ 16,250	\$ 16,689	\$ 17,106	\$ 17,499	\$ 17,884	\$ 18,242
Member Webinars						
Sponsorship	\$ 2,060	\$ 2,116	\$ 2,169	\$ 2,218	\$ 2,267	\$ 2,313
Fund Development						
Foundation	\$ -	\$ 17,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 476,093	\$ 506,447	\$ 501,171	\$ 512,698	\$ 523,977	\$ 534,457

EXPENSES

Annual Increase (*Estimated CPI)	3.00%	2.70%	2.50%	2.30%	2.20%	2.00%
Professional Services - Operational						
Board and Committee Support	\$ 68,273	\$ 70,116	\$ 71,869	\$ 73,522	\$ 75,140	\$ 76,643
Advocacy and Outreach	\$ 29,581	\$ 30,380	\$ 31,139	\$ 31,855	\$ 32,556	\$ 33,207
Member Event Planning	\$ 39,370	\$ 40,433	\$ 41,444	\$ 42,397	\$ 43,330	\$ 44,196
Administration	\$ 17,275	\$ 17,741	\$ 18,185	\$ 18,603	\$ 19,012	\$ 19,393
Professional Services - Strategic						
Strategic Planning	\$ -	\$ 17,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Professional Services - Accounting						
Annual Financial Review	\$ 5,500	\$ 5,649	\$ 5,790	\$ 5,923	\$ 6,053	\$ 6,174
Professional Services - Event Planner						
AGM and Symposium Support	\$ 45,000	\$ 46,215	\$ 47,370	\$ 48,460	\$ 49,526	\$ 50,517
Administration						
Liability Insurance	\$ 5,033	\$ 5,169	\$ 5,298	\$ 5,420	\$ 5,539	\$ 5,650
Interest & Bank Charges	\$ 283	\$ 291	\$ 298	\$ 305	\$ 311	\$ 318
Telephone	\$ 500	\$ 514	\$ 526	\$ 538	\$ 550	\$ 561
Office Expense	\$ 500	\$ 514	\$ 526	\$ 538	\$ 550	\$ 561

Fiscal year	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31
Communications						
Webinars	\$ 500	\$ 514	\$ 526	\$ 538	\$ 550	\$ 561
Website	\$ 500	\$ 514	\$ 526	\$ 538	\$ 550	\$ 561
Outreach	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,054	\$ 2,105	\$ 2,154	\$ 2,201	\$ 2,245
Board and Committee Meetings						
Venue	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,135	\$ 5,263	\$ 5,384	\$ 5,503	\$ 5,613
Catering	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,108	\$ 4,211	\$ 4,308	\$ 4,402	\$ 4,490
Travel and Accommodations	\$ 25,750	\$ 26,445	\$ 27,106	\$ 27,730	\$ 28,340	\$ 28,907
Advocacy and Outreach						
Venue	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,027	\$ 1,053	\$ 1,077	\$ 1,101	\$ 1,123
Travel and Accommodations	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,703	\$ 7,895	\$ 8,077	\$ 8,254	\$ 8,419
Event 1 AGM & Convention Current						
Venue	\$ 10,300	\$ 10,578	\$ 10,843	\$ 11,092	\$ 11,336	\$ 11,563
Catering	\$ 84,975	\$ 87,269	\$ 89,451	\$ 91,508	\$ 93,522	\$ 95,392
Staging	\$ 17,500	\$ 17,973	\$ 18,422	\$ 18,846	\$ 19,260	\$ 19,645
Audio/visual	\$ 27,500	\$ 28,243	\$ 28,949	\$ 29,614	\$ 30,266	\$ 30,871
Registration Processing	\$ 8,755	\$ 8,991	\$ 9,216	\$ 9,428	\$ 9,636	\$ 9,828
Transportation	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,703	\$ 7,895	\$ 8,077	\$ 8,254	\$ 8,419
Communications	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,216	\$ 8,421	\$ 8,615	\$ 8,805	\$ 8,981
Speaker fees	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,703	\$ 7,895	\$ 8,077	\$ 8,254	\$ 8,419
Engagement Scholarships	\$ 1,545	\$ 1,591	\$ 1,639	\$ 1,688	\$ 1,739	\$ 1,739
Event 2 AGM & Convention Upcoming						
Venue (Deposit)	\$ 10,964	\$ 11,260	\$ 11,542	\$ 11,807	\$ 12,067	\$ 12,308
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon						
Catering	\$ 7,725	\$ 7,934	\$ 8,132	\$ 8,319	\$ 8,502	\$ 8,672
Event 4 Symposium						
Venue	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,135	\$ 5,263	\$ 5,384	\$ 5,503	\$ 5,613
Catering	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,270	\$ 10,527	\$ 10,769	\$ 11,006	\$ 11,226
Staging	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,054	\$ 2,105	\$ 2,154	\$ 2,201	\$ 2,245
Audio/visual	\$ 5,200	\$ 5,340	\$ 5,474	\$ 5,600	\$ 5,723	\$ 5,837
Registration Processing	\$ 3,109	\$ 3,193	\$ 3,272	\$ 3,348	\$ 3,421	\$ 3,490
Speaker Fees	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,568	\$ 2,632	\$ 2,692	\$ 2,751	\$ 2,806
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 476,093	\$ 506,447	\$ 501,171	\$ 512,698	\$ 523,977	\$ 534,457
NET	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR APPROVAL: MULTI-YEAR BUDGET

Be it resolved that the North Central Local Government Association Multi-Year Budget Report be RECEIVED.

Notice: Potential Membership Fee Benchmarking to British Columbia Consumer Price Index (April 2026)

INTRODUCTION

The North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) plays a critical role in supporting local governments by providing advocacy, resources, and networking opportunities. To ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the organization while maintaining affordability for members, this notice recommends indexing annual membership fee increases to the annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for British Columbia (BC), starting in the 2026/27 fiscal year (effective April 1, 2026), with formal adoption to be considered at the May 2026 AGM & Convention.

RATIONALE FOR CPI-BASED FEE ADJUSTMENTS

Ensuring Financial Sustainability

NCLGA's operational costs are subject to inflationary pressures, including increases in services, event costs, and administrative expenses. By indexing membership fee adjustments to the BC CPI, the organization can maintain financial stability while ensuring continued high-quality service delivery to members.

Fair and Transparent Fee Adjustments

An indexing approach provides a predictable, data-driven, and transparent method for adjusting membership fees. The BC CPI, as published by Statistics Canada, reflects the real cost-of-living changes in the province and ensures that fee increases remain fair and justifiable.

Avoiding Sudden, Large Fee Increases

Without a structured fee adjustment mechanism, NCLGA may be forced to introduce larger, periodic increases to catch up with rising costs. A gradual, CPI-indexed adjustment prevents sudden spikes in membership fees, making financial planning more manageable for members.

Consistency with Cost-of-Living Trends

BC's CPI has averaged an annual increase of approximately 2-3% in recent years, with the 2024 annual average CPI rising by 2.7%. This trend reflects the economic realities faced by local governments and organizations alike. Indexing membership fee increases to the CPI ensures that fees remain reasonable and aligned with broader economic conditions.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS

- **Annual Review:** The NCLGA Executive Director will review the annual average CPI for BC, published by Statistics Canada, in January of each year.
- **Automatic Adjustment:** Membership fees will be indexed based on the CPI percentage increase recorded for the previous calendar year.
- **Member Notification:** Members will be notified of the annual adjustment no later than February 15 each year, allowing for budget planning.
- **Member Oversight:** The NCLGA membership will retain the ability to review and approve the adjustment to ensure it aligns with the organization's financial needs and membership capacity.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL AT THE 2026 NCLGA AGM & CONVENTION

Be it resolved that, effective April 1, 2026, the North Central Local Government Association membership fees shall be indexed annually based on the annual average Consumer Price Index for British Columbia, as published by Statistics Canada, with adjustments communicated to members by February 15 of each year.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Indexing membership fee adjustments to the annual average CPI for BC provides a fair, transparent, and sustainable method for ensuring NCLGA's long-term financial health while avoiding unpredictable or burdensome fee increases. This approach aligns membership fees with real-world cost-of-living changes and allows members to plan for adjustments with greater certainty.

REQUEST FOR MEMBER FEEDBACK

As part of NCLGA's commitment to transparency and member engagement, we invite feedback on the proposed indexing of membership fee adjustments to the annual average CPI for BC.

This proposal aims to ensure financial sustainability while maintaining affordability for members by implementing predictable, gradual adjustments instead of infrequent, larger increases. The formal adoption of this approach will be considered at the May 2026 AGM & Convention, and member input is essential in shaping this decision.

We encourage members to review the details of the proposal and share their perspectives, including:

- Support or concerns regarding CPI-based fee adjustments
- Suggestions for refinement to ensure the approach aligns with member needs
- Alternative recommendations for maintaining financial stability

Members can submit feedback by contacting Bettina Johnson, Communications Support, bjohnson@nclga.ca. Your input is invaluable in ensuring that NCLGA remains responsive to the needs of its members. Thank you for your engagement and ongoing support.



Board of Directors Nominations Report

The Nominations Committee is pleased to announce that the individuals listed in this report have been duly nominated for positions on the 2025/2026 NCLGA Board. We thank all of the nominees who have put their name forward.

Nomination Process

Each candidate must be an elected official from a NCLGA member local government or First Nation, and must be nominated by two elected officials from a NCLGA member local government or First Nation. If there is more than one nomination received for any Table Officer position, there will be an election for that position; otherwise positions will be filled by acclamation.

ADVANCE NOMINATIONS

A photo and biography for each duly nominated candidate received by April 10, 2025 is included in this Annual Report on Page 38.

OFF THE FLOOR NOMINATIONS

Off the Floor Nominations will be accepted at the 2025 NCLGA AGM & Convention.

Election Process

Full details of the process will be provided during the 2025 NCLGA AGM. In summary:

- Two ballots will be held (Table Officers and Director at Large)
- All candidates will have an opportunity to deliver a two-minute speech to delegates
- If there is more than one nomination received for any Table Officer position, there will be an election for that position; otherwise, the Table Officer positions will be filled by acclamation.

First Ballot (Table Officers):

- President
- First Vice-President
- Second Vice-President

Second Ballot:

- Three (3) Director at Large

Any unsuccessful candidate from the first ballot may choose to put their name forward for the second ballot.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Regional Representatives are appointed by each of the Regional District members to the NCLGA Board for a one-year term, according to the NCLGA Bylaws. The names of these appointees are listed on Page 39.

For election and vote times, please refer to the Agenda included in the NCLGA AGM & Conference Program.

Nominees for Executive



Gladys Atrill NOMINATED FOR PRESIDENT

MAYOR, TOWN OF SMITHERS

It has been my privilege to serve with the board of the North Central Local Government Association for the past three years. I have learned much about our vast region, the complexity of the issues we face and the common spirit we bring to solving those issues. This year I humbly seek to serve in the role of president.

While each year brings its own unique challenges for all of us in local government, this year has been extraordinary – with issues such as tariffs and trade wars affecting our communities, our businesses and industries and our residents. That means those issues are landing at our local government tables and at the Board table of the North Central Local Government Association. It will be the work of the Board to consider the challenges facing our member local governments and to help carry those concerns to other orders of government. I look forward to working with the Board as we tackle that work.

I bring the experience I have gained as Mayor and Councillor at the Town of Smithers. I was first elected to Council in 2014 and have been Mayor since 2020. Extending from my role as Mayor, I stay well connected to issues through the Boards of the Bulkley Nechako Regional District, NW Regional Hospital District, Northern Development Initiative Trust, and BC Transit. Working locally, regionally and provincially provides broad perspective to the issues facing us all. I am committed to good governance and fostering respectful relationships among Board and Council members and with the people we serve.

I have long been involved in the tourism industry in Smithers and Northern BC, motivated by our stunning landscapes and creative, entrepreneurial people. I have previously served on many volunteer boards and committees related to recreation, community events, health and accessibility. In my off hours, I enjoy time outdoors, in my garden and traveling with my partner.

Thank you for your consideration.



Tony Zabinsky NOMINATED FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

COUNCILLOR, CITY OF FORT ST. JOHN

Tony Zabinsky is serving his second term as Councillor for the City of Fort St. John.

Councillor Zabinsky was born in Toronto, Ontario, and raised in Kamsack, Saskatchewan. In his early years in Saskatchewan, he was an Emergency Medical Technician, commercial pilot, and a partner in a men's clothing store in Regina, Saskatchewan. In 1990, Tony moved to BC to start a career in finance. In 1997, Tony and his family were transferred to Fort St. John with Scotiabank. After 27 years with Scotiabank, he retired as a Commercial Lending Manager in October 2018.

He has been a leader in many organizations, including Kinsmen, Fort St. John Minor Hockey, Chamber of Commerce, North Peace Senior's Housing Society, and Northern Lights College Foundation.

Tony is committed to this community that he calls home. He is an avid Saskatchewan Roughrider fan and a die-hard Toronto Maple Leaf fan. You will find Tony enjoying the local attractions of the Peace Region, including biking, golfing or river boating.

Tony is married to Gwen and has 3 adult children.



Kyle MacDonald NOMINATED FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

COUNCILLOR, CITY OF DAWSON CREEK

My name is Kyle MacDonald, and I am honoured to be running for the position of Second Vice President on the NCLGA Board of Directors. I am a father of three beautiful daughters, a husband of 18 years, and a proud small business owner.

I currently serve as a first-term city councillor for the City of Dawson Creek and as a Director-at-Large for the NCLGA board.

In addition to my work with the NCLGA, I serve as Vice President of the South Peace Crime Prevention Association, a Director for Dawson Creek Citizens on Patrol, and the current President of the Northern BC Crime Stoppers board. I am also actively involved with the Dawson Creek Community Action Table and participate regularly in provincial gatherings of the Community Action Initiatives.

As a strong advocate for the North, I am deeply committed to ensuring our region's collective voice is heard in Victoria. I believe in the importance of uniting our communities and Indigenous Nations to emphasize the vital role we play in the prosperity of British Columbia.

I am excited to bring my dedication, enthusiasm, and experience to the NCLGA Board, building on the great work done by those who have come before me.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve.

Nominee for Director At Large



Jesse Wright

COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT OF MACKENZIE

I am Jesse Wright and I am running to serve a second term on the NCLGA Board, as a Director at Large. I am running again, because I learned so much my first year. Being on the NCLGA Board has given me insights and knowledge that I didn't even know I did not know before running in 2024. With that, I am running because I am just getting the hang of it.

A little background, I am a Councillor with the District of Mackenzie serving my first term in office. I also serve as Alternate Director for the District of Mackenzie's seat on the Regional District of Fraser Fort George's Board among other Boards. Some examples include that I sit on the Canadian Ski Instructor Alliance's (CSIA) BC/Yukon Region Board as the Northern Zone Director, as well as the local Mackenzie Rainbows Swim Club and was part of the founding group establishing the 'Youth Wellness Society of Mackenzie', a non-profit looking to support Youth aged 12-29 in Mackenzie.

I have two Bachelor's degrees, one in Political Studies with a minor in Environment and Resource Studies and an Emphasis in Law and Policy on my transcript, and a Bachelor of Education. I am still a BC certified teacher. I have recently made the decision to go back to school, and am working towards my Masters in Counselling Psychology.

I want to build and support the NCLGA to be an organization that represents and fights for Northern BC, because we deserve that. In today's turbulent times, there is an instinct to retreat and just focus internally. I am a firm believer that is the wrong pathway, and organizations that bring people together like the NCLGA is how we will get through this period of turbulence.



Resolution Report

All NCLGA Executive and Member Resolutions received as of the end of day on March 14, 2025 were included in the Annual Report. Resolutions received after the submission deadline may only be admitted for debate by special motion during the AGM & Convention.

Late Resolutions

- Late resolutions will be accepted until **noon on April 18, 2025**, but the topic must have arisen since the March 14, 2025, deadline.
- 2/3 majority of voting delegates in attendance must vote in favour of considering late resolutions. These resolutions will not be considered until all emergency and regular resolutions have been considered.
- NCLGA will ensure that copies of late resolution(s) are circulated to all delegates.

Emergency Resolutions

- A resolution may be deemed emergency in nature only if the topic has arisen since the March 14, 2025 deadline. Emergency resolutions will be accepted until **noon on April 18, 2025**
- The Board has the ability to ensure it is considered with the regular resolution session.
- NCLGA will ensure that copies of emergency resolution(s) are circulated to all delegates.

Off-the-Floor Resolutions

- A sponsor may put forth resolutions from the floor during the Resolutions Debate; however, they will only be discussed after all regular, late, and emergency resolutions have been debated.
- It is the responsibility of the sponsor to ensure that a copy of the resolution is sent to NCLGA staff prior to debating the resolution.
- 2/3 majority of voting delegates in attendance must vote in favour of considering off-the-floor resolutions.

Resolution Debate Process

- The Resolutions Chair or designated speaker will read the Title and Enactment Clause for each resolution, in the following order: Regular (which includes Executive), Emergency, Late Off the Floor (if approved by 2/3 majority of voting delegates)
- After the Enactment Clause is read, the resolution will be deemed as being put to the Members for debate.
- The Sponsor will have the opportunity to introduce the resolution, and provide clarification as to the intent (maximum of three minutes)
- Only local elected officials of NCLGA member communities that have registered for the convention will have an opportunity to comment on the resolution. When commenting, please:
 - Use the PRO or CON microphones,
 - Clearly state your name, position and community, and
 - Limit your comments to two minutes.
- Any minor amendment may be made at any time.
- Debate will alternate between PRO and CON statements. When the Chair deems that adequate debate has occurred or there are only delegates speaking to the CON position, the question will be called
- Only local elected officials of NCLGA member communities that have registered for the convention are entitled to vote on any resolutions.



2025 NCLGA Resolutions

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

E1. ADVANCING RECOVERY-INFORMED WORKPLACE PRACTICES

WHEREAS addiction and mental illness impact individuals across all sectors of society, and stigma remains a significant barrier to seeking help, sustaining long-term recovery, and maintaining employment, a key determinant of well-being that provides financial stability, purpose, and social connection;

AND WHEREAS local governments, as employers and community leaders, have the ability to implement Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices that foster inclusive and supportive work environments, reduce workplace conditions that contribute to substance misuse, and promote policies that recognize and celebrate recovery;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM encourage members to adopt Recovery-Informed Workplace Practices by integrating education, support programs, and policies that create stigma-free workplaces, while also advocating for provincial funding and resources to assist in the development and expansion of these initiatives to support employment retention as a critical component of recovery.

E2. BLOOD PLASMA DONOR CENTRE FOR NORTHERN BC

WHEREAS plasma is a critical component in life-saving treatments for individuals with immune deficiencies, cancer, kidney disease, and other serious medical conditions;

AND WHEREAS Canada collects less than 20% of the plasma required to meet domestic patient needs, relying heavily on international supply chains despite growing demand for plasma-based treatments;

AND WHEREAS Canadian Blood Services closed its whole blood donation centre in Prince George in 2015, leaving Northern BC residents with no local option to donate plasma, while new plasma donor centres have been established in other remote regions such as Thunder Bay, Ontario;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government, through the Ministry of Health, and Canadian Blood Services to establish a Blood Plasma Donor Centre in Northern BC, to improve access for donors, and strengthen Canada's domestic plasma supply.

HOUSING

E3. SHORT-TERM RENTAL ACCOMMODATIONS ACT EXEMPTION FLEXIBILITY FOR SMALL COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS the *Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act*, introduced by the Province of British Columbia in October 2023, mandates local governments to regulate short-term rentals to increase the supply of long-term housing but applies a rigid exemption threshold based solely on rental vacancy rates;

AND WHEREAS smaller communities, such as Dawson Creek and Fort St. John, experience temporary fluctuations in vacancy rates due to major projects and economic cycles, which do not reflect a long-term housing shortage, yet remain ineligible for exemptions under the current criteria;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government, specifically the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, to amend the *Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act* to allow greater exemption flexibility for small and resource-based communities by:

- Expanding exemption criteria beyond rental vacancy rates to include economic conditions, municipal housing needs assessments, and local government input; and
- Allowing municipalities under 25,000 population to apply for exemptions based on demonstrated local housing market conditions rather than rigid vacancy thresholds.

ENVIRONMENT

E4. REGULATION OF MUSHROOM HARVESTING INDUSTRY

WHEREAS wild mushroom harvesting supports local economies, food security, tourism, and cultural traditions, particularly for Indigenous communities and small-scale harvesters;

AND WHEREAS the lack of regulatory oversight has led to unsustainable harvesting, environmental degradation, loss of biodiversity, and conflicts over access to resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government, through the Ministry of Forests, to develop and implement a regulatory framework for wild mushroom harvesting that establishes science-based harvesting limits, seasonal restrictions, and designated zones; ensures compliance through monitoring and enforcement; protects Indigenous harvesting rights and traditional practices; and supports small-scale harvesters through training, licensing, and market access.

REGIONAL DISTRICTS

E5. MODERNIZATION OF REGIONAL DISTRICT LEGISLATION – WITHDRAWN

WHEREAS regional districts have not undergone a comprehensive legislative reform since their inception in 1965, resulting in outdated provisions in the Local Government Act that impede effective governance, particularly in rural and unincorporated areas;

AND WHEREAS regional districts lack parity with municipalities in terms of recognition, regulatory authority, revenue tools, and decision-making powers, and are not currently recognized in legislation as an equal order of government;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has committed through the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) to advancing inclusive governance, including Indigenous participation in regional district decision-making structures:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia undertake a comprehensive modernization of regional district legislation, guided by the principles and recommendations of the Regional District Legislation Roadmap (February 2025), to ensure equitable governance structures, enhanced authority, inclusive representation, and flexible revenue tools that reflect the current and future needs of all regional districts in British Columbia.

FINANCE

E6. PROVINCIAL SUPPORT FOR AREA ASSOCIATIONS THROUGH REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT – WITHDRAWN

WHEREAS UBCM receives provincial support for program development that enhances local government capacity, provides direct funding opportunities, and delivers programs tailored to local government needs at a province-wide level;

AND WHEREAS the Area Associations, including the North Central Local Government Association, also play a vital role in supporting local governments, yet lack direct provincial funding mechanisms to develop and deliver regionally relevant programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government, specifically the Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities and the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, to develop funding mechanisms to support Area Associations in delivering regional programs that align with provincial priorities, enhance local government capacity, and provide an additional source of revenue to sustain and expand services for their members.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

E7. ENGAGEMENT PROTOCOLS FOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS IN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

WHEREAS resource development projects significantly impact rural and unincorporated communities, including electoral areas, where regional directors are elected to represent local interests;

AND WHEREAS there is currently no standardized protocol for provincial ministries or resource development proponents to engage regional directors in consultation processes, limiting their ability to provide informed input on behalf of their communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government, specifically the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, the Ministry of Forests, and the Ministry of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation, to establish formal engagement protocols that require provincial ministries and resource development proponents to consult with regional directors in electoral areas on projects within their jurisdictions, ensuring local perspectives are considered in decision-making.

E8. CANADA-FIRST LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

WHEREAS local governments play a critical role in local economic development and can strengthen Canadian industries by prioritizing domestic procurement of goods and services;

AND WHEREAS reviewing and adapting local government procurement policies to prioritize Canadian products and services can support local businesses, enhance economic resilience, and mitigate the risks associated with international trade disruptions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to support a Canada-first local government procurement strategy by facilitating local and domestic sourcing opportunities, encouraging local governments to review their procurement practices, and providing policy and financial support to strengthen Canadian supply chains.

E9. ELIMINATING INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE BARRIERS

WHEREAS interprovincial trade barriers restrict market access for businesses and limit opportunities for local governments to source competitively within Canada;

AND WHEREAS eliminating these barriers would facilitate economic growth, encourage interprovincial commerce, and provide local governments with greater flexibility in procurement decisions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial and federal governments to take immediate action to reduce and eliminate interprovincial trade barriers, improving market access for Canadian businesses, and enabling local governments to procure goods and services from across the country more efficiently.

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

R1. STREAMLINING LICENSING FOR OUT-OF-PROVINCE AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS there is a significant shortage of healthcare professionals in the province, which impacts the availability and quality of healthcare services;

AND WHEREAS the current process for licensing out-of-province and internationally-trained healthcare professionals is lengthy and inefficient, resulting in delays filling critical positions and exacerbating the workforce shortage;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to streamline the licensing process for out-of-province and internationally-trained healthcare professionals, ensuring a more efficient pathway for these professionals to practice and contribute to addressing the healthcare workforce shortage in the province.

R2. ADDRESSING RURAL PHYSICIAN SHORTAGES DUE TO PRACTICE READY ASSESSMENT-BC AND LONGITUDINAL FAMILY PHYSICIAN CHANGES

Submitted by: City of Dawson Creek

WHEREAS rural and remote communities face significant challenges in recruiting and retaining primary care physicians, leading to chronic understaffing and healthcare access issues;

AND WHEREAS the expansion of the Practice Ready Assessment-British Columbia (PRA-BC) program's eligible communities and the implementation of the Longitudinal Family Physician (LFP) Payment Model has contributed to increased physician shortages, excessive workloads, and frequent emergency room diversions in rural areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to reassess the recent changes to the PRAt-British Columbia program and LFP Payment Model, ensuring that these initiatives prioritize the recruitment and retention of physicians in rural and remote communities to address ongoing healthcare disparities.

R3. MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

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 the Medical Services Plan and extended health plans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM call upon the provincial government to implement initiatives that offer mental health supports tailored to the needs of local elected leaders in British Columbia.

R4. RURAL FOUNDRY CENTRES

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS youth in rural and remote British Columbia are facing mental health and wellness challenges just like their peers in urban centers;

AND WHEREAS Foundry BC in-person Centers are largely located in urban British Columbia and not accessible for youth in rural and remote BC communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to commit to establishing in-person Foundry Centres that meet the needs of rural and remote youth in their home communities, recognizing the unique challenges of youth living in rural and remote communities.

R5. REVISITING THE DECRIMINALIZATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia decriminalized the possession of small amounts of controlled substances in an effort to address the opioid crisis and reduce the harms of criminalization;

AND WHEREAS despite this policy, the decriminalization of controlled substances has not achieved the desired outcomes, communities continue to face significant challenges related to substance abuse and public safety, and the BC Association of Chiefs of Police has withdrawn their support for decriminalization;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to revisit the policy of decriminalizing controlled substances, to assess its effectiveness, and to consider alternative approaches that better address substance abuse and enhance community safety.

R6. PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL FOR NORTHERN BC

Submitted by: District of Vanderhoof and Village of Fort St. James

WHEREAS in the face of the drug use epidemic, the rise in homelessness, and increases in related crime and the influence on mental health, Northern British Columbia communities are experiencing a critical lack of access to long-term secure psychiatric care. The closure of Riverview Hospital in 2012, the province's only psychiatric hospital, has created an unnecessary strain on the residents of our communities, families, local police services, and hospitals;

AND WHEREAS psychiatric patients are either released prematurely or forced to be admitted to acute care hospital beds causing cancelled surgeries, emergency department overcrowding, long emergency room waits, violence in emergency rooms, and staff attrition:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM endorse and advocate for the provincial government to work with the Northern Health Authority to recognize this urgent need and open a psychiatric hospital in northern British Columbia to contribute to the overall health and stability of our communities.

R7. REGIONAL SECURE PSYCHIATRIC CARE FACILITY

Submitted by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS the provincial government has stated an interest in establishing, throughout the province, beds under the Mental Health Act at highly secure regional facilities, where people will receive long-term care and housing that is secure, safe and dignified, and as the City of Prince George recognizes its role as a regional service hub for these types of facilities;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government has stated it is working on legislation, supported by expert consultation, that would support involuntary admittance to these specialized, compassionate care facilities with a coordinated plan for both treatment and post care;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the provincial government for the construction of a standalone secure psychiatric care facility, to serve the region, in Prince George.

R8. ENHANCED WRAPAROUND SUPPORTS AND SECOND-STAGE HOUSING FOR INDIVIDUALS IN RECOVERY IN RURAL NORTHERN COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: District of Chetwynd

WHEREAS individuals returning to communities after completing addiction treatment often face significant barriers, including lack of stable housing, employment opportunities, mental health support, and community reintegration services;

AND WHEREAS the absence of comprehensive wraparound supports, including second-stage housing, case management, peer support, and access to mental health and substance use services, increases the risk of relapse and reduces the long-term success of recovery efforts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to develop and fund a provincial strategy that expands access to:

1. Second-stage and transitional housing for individuals completing treatment to provide stability as they reintegrate into their communities particularly in rural Northern regions.
2. Integrated case management services, including mental health, employment, and life skills programs, to support sustained recovery.
3. Community-based wraparound supports, including Indigenous-led healing programs, peer support networks, and long-term addiction recovery services;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to work in collaboration with municipalities, Indigenous communities, health authorities, and non-profit organizations to ensure equitable access to these supports in rural and northern communities, where services are often limited or unavailable.

HOUSING

R9. CO-OP HOUSING PROGRAM AND SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR HOUSING

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS communities across the province are actively seeking solutions to support people experiencing homelessness, as permanent housing is a fundamental need for stability and well-being;

AND WHEREAS local governments require additional funding streams to address housing insecurity, and the province collects revenue from civil forfeiture, cannabis and liquor taxes, and provincial gambling revenues;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide local governments with additional funding streams, including proceeds from civil forfeiture, cannabis and liquor taxes, and provincial gambling revenues, to support community-led co-op housing models, which have proven successful in other provinces, as a solution to homelessness.

R10. LOWERING FINANCIAL BARRIERS FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING PROJECTS

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS BC Housing's Community Housing Fund (CHF) provides critical funding to support the development of affordable housing projects across British Columbia, enabling municipalities, non-profits, and housing providers to address the urgent need for affordable housing;

AND WHEREAS the significant upfront costs required to submit an application to BC Housing, such as feasibility studies, architectural designs, and other pre-development expenses create financial barriers for small municipalities and non-profit organizations, limiting their ability to deliver housing;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate to BC Housing and the provincial government for changes to the Community Housing Fund application process to reduce or subsidize upfront pre-development costs, ensuring equitable access for all municipalities and non-profits across the province.

R11. FUNDING OFF-SITE WORKS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has made significant investments in housing initiatives to address homelessness and housing affordability, including programs such as the Community Housing Fund, Rapid Response to Homelessness, and the Supportive Housing Fund, which aim to provide immediate and long-term housing solutions for vulnerable populations, yet sometimes underfund the cost to deliver the required infrastructure upgrades;

AND WHEREAS local governments and non-profit organizations face substantial financial barriers when undertaking affordable housing projects, including off-site works such as infrastructure upgrades, which are critical to the long-term sustainability of supportive housing projects but often fall outside the scope of existing funding programs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government and BC Housing to complete all housing project off-site works to municipal standards or provide direct funding to municipalities to undertake the works required to ensure the sustainability of municipal infrastructure and the long-term viability of affordable housing projects.

R12. SPECULATION AND VACANCY TAX

Submitted by: District of Kitimat

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia introduced the Speculation and Vacancy Tax (SVT) to address housing availability by incentivizing the utilization of vacant properties for the benefit of BC residents;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government continues to expand the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to include additional communities, promoting increased affordable housing stock across the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate for the provincial government to grant BC municipalities the option to opt into the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program, specifically targeting properties that have been vacant for two or more years.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

R13. INITIAL FIRE ATTACK CREW RELOCATION

Submitted by: District of Chetwynd

WHEREAS the BC Wildfire Initial Attack Crews are a critical component of the wildfire response and rapid wildfire suppression in the Province of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS Initial Fire Attack Crew Base locations are key to providing timely wildfire suppression efforts, especially in remote and rural areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to provide the necessary funding to return and maintain all Initial Fire Attack Crew Bases in their current locations and not relocate them without significant local stakeholder consultation.

R14. EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES GRANT FUNDING FOR CAPITAL COSTS

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS the Emergency Social Services (ESS) program provides critical support during emergencies and disasters, enabling communities to deliver essential services including reception centers, food, shelter, and basic needs to impacted individuals;

AND WHEREAS many local governments have facilities or infrastructure in need of upgrades or renovations to improve their capacity for delivering ESS services in emergencies and disasters including the creation of small-scale reception centers, secure storage for equipment, and training spaces for volunteers to enhance preparedness;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to amend existing ESS Grant programs to include capital or renovation costs as eligible expenses, supporting the improvement of facilities used for the delivery of ESS in communities across British Columbia.

R15. RELEASE OF PROLIFIC OFFENDERS IN COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: City of Williams Lake

WHEREAS communities across British Columbia are facing unprecedented costs and public safety impacts caused by the revolving door of prolific offenders being released into communities;

AND WHEREAS senior levels of government have not taken adequate steps to protect communities from prolific offenders that have been released or are out on bail;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the Attorneys General for Canada and British Columbia to address the severe impacts that local governments across British Columbia are experiencing with prolific offenders being frequently released and re-released into local communities, including:

- supporting the widespread use of GPS monitoring of prolific offenders out on bail;
- seeking guidance from senior levels of government on how local governments can effectively communicate the community's concerns to courts considering bail and sentencing of prolific offenders;
- communicating to senior levels of government that local jurisdictions cannot afford to allocate taxpayer dollars to fund the increased policing and community costs resulting from the revolving door of repeat prolific offenders being released into communities; and
- committing that UBCM will review and support options for local governments to refuse to pay costs resulting from Crown Counsel's decision to continually release repeat prolific offenders into BC communities.

R16. CREATION OF REGIONAL CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER POSITIONS FOR RURAL BC

Submitted by: City of Dawson Creek

WHEREAS crime prevention and community safety are essential to the well-being of all residents, and urban centers have dedicated crime prevention resources, including specialized officers;

AND WHEREAS rural communities in British Columbia face unique challenges related to limited law enforcement resources and the absence of specialized crime prevention officers;

AND WHEREAS the establishment of regional crime prevention officer positions would enhance community safety, improve coordination of crime prevention efforts, and support local law enforcement in rural areas:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the provincial government for the funding and creation of regional crime prevention officer positions in rural British Columbia to enhance community safety, improve coordination of crime prevention efforts, and support local law enforcement in addressing crime in rural areas.

R17. MANAGING POLICING CONTRACT COSTS THROUGH ENGAGEMENT IN RCMP COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Submitted by: City of Terrace

WHEREAS under the BC Police Act, municipalities with a population of over 5,000 are responsible for providing and bearing the necessary expenses of policing and law enforcement within their municipal boundaries;

AND WHEREAS under the Municipal Police Service Agreement, the provincial government may subcontract the RCMP to municipalities to achieve this requirement (an agreement that the vast majority of municipalities over 5,000 in population in BC utilize);

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in an effort to manage contract costs to municipalities, NCLGA and UBCM lobby the federal government to meaningfully engage with provinces and territories during RCMP collective bargaining processes.

R18. ADDRESSING RCMP STAFFING AND CONTRACT COSTS

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS RCMP contracted costs represent a significant portion of local government's annual budgets;

AND WHEREAS all contracts contain a method to independently verify their accuracy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to develop a method for local governments to independently verify RCMP invoices.

ENVIRONMENT

R19. CONSERVATION OFFICER ADVOCACY

Submitted by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS the provincial government is responsible for managing the conservation service, with few officers covering a geographically vast region, which has a negative impact on the ability of the BC Conservation Officer Service to meet the needs of the communities served;

AND WHEREAS the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service needs additional resources to adequately address public safety, focus on natural resource law enforcement, off road vehicle enforcement, illegal dumping, human wildlife conflicts prevention, and respond to wildlife human conflict;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate for the provincial government to provide adequate funding, offices and staffing to fully support the BC Conservation Officer Service to be more active and proactive in effectively managing conservation services.

R20. ALLOCATION OF WILDLIFE REVENUES TO CONSERVATION

Submitted by: Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

WHEREAS British Columbia's (BC) forests and protected lands are vital to its natural heritage, supporting diverse wildlife and ecosystems that require sustainable management and conservation effort;

AND WHEREAS licensed hunters and trappers contribute significantly to BC's economy, generating over \$600 million in spending annually and paying approximately \$12 million in fees, which currently go into general provincial revenue rather than directly supporting wildlife conservation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to dedicate all revenues from hunting and trapping licenses, fines, and penalties to wildlife conservation and habitat preservation.

R21. MOOSE HABITAT CONSIDERATIONS IN LANDSCAPE PLANNING

Submitted by: Village of Burns Lake

WHEREAS provincial moose management decisions are guided by the Provincial Moose Management Framework;

AND WHEREAS moose serve a significant role as a food source and, further, have cultural importance for Indigenous residents;

AND WHEREAS provincial moose research has identified the need for intensive landscape-scale management to stem moose population declines;

AND WHEREAS provincial moose research has identified the need to consider vegetation composition and re-growth during forestry planning and to identify region-specific forestry thresholds for moose:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to add moose habitat as a value to all future forestry landscape planning and resource development projects where moose habituate.

R22. BIODIVERSE CLIMATE RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS

Submitted by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

WHEREAS community based ecological knowledge, combined with scientific data and understanding is the best way to plan for climate adaptation;
AND WHEREAS future forest and water management must protect and restore ecosystem services to ensure a resilient and biodiverse landscape:
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM request that the provincial government establish and empower collaborative landscape level planning tables with the goal to restore biodiverse climate resilient ecosystems.

R23. BALANCED EMISSIONS POLICIES

Submitted by: Peace River Regional District and District of Taylor

WHEREAS British Columbia's natural gas sector has taken significant actions to address emissions, including a 47% reduction in methane emissions from 2014 to 2021, while continuing to grow production and economic contributions;
AND WHEREAS a sectoral emissions cap would restrict upstream natural gas production, discourage investment, and shift development to jurisdictions with weaker environmental regulations, resulting in job losses and no meaningful net reduction in global emissions;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to not implement a sectoral emissions cap and instead collaborate with industry to develop balanced, competitive emissions policies that support investment while maintaining environmental progress.

R24. NUCLEAR ENERGY IN BC

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS local governments across the Province of BC have declared climate emergencies and nuclear energy is a greenhouse gas free source of electricity;
AND WHEREAS BC Hydro has put out a call for electricity production, the first time it has done so in over a decade;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to review the Clean Energy Act, specifically to study the feasibility of a reversal on the current prohibition on nuclear energy in support of electricity production and reduction of greenhouse gas production in British Columbia.

R25. INCLUDING RAIL-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT SCOPE

Submitted by: City of Terrace

WHEREAS through the Environmental Assessment Act, the Province of British Columbia aims to ensure that any potential environmental, economic, social, cultural, and health effects that may occur during the lifetime of a major project are thoroughly assessed;
AND WHEREAS the impacts of rail traffic and the transportation of dangerous goods can have an impact on communities outside of the immediate vicinity of major projects undergoing environmental assessment;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to include rail servicing, transportation of dangerous goods, and other materials to and from facilities by rail, and any other rail-related components of reviewable projects as 'related activities' when determining the scope of required assessments for reviewable projects under the Environmental Assessment Act.

R26. SUSTAINABLE FUNDING FOR SMALL WATER SYSTEMS

Submitted by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

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 NCLGA and 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.

FINANCE

R27. PROVINCIAL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Submitted by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS core funding for public libraries in British Columbia has remained unchanged since 2009, despite BC's population growing 29%, limiting their ability to expand and evolve their programming as demand for their services increases;
AND WHEREAS the operational requirements of public libraries increasingly require significant and diverse resources to provide front-line community services, including supporting patrons with mental health and addiction issues as well as barriers to housing, providing critical locations of refuge during extreme weather events, providing services to new Canadians, and supporting the process of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM call on the provincial government to increase core funding for public libraries on a yearly basis in line with inflation and immediately increase annual core funding for libraries to \$30 million as requested by the BC Public Library Partners and recommended by the province's Select Standing Committee on Finance and Government Services.

R28. INCREASED FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Submitted by: District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS public libraries serve as vital community hubs that provide welcoming, inclusive spaces where individuals of all ages—including children, students, job seekers, seniors, and marginalized populations—can gather, study, work, and engage in cultural and educational activities while benefiting from free access to books, literacy programs, digital resources, and essential services;

AND WHEREAS funding for public libraries has remained stagnant since 2010, despite increasing financial pressures due to rising operational costs, the need for technological advancements, and growing community demand for expanded services;

AND WHEREAS stable and increased funding would enable public libraries to enhance critical programs, expand collections, improve infrastructure, and ensure equitable access to resources across all communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to increase stable, long-term funding for public libraries, ensuring they remain accessible, inclusive, and innovative centers for learning and community engagement.

R29. INCREASED CAPITAL FUNDING FOR LIBRARIES

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS public libraries in British Columbia lack adequate, stable, and dedicated capital funding for local government-owned library facilities, hindering their ability to provide essential educational, cultural, and social services that support community well-being;

AND WHEREAS public libraries face increasing demand for services, technology, and infrastructure improvements, yet many struggle with aging facilities and insufficient resources to meet these growing needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to establish a dedicated capital funding program to assist local governments in upgrading, expanding, and constructing library facilities to meet community needs.

R30. BC HYDRO PROGRAMS AND INCENTIVES

Submitted by: City of Quesnel

WHEREAS BC Hydro, a crown corporation of the Province of British Columbia, offers programs and incentives to support small and medium sized businesses and large industry in improving energy efficiency and reducing energy consumption;

AND WHEREAS these programs include business energy-saving incentives, industrial and commercial strategic energy management programs, energy studies and audits, project incentives for business and industry, demand response for business, among other programs and incentives;

AND WHEREAS many BC businesses and industries are ineligible to apply for these BC Hydro programs and incentives as this program is only available for municipalities with populations of more than 75,000:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the provincial government to extend eligibility of these BC Hydro programs and incentives to businesses and industries in municipalities, and where applicable, regional districts regardless of population.

LAND USE

R31. AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE BOUNDARY REVIEW

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS the Agriculture Land Reserve (ALR) boundaries were established in the early 1970's, and no province-wide reviews have been conducted since that time in spite of technological progression and data maturity about the suitability of those boundaries;

AND WHEREAS it is well known, particularly in rural areas of the province, that large areas of the ALR are unviable for agriculture, and conversely, some areas of high agricultural value were left out in the initial rush to delineate protected agricultural areas in BC, negatively impacting British Columbian's confidence in the value and importance of the ALR;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM encourage the provincial government to mandate, appropriately staff, and fund both the ALC and regional districts to conduct a comprehensive, collaborative, data-driven, expeditious, province-wide review of the ALR boundaries to ensure the highest quality agricultural lands are protected for the next 50 years and that appropriate lands unsuitable for agriculture be identified in collaboration with regional districts and member municipalities to allow for 20 years of growth, in alignment with provincial housing and land use mandates for local governments.

R32. ACCESSORY DWELLINGS IN THE AGRICULTURAL LAND RESERVE

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS manufactured homes are recognized as a common, affordable, and readily available form of housing across the province, particularly in rural areas, having limited long term impact to underlying soil conditions due to their surface mounted design;

And whereas on December 31, 2021, in an effort to provide housing flexibility in the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR), the province permitted a second dwelling unit to be constructed within the ALR to a maximum of 90 sq. m. on parcels of 40 hectares or less in size, which represents a non-standard, custom-sized manufactured home, often preventing the construction of flexible additional housing within the ALR;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the Agricultural Land Reserve Act and associated regulations accordingly to permit the construction of either a 90 sq. m. accessory dwelling unit or a standard-sized manufactured home up to a maximum 148 sq. m. total floor area on parcels under 40 ha within the ALR.

R33. LOCAL WATERSHED GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Submitted by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

WHEREAS recent legislation supporting watershed governance, and the 2024 NDP-Green Party Accord recognize the importance of local knowledge around water management;

AND WHEREAS well established multi-interest watershed health organizations are working throughout BC to restore watershed ecosystems from past excessive resource exploitation, and future proof them to adapt to climate impacts:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM request the provincial government share a portion of natural resource royalty income to provide financial support to local watershed governance organizations.

R34. EXPEDITE MUNICIPAL APPLICATIONS FOR CROWN LANDS

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS local governments face challenges in acquiring land for essential projects such as local housing initiatives, including affordable housing developments, community infrastructure, and vital public services;

AND WHEREAS the provincial government holds significant amounts of underutilized Crown Land inside or adjacent to local governments that could be leveraged to support these municipal initiatives, which would directly benefit residents and enhance local community resilience;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to expedite the transfer of underutilized Crown Lands, within or adjacent to municipalities, to municipalities for development, infrastructure, and community services purposes.

R35. EFFICIENT RESOURCE PERMITTING

Submitted by: Peace River Regional District, District of Hudson's Hope, District of Taylor, and City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS land-use uncertainty, cumulative effects policies, and lengthy permitting timelines delay resource projects, discourage investment, and limit economic opportunities for communities across British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS an efficient and predictable permitting process is necessary to support responsible resource development while ensuring certainty for communities and industry;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to streamline land-use and permitting processes by ensuring timely decision-making, aligning cumulative effects policies with economic priorities, and providing long-term regulatory certainty.

TAXATION

R36. REMOVAL OF THE BC PORT TAX CAP

Submitted by: North Coast Regional District

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 NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the provincial 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.

TRANSPORTATION

R37. ESSENTIAL SERVICE LEVELS OF INLAND FERRIES

Submitted by: Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

WHEREAS inland ferries provide historically critical infrastructure to the communities served, equivalent to roads, highways and bridges;

AND WHEREAS inland ferry services are essential services whose costs are funded by a portion of the taxes on sales of gasoline and diesel;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the provincial government that all inland ferries are entitled to the same legal status as roads, highways and bridges, that all remain toll-free, and that the regular schedule of each inland ferry (whether on-demand or set schedule) be deemed the minimum necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the communities served.

R38. BC FERRY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Submitted by: North Coast Regional District

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 NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the provincial 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.

R39. TWINNING OF HIGHWAY 16

Submitted by: District of Fort St. James and Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako

WHEREAS Highway 16 serves as a critical transportation corridor for Northern British Columbia, facilitating the movement of goods, services, and residents across the region;

AND WHEREAS traffic volumes on Highway 16 have significantly increased due to the expansion of the Port of Prince Rupert, major infrastructure projects such as LNG and transmission line construction, and increased industrial and commercial activities;

AND WHEREAS the existing highway infrastructure presents safety concerns, particularly in areas of high traffic congestion and adverse weather conditions, leading to increased risks for motorists, with limited opportunities for safe passing along significant stretches of the highway, further exacerbating traffic congestion and safety risks;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to undertake a feasibility study and develop a long-term plan for the twinning of Highway 16 to enhance safety, improve transportation efficiency, and support tourism and economic growth in the region.

R40. QUESNEL NORTH-SOUTH INTERCONNECTOR

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS Highway 97 is a very significant provincial highway that is critical to the continued economic prosperity of Northern and Central BC and all British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS Highway 97 is at a considerable and growing risk level for extended delays due to aged-out highway infrastructure in Quesnel, and unacceptable construction delays in the future based on the current plans by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to commit capital financing to complete the Quesnel North-South Interconnector project.

R41. FOREST SERVICE ROAD CLOSURES

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS access to back country is an essential part of maintaining a healthy active community, particularly for rural and remote communities;

AND WHEREAS the decline of forest harvesting activities throughout the province has resulted in the closure of forest service roads and decommissioning of bridges, limiting access to back country areas;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure local government is afforded the opportunity to participate in discussions prior to any provincial ministry decisions regarding the closure of forest service roads.

R42. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE ON RURAL HIGHWAYS

Submitted by: City of Williams Lake

WHEREAS the lack of Ministry of Transportation and Transit (MOTT) active transportation infrastructure on rural highways adversely affects provincially declared climate initiatives, and encouragement of active transportation commitment in smaller local governments;

AND WHEREAS these highways are located in the central key parts of rural communities, often as main streets, and are in dire need of safe, affordable transportation options which can also facilitate local governments to tie their own active transportation plans into to improve community health, economic opportunities and social interactions;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to expand budgetary funding so they can be proactive in the development and installation of active transportation options on all existing MOTT infrastructure within rural municipal boundaries.

LEGISLATIVE

R43. LEAVES OF ABSENCE PROVISIONS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS local government elected officials are required to attend meetings, conventions, and conferences to perform their official duties, often requiring absences from their place of employment to do so;

AND WHEREAS there are no provisions in provincial or federal employment legislation for local elected officials to allow them to take such absences as required to perform their official duties;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government for amendments to the Employment Standards Act to include unpaid leave of absence provisions to protect the employment of elected officials and allow them to attend Board / Council meetings, conventions, and conferences in the performance of their official duties;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NCLGA, UBCM, and FCM lobby the federal government for amendments to the Canada Labour Code to include unpaid leave of absence provisions to protect the employment of elected officials and allow them to attend Board / Council meetings, conventions, and conferences in the performance of their official duties.

ASSESSMENT

R44. MORE FORMALIZED PROPERTY ASSESSMENT PROCESSES FOR COMMUNITIES IN BC

Submitted by: District of Houston

WHEREAS it has been identified that there are inaccuracies in the assessed values of properties which may have a negative effect on the tax revenue generated on the property values, and staff of municipalities and regional districts are potentially in the best position to assist BC Assessment with identifying the need for a review and revision of assessed property values;

AND WHEREAS BC Assessment is responsible for assessing over 2 million properties in British Columbia as of July 1 each year, with only three offices in Northern BC, which may limit the capacity for thorough and timely assessments in this region;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to support the development of a coordinated effort between BC Assessment and local municipalities and regional districts to improve the accuracy of assessed property values, particularly in areas of BC with few to no BC Assessment offices, to ensure fair and equitable property taxation throughout BC.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

R45. ECONOMIC IMPACT AND FAIR RESOURCE REVENUE SHARING

Submitted by: City of Terrace

WHEREAS many communities across British Columbia are directly dependent on natural resource industries like fishing, agriculture, forestry, mineral exploration and mining, and natural gas to provide significant economic opportunities through employment, taxation, and peripheral economic activity. Each job in the natural resource sectors adds more to the provincial economy than any other sector;

AND WHEREAS all levels of government must balance policy and legislation that impact resource-based industries with climate and sustainability goals. Communities required to plan for their future growth, or decline, cannot do so without clear understanding of the economic impacts of provincial policy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to:

- ensure that all significant land based, and natural resource related legislation includes a publicly available economic impacts brief to identify the likely impact on jobs and economic development; and
- share an appropriate portion of revenue and benefits of development through funding unencumbered by project-specific granting streams to affected local governments to maintain and grow community infrastructure and services.

R46. INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIFICATION EXPANSION

Submitted by: Peace River Regional District, District of Taylor, and District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS electrification of industrial operations presents an opportunity to help meet British Columbia's climate objectives and grow British Columbia's resource sectors;

AND WHEREAS inadequate grid capacity, slow interconnection processes, and high industrial power rates are major barriers to electrification, delaying projects and increasing costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to expand grid capacity, streamline interconnection processes, and ensure competitive industrial power rates to support industrial electrification.

R47. EXPANDING INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIFICATION

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS electrification of industrial operations presents an opportunity to help meet the provincial climate objectives and grow British Columbia's resource sectors;

AND WHEREAS inadequate grid capacity, slow interconnection processes, and high industrial power rates are major barriers to electrification, delaying projects and increasing costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to expand grid capacity, streamline interconnection processes, and ensure competitive industrial power rates to support industrial electrification.

R48. NATURAL GAS AND LIQUIFIED NATURAL GAS STRATEGY

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John, District of Hudson's Hope, District of Taylor, and Peace River Regional District

WHEREAS the global energy landscape is rapidly evolving due to geopolitical shifts that are redefining energy security, trade, and competitiveness for decades to come;

AND WHEREAS British Columbia must position itself as a leader in responsible natural gas development to attract investment, create jobs, and strengthen its role as a secure supplier of low emission Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), recognizing that the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy cannot occur overnight;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government to develop an integrated natural gas value-chain and export strategy to strengthen infrastructure and policies that support the entire value chain - from upstream production to processing and export.

R49. CONSULTATION ON REMOVAL OF CROWN LAND

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS effective communication and engagement between local government and the Province of BC is essential in facilitating collaborative discussion and resolutions that support local economies;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to ensure provincial decisions regarding the removal of crown land from current and potential resource extraction activity, impacting the local economy, must first include consultation from local government prior to decisions being made.

ELECTIONS

R50. ENSURING EQUAL COMPENSATION FOR WORKERS IN PROVINCIAL AND MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS workers who assist with the administration of municipal and provincial elections perform vital roles in ensuring the integrity and smooth operation of the democratic process;

AND WHEREAS compensation for workers in municipal elections differs from that provided in provincial elections, creating disparities in pay for similar roles across different levels of government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government to establish equal compensation for workers in both provincial and municipal elections, ensuring that all election workers are paid fairly for their contributions to the democratic process.

SELECTED ISSUES

R51. BC SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS REPRESENTATION IN RURAL BC COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: Village of Burns Lake

WHEREAS there is an immediate and ongoing concern in rural British Columbia communities regarding abused, abandoned, and neglected animals, which also pose significant public health and safety concerns;

AND WHEREAS the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA) is the only animal welfare organization in BC with the authority under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act to investigate complaints of animal abuse or neglect, enforce animal welfare laws, and recommend criminal charges to the Crown Council;

AND WHEREAS the BC SPCA does not receive any provincial funding to assist with animal protection services and is the only BC entity responsible for law enforcement whose investigative responsibilities are funded by donation;

AND WHEREAS there is a lack of BC SPCA representation in rural BC communities resulting in public health and safety issues and a lack of animal welfare enforcement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the provincial government for funding to support the British Columbia Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the purpose of appointing authorized agents as granted under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, for representation in all rural communities to ensure public health, safety and welfare of animals.

LATE RESOLUTIONS

L1. HIGHWAY ROAD MAINTENANCE AGREEMENTS – ADDRESSING REGIONAL ADAPTATION

Submitted by: Village of Pouce Coupe

WHEREAS the standardized structure of highway maintenance contracts in British Columbia does not adequately account for the diverse geographic, climatic, and infrastructure needs of the interior and northern regions;

AND WHEREAS the existing contract specifications, including aggregate supply, response times, and maintenance standards, fail to address regional challenges such as extreme winter conditions and local material availability;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to revise the structure of Highway Road Maintenance Contracts to incorporate regional specifications, flexible contract standards, and consultation with local governments to ensure that highway maintenance better meets the needs of diverse regions across British Columbia.

L2. REVIEW OF THE BC LIBRARY ACT

Submitted by: District of Taylor

WHEREAS the current Library Act presents challenges for small rural municipal Councils to meet the obligations of the Library Act;

AND WHEREAS rural municipal libraries generally service areas beyond municipal boundaries, should have the opportunity to apply for an exemption within the Library Act;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to review the current Library Act and amend as required to reflect current challenges for small rural and remote communities.

Notes

[illegible]



NCLGA 2025

TIDES OF CHANGE

PRINCE RUPERT | PORT EDWARD | NORTH COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT | NCLGA