

July 31, 2024

Honourable Anne Kang Minister of Municipal Affairs Parliament Buildings Victoria, BC V8V 1X4 Email: <u>MUNI.Minister@gov.bc.ca</u>

Dear Minister Kang,

As the President of the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA), I am writing to seek your support for several critical resolutions adopted by our association at the 2024 Annual General Meeting & Convention in Smithers, British Columbia (BC). These resolutions are essential to enhancing the emergency management capabilities and resilience of our members:

R11 2024 *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* (EDMA) Capacity Funding: Calling for the Province of BC to provide long-term sustainable capacity funding to local governments to support their emergency management functions.

R14 2024 Initial Attack Fire Crew Location: Urging the Province of BC to maintain the Initial Fire Attack Crew Bases in their current locations and not relocate them without significant local government and stakeholder consultation.

R25 2024 Host Community Reception Centre in Prince George BC: Requesting funding for a permanent Host Community Reception Centre in the City of Prince George.

L11 2024 *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* for Regional Districts: Calling on the Province of BC to develop regulations under the *Emergency and Disaster Management Act* in collaboration with regional district representatives to ensure appropriate design of emergency powers and responsibilities.

The challenges posed by the current wildfire season have demonstrated the critical importance of having well-funded and well-prepared local emergency management programs. Local governments are at the forefront of disaster response and recovery, and need reliable funding to effectively fulfill their responsibilities.

Your ministry's support is essential in advocating for these resolutions and ensuring that local governments have the resources they need to protect their communities. We are eager to collaborate with you and your team to develop a funding framework that meets the needs of our members and enhances their emergency management capacities.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss these resolutions and explore ways to move forward. Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Sincerely,

Judy Areenaway

Judy Greenaway President North Central Local Government Association

cc: Regional District Chairs, MLAs, and MPs in NCLGA's operating area