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## Highlights

The 2024 NCLGA Annual General Meeting and Convention was held on May 14-15, 2024 in Smithers, BC, bringing together delegates from across the region to discuss key issues, share best practices, and chart a path forward for communities.

Over 225 delegates attended the AGM and Convention, including representatives from local governments, Indigenous communities, provincial ministries, and other key stakeholders.

**The NCLGA Board of Directors Meeting was held on June 14-15, 2024 in Prince George. [See the June 2024 Board Meeting Highlights Report here >](#)**

**Welcome to the inaugural issue of our new quarterly newsletter - NCLGA Connections!**

We are excited to launch this newsletter for NCLGA membership, as part of our ongoing commitment to keep our members informed, engaged, and connected.



*NCLGA Board and staff (left to right): Sandra Moore, Kyle MacDonald, Jerrilyn Kirk, Terry Robert (front), Julie Maitland, Tony Zabinsky, Betty Anderson, Jesse Wright (behind), Dannielle Alan, Barry Cunningham (behind), Judy Greenaway. On screen: Gladys Atrill. Missing: Lorraine Gerwing, Sarrah Storey.*

## NCLGA is the Elected Voice of Northern and Central BC.

Representing over 240 elected officials in over 42 local and First Nations governments.

Established in 1955, The NCLGA is a non-profit, non-partisan association comprised of local government elected officials in North Central BC.



# Update On Advocacy Letters

The NCLGA continues to advocate on behalf of its members, to bring forward multiple resolutions passed by NCLGA membership during our May 2024 AGM and Convention in Smithers.

These resolutions have been forwarded to UBCM for consideration in September 2024, while advocacy letters have been sent to relevant Ministers on numerous topics, including Emergency Management, Forestry Community Support and Economic Sustainability, Health, and Housing.

**All of the advocacy letters have been or are in process of being uploaded to the NCLGA website. See 2024 Resolutions ([nclga.ca](https://nclga.ca)). [Please check here for updates on advocacy actions and responses >](#)**

## Emergency Management

- R11.** Emergency and Disaster Management Act Capacity Funding
- R14.** Initial Attack Fire Crew Location
- R25.** Host Community Reception Centre in Prince George BC
- L11.** Emergency and Disaster Management Act for Regional Districts

## Forestry Community Support and Economic Sustainability

- E2.** Enhanced Economic Support for Forestry Communities
- E3.** Equitable Stumpage Rates to Support Local Economies
- R19.** Local Consultation on Provincial Impacts of Resource Sector
- R20.** Review of Timber Allocation to Mitigate Economic Impact on Local Communities
- R21.** Industry Shutdown, Timber Rights
- L3.** Salvage Logging of Wildfire Impacted Areas
- L4.** Year-Round Forest Fire Management

## Health and Housing

- E6.** Strengthening Provincial-Local Government Collaboration for Homelessness Solutions
- R4.** Community Safety Resources
- O2.** Downloading Costs by the Province of BC to Local Governments for Solutions to Homelessness, Mental Health, and Addictions Supports
- R1.** Healthcare Worker Shortages – Reducing Barriers to Training
- E4a:** Transparent Costs Estimates for Healthcare Infrastructure
- E4b:** Equitable Funding for Healthcare Infrastructure
- E6:** Strengthening Provincial-Local Government Collaboration for Homelessness Solutions
- E8a:** Addressing Challenges Faced by Rural Seniors in British Columbia
- E10:** Standard of Care Discrepancies in Health Services
- R1.** Healthcare Worker Shortages – Reducing Barriers to Training
- R2:** Regional Hospital District Capital Costs-Sharing Split:
- R3:** Reducing Neurodevelopment Assessment Wait Times
- L1.** Consultation with Local Governments

# 2024 Mental Health & Addictions Symposium

November 13 and 14, 2024

Prince George Civic Centre  
808 Canada Games Way,  
Prince George, BC

**Early Bird Registration Fee: \$150**  
(ends October 14, 2024)

**Regular Registration: \$200**  
(starts October 15, 2024)

**Virtual Registration: \$75**



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit [www.nclga.ca](http://www.nclga.ca)

## CONTACT

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The NCLGA, the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation, City of Prince George, and the Regional District of Fraser-Fort George will be co-hosting the 2024 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium: A Pathway Forward.

The Symposium will take place on November 13 and 14, 2024, at the Prince George Conference and Civic Centre.

In recognition of the urgent need to address the mental health and addictions crisis affecting communities in Central and Northern British Columbia, the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium: A Pathway Forward will serve as a dynamic platform for knowledge exchange and the leveraging of collective resources to accelerate the advancement of collaborative action and solutions.

The Symposium will provide opportunities for information-sharing and coordination, fostering partnership and collaboration, and advancing joint advocacy and policy development to improve services and outcomes for those affected by mental health and addictions and their related intersections.

| **Take advantage of the Early Bird price. [Register here >](#)**

**Join us in creating  
a pathway forward  
for improving  
mental health and  
addictions services  
and outcomes.**

Your insights and  
contributions are  
vital to fostering  
a connected and  
informed community!

## Development of the Mental Health & Addictions Accord

- **Completed to date:** Development of a first Draft Accord | Review by Planning Workshop One participants (June 27, 2024) | Review by Symposium Co-host planning team | Updates implemented | Review by Planning Workshop Two participants (September 6, 2024).
- **Next Steps:** External review and comments will be sought by October 4, 2024 | Final Co-host approval by November 1, 2024 | Accord Signing Ceremony at the Symposium on November 14, 2024.

*The development and signing of the Mental Health and Addictions Accord will be a key outcome of the Symposium, as signatories commit to the stated principles and actions to promote mental well-being and combat substance misuse within our communities.*

## Upcoming Board Meetings

### **NCLGA Special Board Meeting**

*Sunday, September 15, 2024*

In-person, Vancouver, BC

### **NCLGA Board of Directors and Committees of the Whole Meetings**

*Friday, October 4, 2024 and Saturday, October 5, 2024*

In person, Prince George, BC, and via Zoom meeting

### **NCLGA Committee and Regular Board Meetings**

*Friday, December 13, 2024 and Saturday, December 14, 2024*

Virtual, via Zoom meeting

### **NCLGA Special Board Meeting**

*Monday, January 13, 2025*

In-person, Prince George, BC

### **NCLGA Board of Director and Committees of the Whole Meetings**

*Friday, March 28, 2025 and Saturday, March 29, 2025*

In-person Prince George, BC and via Zoom Meeting

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

### **UCBM Area Association Luncheon**

*September 18, 2024, 12:00-1:30pm*

Vancouver, BC at the Vancouver Convention Centre East, Ballroom C. [More information here](#)

### **NCLGA Member Webinar**

*October 24, 2024, 12pm – 1pm*

#### ***Updating Leadership on the Current Toxic Drug Crisis***

Presenters: Andrea Derban and Janine Stevenson, Community Action Initiative

### **NCLGA Annual General Meeting and Convention 2025**

*May 12-15, 2025*

Prince Rupert, BC. More information will be posted on the NCLGA website.

## NCLGA Newsletter Contents

- **Key Updates:** Stay informed about the latest developments, initiatives, and projects within the NCLGA.
- **Spotlight on Members:** Highlight the achievements and activities of our member communities and local governments.
- **Upcoming Events:** Get information on upcoming events, workshops, and webinars organized by the NCLGA.
- **Practices and Success Stories:** Share and learn from the innovative practices and success stories from across the region.
- **Resources and Opportunities:** Access valuable resources, funding opportunities, and training programs available to members.

### **How to Contribute**

We encourage our members to contribute content for the newsletter. We welcome your submissions. Please submit content to [bjohnson@nclga.ca](mailto:bjohnson@nclga.ca) – thank you!

*The quarterly member newsletter aims to enhance communication within our organization, celebrate our collective achievements, and provide valuable information to support the work of our members. We look forward to your participation and contributions to make our newsletter a success!*

## CONTACT US

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