

REPORT OF THE 2026 AKBLG RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

The Resolutions Committee is pleased to present the 2026 Resolutions Workbook. We look forward to a lively debate of this year's resolutions.

Thirty-two (32) resolutions are being presented for membership consideration. In addition to thirty-one (31) resolutions submitted by member local governments, one additional resolution is being presented by the AKBLG Executive. This resolution relates to the changes in the Community Housing Fund.

The AKBLG Resolutions Committee appreciates the time that each local government has taken to prepare and submit resolutions. Endorsed resolutions relating to a provincial matter will be forwarded to UBCM for action.

Continuing the change in procedure introduced in 2025, the Resolution Committee has organized the resolutions into five (5) sections. The Chart on the following page describes these sections and explains the rationale for each.

The first section of resolutions is being presented as a block for endorsement (consent agenda). The resolutions in this group are those that the AKBLG Committee has recommended for endorsement by the membership. These resolutions are found in the EB (Endorse Block) section at the start of the resolution package.

Three (3) resolutions are considered Regional Resolutions. These resolutions address an issue which is specific to the AKBLG region and/or the enactment clause directs only the AKBLG Area Association (and not UBCM) to consider taking action. These resolutions, if endorsed, will not be forwarded to UBCM but will remain with AKBLG for action. The AKBLG Board of Directors has been actively working on increasing their capacity to advocate directly to the province on issues important to the member organizations. These are found in the RR (Regional Resolution) section of the workbook.

UBCM Extraordinary Resolution 2025—ER1

Delegates will note that UBCM has flagged several resolutions as potentially falling under the criteria included in UBCM Extraordinary Resolution 2025-ER1.

Resolutions that meet these criteria may be ruled out of order if they reflect existing UBCM policy, fall outside the scope of local government, lack clarity, or are primarily regional in focus.

Following clarification with UBCM, the AKBLG Resolutions Committee understands that comments from UBCM included in this workbook represent a preliminary review, and that the applicability of the criteria may change during final assessment. Accordingly, AKBLG has continued to bring these resolutions forward for member consideration, with the understanding that the UBCM Resolutions Committee may ultimately determine that some fall under the Extraordinary Resolution criteria and therefore not proceed to debate at UBCM even if endorsed at the AKBLG AGM.

Advance Preparation

The Resolutions Committee recognizes there are many resolutions to consider and is committed to facilitating efficient and effective policy debate over the time allotted to resolutions.

If you wish to speak against or propose an amendment to a resolution that is included in the ENDORSE BLOCK, you are strongly encouraged to contact the Executive Director prior to the debate session to have it pulled from the block. The purpose of the Endorse Block (Consent Agenda) is to enable more time for debate of resolutions that have not received an endorsement from the AKBLG and UBCM Resolutions Committees.

For resolutions being considered individually, sponsors should be ready to speak to their resolution and provide information that clarifies the request made by the resolution.

Sponsors will have up to three (3) minutes to introduce their resolution and subsequent speakers will be limited to two (2) minutes. Delegates are also respectfully requested to limit repetitive debate, to make it possible to debate as many resolutions as time permits.

Once a resolution is introduced by the sponsor, if there are no speakers to DO NOT ENDORSE (CON), the question will be called with no discussion.

Depending on the complexity of proposed amendments, the elections officer may require that amendments be provided in writing at the front of the room, prior to speaking to them. Full Rules of Procedures will be available at the convention and explained prior to the debate session.

Order of Debate

Resolutions will be considered in the order presented in the AGM/Resolutions Workbook. The Endorse Block will be considered first followed by individual consideration of the NE (Not Endorse), NR (No Recommendation) and RR (Regional Resolutions). Lastly, a vote will be taken to determine whether the Special Resolution will be considered.

Per AKBLG Bylaws, late resolutions will be held over until the next Annual General Meeting unless the Resolutions Committee considers the late resolution to pertain to a *“unique and unforeseen event or circumstance requiring time-sensitive attention and having occurred since the submission deadline”*. A Special Resolution requires a 2/3rds vote in support of consideration prior to being introduced onto the floor at the AGM.

AKBLG Resolutions Committee 2026

Kyle Hamilton, Chair

Susan Clovechok

Tina Knooihuizen

Aidan McLaren-Caux

Wesley Routley

Organization of Resolutions in the Resolutions Workbook

Section		Description	Handling
EB	Endorse Block	These have been recommended for endorsement by the AKBLG Resolutions Committee.	Consider as a Block
NE	Not Endorse	The UBCM and AKBLG Resolutions Committees have suggested that these resolutions do not meet UBCM policy and have recommended that they are not endorsed. For 2026, there are two (2) provincial resolution categorized as NE.	Consider individually
NR	No Recommendation	These are resolutions which received “no recommendation” by the Resolutions Committee. These resolutions include resolutions not previously considered, resolutions with proposed policy positions that do not align with UBCM policy; or resolutions with proposed policy positions that do not align with previously endorsed policy papers or documents; or resolutions where there is no action required.	Consider individually
RR	Regional Resolutions	These resolutions address an issue which is specific to the AKBLG Region and/or the enactment clause directs only the AKBLG Area Association (and not UBCM) to consider taking action. Endorsed AKBLG region-specific resolutions will not be forwarded to UBCM for consideration by the UBCM membership but will instead remain with AKBLG where they may be actioned.	Consider individually
SR	Special Resolution	This is a late resolution which the AKBLG Resolutions Committee has deemed to relate to “a unique and unforeseen event or circumstance requiring time-sensitive attention and having occurred since the submission deadline”. In accordance with AKBLG Bylaws, a special resolution requires a vote of 2/3 in support of consideration onto the floor of the AGM before debate may occur.	Consider after 2/3 vote to allow introduction

2026 AKBLG RESOLUTIONS

Section EB (Endorse Block)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

EB1	Health Authority Asset Plans	Village of New Denver
EB2	Long Term Care - Beds	Kootenay Boundary RD
EB3	Long Term Care – Review of Staffing Levels & Resident Care	Village of Canal Flats

COMMUNITY SAFETY

EB4	Expand EMCR Funding Programs for Emergency Response	City of Rossland
EB5	BearSmart Resourcing	Village of New Denver

FINANCE

EB6	Sustainable Public Library Funding	Village of Salmo
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LAND USE

EB7	Keep BC Parks Open Longer	Kootenay Boundary RD
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HOUSING

EB8	BC Code Application for Temporary Emergency Shelters	City of Trail
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LEGISLATIVE

EB9	Bill M216-Professional Reliance Act WITHDRAWN	Kootenay Boundary RD
EB10	Support Municipal Ethical Oversight-Independent Office	City of Kimberley

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EB11	Improved Cellular Reliability in Rural and Remote Areas	City of Rossland & Kootenay Boundary RD
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Section NE (Not Endorse)

LEGISLATIVE

NE1	District Municipality Governance	DEFEATED	Village of New Denver
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SELECTED ISSUES

NE2	Convention Timing in Election Years	DEFEATED	Village of New Denver
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Section NR (No Recommendation)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

NR1	Provincial Support for Rural Emergency & Safety Needs	City of Trail	
NR2	Regional Hospital Districts Director Compensation	DEFEATED	Village of New Denver

HOUSING

NR3	Simplifying Federal Tax Reporting for Small-Scale Res Rentals	City of Nelson
NR4	Emergency Weather Shelter Flexibility During Extreme Events	City of Fernie

COMMUNITY SAFETY

NR5	Fortis BC Public Safety Power Shutoff	Kootenay Boundary RD
NR6	FireSmart Compliance Certification DEFEATED	Village of New Denver
NR7	Online Harm Accountability	City of Nelson
NR8	Online Marketplace Accountability	City of Nelson

FINANCE

NR9	Community Works Funding and Third Parties	Kootenay Boundary RD
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TRANSPORTATION

NR10	Restrooms at Rest Stops	Kootenay Boundary RD
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ENVIRONMENTAL

NR11	Biosolids	Kootenay Boundary RD
NR12	Provincial Certification for Mosquito Control Drone Technology	Town of Golden

LEGISLATIVE

NR13	Legislative Safeguards for Ethical and Inclusive Local Governance	City of Kimberley
NR14	Local Government Business Software Working Group	Central Kootenay RD
NR15	Private Equity Sector Acquisitions driving Local Government Costs	City of Nelson

Section RR (Regional Resolutions)

HEATH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

RR1	Youth Detox and Treatment Centre	City of Cranbrook
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TRANSPORTATION

RR2	Columbia and Western Rail Trail	Kootenay Boundary RD
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ASSESSMENT

RR3	Tourist Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act	Town of Golden
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Section SR (Special and Late Resolutions)

SR1	Replacement for Community Housing Fund	AKBLG
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SECTION EB - ENDORSE BLOCK

This section contains resolutions that support existing policy and are recommended Endorse by the AKBLG Resolutions Committee.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

EB1 Health Authority Asset Plans

New Denver

Whereas Regional Hospital District taxation is intended to support the long-term sustainability of health care facilities and major medical equipment;

And whereas the absence of standardized asset management planning by health authorities creates uncertainty about the condition, replacement timelines, and funding priorities for major health care infrastructure:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia require health authorities to prepare and maintain asset management plans for major facilities and equipment as a condition of receiving funding from Regional Hospital Districts.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

EB2 Long term Care - Beds

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas since 2016 the number of people waiting to be admitted to long-term care has increased by 200% and the provincial average wait time to access such care has grown by 98% over the past eight years;

And whereas a lack of, or prolonged waiting times to access, long-term care can have significant negative impacts on patients, their families and health care professionals/caregivers:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to increase the number of long-term care beds in the province.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

EB3 Long Term Care - Review of Staffing Levels and Resident Care

Canal Flats

Whereas private long-term care providers are contracted by the health authority who is responsible for setting direct care hours to each resident;

And whereas the current requirement for direct care hours is 3.00 – 3.36 hours per day, per resident which can include care from regulated professionals:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM petition the Province of British Columbia to review staffing levels and resident care by increasing the standard to 4.0 hours of direct care to create the funding and contractual

framework needed to hire additional staff and better meet the growing complexity of residents in long-term care.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

COMMUNITY SAFETY

EB4 Expand Emergency Management Climate Readiness Funding Programs for Emergency Response **Rosland**

Whereas extended power outages increasingly affect rural and remote communities due to severe weather events, including windstorms and winter storms, which are increasing in frequency and intensity as a result of climate change;

And whereas reliable access to warm, safe, and accessible community spaces during extended power outages is critical for public safety, particularly for vulnerable populations including seniors, families with young children, people with disabilities, and residents without secondary heat sources;

And whereas current provincial Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR) funding programs do not provide support for the activation and operation of warming or emergency community centres during power outages unless a secondary disaster trigger is present:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG advocate to the Province of British Columbia to expand Emergency Management Climate Readiness (EMCR) policies and funding programs to support the activation, operation, and resourcing of warming and emergency community centres in rural and remote communities during extended power outages, including events that occur outside of existing temperature thresholds or without a secondary disaster trigger.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

EB5 BearSmart Resourcing **New Denver**

Whereas people and communities in British Columbia live alongside black bears and grizzly bears and require resources for proactive conflict prevention measures to ensure human safety and species conservation;

And whereas BC's BearSmart Community Program lacks a provincial coordinator and funding to support community efforts to address the root-causes of human-bear conflicts:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of BC reinstate a provincial coordinator for the BearSmart Community Program and provide financial resources for effective implementation to support community-based initiatives to prevent human-bear conflicts.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

FINANCE

EB6 Sustainable Public Library Funding

Salmo

Whereas public libraries in British Columbia are primarily funded by local governments and deliver provincially significant services, including literacy, digital access, workforce support, emergency response, and community well-being programs;

And whereas the Province's annual core funding for public libraries has remained at \$14 million since 2010, resulting in a significant decline in per-capita support due to population growth and inflation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to increase annual core operating funding for public libraries to reflect population growth and inflation.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

LAND USE

EB7 Keep BC Parks Open Longer

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas Provincial Parks serve a vital recreational, cultural, social and economic role in the lives of many British Columbians;

And whereas the Province of BC closes many of its parks to campers in September each year, limiting the ability of British Columbians access to those parks at a time of year when they continue to be functionally usable:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC be directed to keep our Provincial parks, including campgrounds, open until the end of October to enable the access to parks for all visitors to enjoy these recreational benefits for a longer period and to encourage healthy and active lifestyles.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

HOUSING

EB8 BC Code Application for Temporary Emergency Shelters

Trail

Whereas extreme weather events are increasing across British Columbia, creating an urgent need for temporary emergency warming centres and shelters to protect vulnerable individuals; and emergency warming centres are temporary, short-term but urgent responses typically operated in existing community buildings and rely heavily on non-profit organizations, staff, and volunteers to operate safely during emergency conditions;

And whereas the British Columbia Building Code and British Columbia Fire Code are intended to operate as coordinated companion documents, and provincial guidance confirms flexibility exists to allow temporary emergency sheltering through exemptions and site-specific fire safety planning, while maintaining public safety; and in the absence of clear and consistent provincial direction, inconsistent interpretation of the codes has placed frontline operators and volunteers in untenable positions, increased personal and organizational liability, and in some cases prevented rural communities from opening emergency warming centres during life-threatening weather:

Therefore be it resolved that the AKBLG and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia, through the Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs and the Office of the Fire Commissioner, provide clear, practical, and consistent guidance on the application of the BC Building Code and BC Fire Code for temporary emergency warming centres and shelters that can be safely implemented through site specific fire safety plans and risk mitigation measures.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

LEGISLATIVE

EB9 Bill M216-Professional Reliance Act

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas Bill M216-2025 threatens to take away local governments' discretion to review building and development plans, approve applications and carry out inspections;

And whereas this legislation could expose local governments to increased liability, lead to deficiencies, delay approval processes, increase costs for homeowners and local governments, pose environmental risks, and abolish the need for peer reviews of professionals' alleged errors or omissions:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to halt the consideration of Bill M216 given the concerns regarding development approval processes raised by local governmentst and other parties.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

EB10 Support Municipal Ethical Oversight -Independent Office

Kimberley

Whereas local governments in British Columbia are not currently required to adopt a code of conduct, and there remains no provincially mandated, independent mechanism to support local governments when ethical concerns are raised or standards are breached;

And whereas many local governments—particularly smaller and rural municipalities—are under-resourced and lack the capacity, independence, or specialized expertise to address conduct concerns without incurring significant financial and administrative burdens:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG requests that the Province of British Columbia establish an independent provincial office to support local governments in addressing ethical concerns and conduct breaches;

And be it further resolved that this office be mandated to ensure minimum provincial standards, provide a consistent and impartial approach to complaint adjudication across jurisdictions, and reduce the need for resource-intensive local investigations, particularly in under-resourced communities.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EB11 Improved Cellular Reliability in Rural and Remote Areas Rossland & Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas reliable cellular service is essential infrastructure for public safety, economic activity, and everyday communication in rural and remote communities;

And whereas many rural and remote regions in British Columbia continue to experience persistent cellular service gaps and service disruptions that affect access to emergency services and the ability of residents and businesses to operate reliably;

And whereas unreliable cellular connectivity creates barriers to local economic development by disrupting business operations, limiting remote work opportunities, and affecting tourism and service delivery:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG advocate to senior levels of government, relevant regulatory agencies, and telecommunications providers for improved cellular coverage, capacity, and reliability in rural and remote communities.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

SECTION NE (Not Endorse) – FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

This section contains resolutions that offer the recommendation of Not Endorse.

LEGISLATIVE

NE1 District Municipality Governance New Denver

Whereas rural and remote communities in British Columbia face distinct service delivery and governance challenges compared to larger urban centres;

And whereas district municipalities provide a governance model that may be better aligned with the geographic scale and service needs of some rural areas:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia review the role and potential application of district municipalities as a governance model for rural and remote communities.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **DEFEATED**

SELECTED ISSUES

NE2 Convention Timing in Election Years

New Denver

Whereas the UBCM annual convention requires significant financial and staff resources from local governments across British Columbia;

And whereas in years when municipal general elections are held, there is reduced certainty regarding the continuity of elected representation and policy priorities following the convention:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM review its convention scheduling practices and avoid holding its annual convention in years when municipal general elections occur.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **DEFEATED**

SECTION NR (No Recommendation) – FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION

In lieu of any standing policy on the Resolution's topic, AKBLG Committee presents it with No Recommendation prior to discussion.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

NR1 Provincial Support for Rural Emergency and Safety Needs

Trail

Whereas British Columbia continues to face a prolonged toxic drug and overdose crisis that drives escalating emergency response demands and complex social impacts, with rural communities experiencing disproportionate strain due to limited local healthcare capacity and reduced access to treatment, mental health, and supportive services;

And whereas rural host communities carrying regional hospitals and centralized health and social services bear significantly higher volumes of drug-related incidents and associated municipal costs, including overtime, staffing pressures, emergency response, sanitation, hazardous waste management, and environmental remediation, despite smaller tax bases and limited capacity, creating inequitable burdens across rural British Columbia:

Therefore be it resolved that the AKBLG and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia establish a sustainable, province-wide funding model that offsets the disproportionate emergency-response, public-safety, and sanitation costs borne by rural host communities responding to overdose and toxic-drug-related impacts, ensuring these expenses are not borne solely by local taxpayers.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

NR2 Regional Hospital Districts Director Compensation

New Denver

Whereas Regional Hospital Districts are funded through local taxation that is intended to support health care infrastructure and services;

And whereas the payment of director remuneration from these funds reduces the amount available for health care purposes and creates public concern about the appropriate use of health care tax revenues:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request the Province of British Columbia amend legislation governing Regional Hospital Districts to prohibit payment of remuneration to directors and permit only the reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **DEFEATED**

HOUSING

NR3 Simplifying Federal Tax Reporting for Small-Scale Residential Rentals Nelson

Whereas it is possible for homeowners to rent out a room or secondary suite within their primary residence on a long-term basis, which can help make existing housing supply available to meet local housing needs, and under current Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requirements homeowners must track detailed receipts, apportion household expenses, and comply with small-business accounting practices;

And whereas the administrative burden associated with these CRA reporting requirements can discourage homeowners from offering or maintaining long-term rental accommodation within their primary residence:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG and UBCM urge the Government of Canada and the Canada Revenue Agency to simplify tax reporting requirements for long-term rental of a room or secondary suite within a primary residence, including consideration of a simplified reporting method or standard deduction option, while maintaining existing CRA classification rules and preserving the authority of local governments to regulate use, licensing, and zoning separately from federal tax reporting requirements.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

NR4 Emergency Weather Shelter Flexibility During Extreme Events

Fernie

Whereas during extreme weather events, communities across British Columbia (BC) face a humanitarian crisis related to homelessness, and while temporary emergency overnight shelters are a critical life-saving response, current BC Building Code and Fire Code requirements and the lack of clear provincial authority and liability protection can prevent or result in the closure of short-term emergency shelters despite alternative life-safety measures being in place:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM work with the Province to establish a provincial emergency exemption framework for emergency overnight shelters during declared extreme weather events, where unanimous municipal council approval is provided by resolution; and the shelter operates on a temporary, emergency basis only.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

COMMUNITY SAFETY

NR5 Fortis BC Public Safety Power Shutoff

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas FortisBC's Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) will enable the utility to pre-emptively shut down electricity to an area during extreme weather conditions;

And whereas residents in rural areas may face risks associated with prolonged power outages, including extreme temperatures, a lack of well water, the loss of perishable food, and no access to communication systems:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask FortisBC and BC Hydro to communicate their plans to local governments around the mitigation of potential risks to residents should the Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) be implemented.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

NR6 FireSmart Compliance Certification

New Denver

Whereas the FireSmart BC Wildfire Mitigation Program provides a framework for wildfire risk assessment and mitigation for residential properties in British Columbia;

And whereas access to follow-up inspection and recognized FireSmart compliance certification is not consistently available through local delivery partners across the province, despite increasing interest from property owners and insurers in documented wildfire mitigation:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province of British Columbia work with FireSmart BC to ensure consistent province-wide access to recognized FireSmart compliance certification through qualified local delivery partners and assessors.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **DEFEATED**

NR7 Online Harm Accountability

Nelson

Whereas social media platforms, gaming platforms, and generative artificial intelligence systems are widely used by Canadians, including youth, and certain platform design, algorithmic, and monetization practices can create foreseeable risks of harm, including exploitation of children and vulnerable populations, manipulation of public discourse, and foreign interference;

And whereas Canada currently lacks a clear and comprehensive legislative framework establishing accountability standards for digital platforms, while other jurisdictions have adopted statutory duties of care and regulatory oversight to address systemic online harms and align with emerging international governance approaches:

Therefore be it resolved that the AKBLG and UBCM advocate to the Government of Canada to establish clear federal legislation creating a duty of care for digital platforms, requiring reasonable measures to prevent foreseeable harm, protect youth and vulnerable users, and ensure accountability where platforms fail to meet these obligations;

And be it further resolved that AKBLG and UBCM request that the Government of Canada engage in meaningful consultation with local governments and communities, and coordinate with international partners, in the development of such legislation.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

NR8 Online Marketplace Accountability

Nelson

Whereas Canadians lose hundreds of millions of dollars annually to fraudulent listings on online marketplaces, and current consumer protection frameworks provide limited recourse for users of peer-to-peer platforms, as marketplace operators and payment processors typically disclaim responsibility for fraudulent transactions;

And whereas other jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom and the European Union, have established mandatory platform obligations such as seller verification, fraud prevention measures, and accessible dispute resolution supported by independent regulatory oversight:

Therefore be it resolved that the AKBLG and UBCM advocate to the federal and provincial governments for the establishment of accountability standards for online marketplace platforms and associated payment processors, including seller verification requirements, timely removal of fraudulent listings, accessible complaint and dispute resolution mechanisms, and effective enforcement measures.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

FINANCE

NR9 Community Works Funding and Third Parties

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas Community Works Funding provides local governments with significant funding for local priorities, many of which are in rural communities and are run by volunteer-led third-party organizations;

And whereas the requirements around third-party organizations may now limit them from accessing this funding, thereby negatively affecting their ability to deliver much-needed services and programs in their communities:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM ask the Province to consider relaxing the requirements for third-party organizations to access Community Works Funding so that local governments can continue to support their rural communities.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

TRANSPORTATION

NR10 Restrooms at Rest Stops

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas our vast province has considerable distances between communities, rest stops are an important part of the transportation and tourism network as they provide spots for motorists, ranging from motorcycles to recreational vehicles to transport trucks, with an opportunity to rest, stretch, walk a pet or use a restroom;

And whereas not all of these rest areas are accessible to larger vehicles because of space constraints, and not all of the rest rooms are accessible to all users:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province ensures that each rest stop has rest rooms that are easily accessible by all travelers who need them.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

ENVIRONMENT

NR11 Biosolids

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas some farmers are applying biosolids on agricultural land which may contain contaminants of emerging concern, such as pharmaceuticals and “forever chemicals”;

And whereas the application of biosolids may leach into watercourses and aquifers and negatively affect ecosystems, as well as crops, livestock and humans:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of BC to mandate water quality testing of water sources that may be affected by biosolids.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

NR12 Provincial Certification for Mosquito Control Drone Technology **Golden**

Whereas current mosquito control methods by local governments in British Columbia rely on costly helicopter and ground applications of federally approved larvicides to improve quality of life for its residents;

And whereas Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) offer a cost-effective, environmentally friendly, and efficient alternative for aerial larvicide application;

And whereas British Columbia currently lacks a provincial certification process for RPAS in pest management, thereby preventing local governments from adopting this technology:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a provincial certification process for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) pesticide application.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

LEGISLATIVE

NR13 Legislative Safeguards for Ethical and Inclusive Local Governance Kimberley

Whereas local government elected officials in British Columbia do not possess statutory immunity or "freedom of speech" protections comparable to those of Members of the Legislative Assembly or Parliament, leaving them personally vulnerable to civil liability and reprisal when raising ethical concerns or dissenting in good faith;

And whereas the lack of robust, province-wide legislative safeguards creates a chilling effect on ethical debate and disproportionately exposes women, underrepresented groups, and new entrants to governance to personal, legal, and reputational risks:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG request that the Province of British Columbia, in collaboration with UBCM, amend the *Community Charter* and the *Local Government Act* to establish qualified immunity and public interest disclosure (whistleblower) protections for local government elected officials acting in good faith;

And be it further resolved that these safeguards be designed to protect officials from retaliation and ensure that ethical dissent is balanced with high standards of professional accountability.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NR14 Local Government Business Software Working Group Central Kootenay RD

Whereas local governments across British Columbia rely on mission-critical business software to deliver core services, yet many existing systems are costly, fragmented, difficult to integrate, and create long-term vendor lock-in that limits flexibility, transparency, and local control;

And whereas local governments share substantially similar operational responsibilities and service delivery needs, creating an opportunity to collaboratively strengthen digital infrastructure that better supports resident with modern, efficient, and accountable public services:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG request that UBCM, in partnership with the Ministry of Citizens' Services, establish a Local Government Business Software Working Group to assess shared operational software needs, develop common structured data models and application programming interfaces that support interoperable and transferable digital systems, and report back with recommendations and potential pilot projects to strengthen modern, locally controlled service delivery.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

NR15 Private Equity Sector Acquisitions Driving Local Government Costs Nelson

Whereas local governments across British Columbia are experiencing procurement cost increases for essential municipal goods and services, including construction, mechanical systems, fire apparatus, infrastructure materials, and specialized software, at rates that in some sectors exceed general inflation;

And whereas market consolidation and acquisition activity, including private equity investment in sectors serving local governments, may be contributing to reduced competition and increased costs, with potential long-term fiscal implications for municipalities and taxpayers:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG call on UBCM to undertake or commission a comprehensive study examining procurement cost escalation affecting local governments, including the impacts of market consolidation, acquisition activity, and other contributing factors, and to report findings and recommendations to member local governments.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

Section RR - Regional Resolutions (not for referral to UBCM; action through AKBLG)

These resolutions address an issue which is specific to the AKBLG Region and/or the enactment clause directs only the AKBLG Area Association (and not UBCM) to consider taking action. Endorsed AKBLG region-specific resolutions will not be forwarded to UBCM for consideration by the UBCM membership but will instead remain with AKBLG where they will be considered for actioned by the AKBLG Executive.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

RR1 Youth Detox and Treatment Centre

Cranbrook

Whereas there is an urgent need for publicly funded beds to support youth (0-18 years of age) struggling with drug and alcohol addiction in southeastern British Columbia (SE BC);

And whereas the closest treatment centres serving youth are located in Kamloops for detox and recovery, an eight-hour drive from Cranbrook, and in Kelowna for recovery, a six-hour drive from Cranbrook;

And whereas there is no public transportation linking SE BC with Kamloops or Kelowna;

And whereas a parent or guardian is required to accompany their child and remain there at their expense while their child participates in detox (Kamloops) and waits for a recovery bed to become available (Kamloops or Kelowna), resulting in hundreds of dollars in personal expenses for travel, accommodation and meals:

Therefore be it resolved that the BC Government, through the Ministry of Children and Family Development and the Ministry of Health, provide a minimum of 10 publicly funded detox and treatment beds for youth, to be located in a centre in southeastern British Columbia.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

TRANSPORTATION

RR2 Columbia and Western Rail Trail

Kootenay Boundary RD

Whereas the Columbia and Western Rail Trail is an important recreation corridor, economic driver, historic asset, alternate escape route for residents of Christina Lake in the event of wildfire, and critical access route for 76 residences along the western side of the Lower Arrow Lake;

And whereas when the Province of BC disestablished the Trail as recreation trail in 2019, it assured the public that recreational access would continue, yet it has now designated the Trail a non-status rail grade which means the corridor will not receive funding, maintenance or management:

Therefore be it resolved that Province of BC be urged to reverse its decision to designate the Columbia and Western Rail Trail as a non-status rail grade and to work with user groups and other ministries, both federal and provincial, to identify, mitigate and proactively manage safety concerns.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

ASSESSMENT

RR3 Tourist Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act

Golden

Whereas the *Tourist Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act* provides preferential assessment relief to certain Class 6 tourist accommodation properties, resulting in reduced assessed values for taxation purposes and corresponding shifts in the property tax burden to other property classes within municipalities and regional districts;

And whereas changes in the tourism, housing, and short-term rental landscape since the Act's introduction, together with past UBCM advocacy and subsequent legislative amendments, warrant renewed examination of the Act's ongoing relevance, impacts, and alignment with contemporary local and provincial government objectives, including tax equity, revenue stability, and housing affordability:

Therefore be it resolved that AKBLG undertake further research into the regional impacts of the *Tourism Accommodation (Assessment Relief) Act*, including its interaction with property classification regulations, and report its findings to the membership for consideration of future advocacy to the Province, including potential reform or repeal of the Act.

AKBLG Convention Outcome: Motion to endorse, **CARRIED**

SPECIAL/LATE RESOLUTIONS

Excerpt from AKBLG Bylaws:

LATE AND SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS

- 9.4 Resolutions received after the annual submission date and at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the Annual General Meeting shall be considered *Late Resolutions* and shall comply with all other submission requirements.
- 9.5 *Late Resolutions* shall be held over until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 9.6 Notwithstanding s. 9.5, the *Resolutions* Standing Committee may review and submit to the membership as a *Special Resolution* any *Late Resolution* pertaining to a unique and unforeseen event or circumstance requiring time-sensitive attention and having occurred since the submission deadline.
- 9.7 A *Special Resolution* requires a two-thirds vote in support of consideration prior to being introduced onto the floor of the Annual General Meeting, and may only be introduced after all *Ordinary Resolutions* have been considered, unless two-thirds of the Delegates present determine to hear the resolution immediately.

SR1. Replacement for Community Housing Fund

AKBLG

WHEREAS the housing crisis across the Province continues to cause measurable harm to renters, working families, seniors, and employers, with rental vacancy rates at or near zero across much of the region, creating serious challenges for workforce recruitment and retention in rural communities; and

WHEREAS the suspension of the Community Housing Fund has stranded shovel-ready affordable housing projects in every region of the province where non-profit societies and municipal partners spent years on public consultations, land contributions, rezonings, and pre-development work in good-faith reliance on provincial programs, and where the loss of Community Housing Fund financing has collapsed projects that depended on BC Builds and other provincial and federal funding streams working in combination, a situation the BC Non-Profit Housing Association estimates has cost the sector \$15 million province-wide;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities demand the Province of British Columbia establish a replacement for the Community Housing Fund that prioritizes previously submitted applications through a formal resubmission process and ensures small and rural communities are prioritized in any federal-provincial housing framework.

AKBLG Resolution Committee recommendation: **Endorse**

AKBLG Resolution Committee comments:

The Resolution Committee submits this Late Resolution as a Special Resolution given that it pertains to an unforeseen event requiring time sensitive attention (per Section 9.6 AKBLG Bylaws).