



Walking Together
Honouring Relationships,
Leading Change

**2026 AGM &
Conference**

Annual Report

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 the 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.

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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](https://twitter.com/NCLGA)
- Website:** www.nclga.com



1. Governance and Organizational Overview

1.1 NCLGA Board of Directors 2025-2026



Gladys Atrill
Mayor,
Town of Smithers
President



Melanie Woods
Councillor, Nisga'a
Village of Gitlaxt'aamiks
Director at Large



Judy Greenaway
Director, Regional District
of Fraser-Fort George
*Appointed Regional Representative
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District*



Tony Zabinsky
Councillor,
City of Fort St. John
1st Vice President



Jesse Wright
Councillor,
District of Mackenzie
Director at Large



Leonard Hiebert
Vice Chair, Regional
District of Peace River
*Appointed Regional Representative
Peace River Regional District*



Kyle MacDonald
Councillor,
City of Dawson Creek
2nd Vice President



Barry Cunningham
Councillor,
City of Prince Rupert
*Appointed Regional Representative
North Coast Regional District*



Jerrilyn Kirk
Director, Regional District
of Fraser-Fort George
*Appointed Regional Representative
Fraser-Fort George Regional District*



Judy Greenaway
Director, Regional District
of Fraser-Fort George
Past President



Eric de Vries
Director, Cariboo
Regional District
*Appointed Regional Representative
Cariboo Regional District*



Julie Maitland
Mayor,
Village of Hazelton
*Appointed Regional Representative
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District*



Julia Nelson
Councillor,
District of Chetwynd
Director at Large



Brenda Enax
Councillor, Northern Rockies
Regional Municipality
*Appointed Regional Representative
Northern Rockies Regional District*

1.2 Membership List 2025-2026

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 Laxgalt'sap
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



2. Leadership, Impact and Strategic Direction

2.1 President's Report

As the 2025 – 2026 year comes to a close for NCLGA, there is much to reflect on. When I think of circumstances occurring globally, I am reminded to be extremely grateful for where I live in North Central BC. It is a region of beauty, diversity, and opportunity. From the Pacific Ocean to the Rocky Mountains, from the prairies of the northeast to the plateaus and canyons of the Cariboo, the area we represent in the North Central Local Government Association is truly one of the best places in the world.

Since we last met in Prince Rupert a year ago, your Board, Executive, and staff have focussed on the areas of finance, communication, and advocacy. I am pleased to report our focus on finances means we will return a small amount to our reserve, as members had requested. We have also developed a new membership fee model that is more equitable and will be presented for discussion at AGM 2026.

On the communication front, we worked to improve our outreach to you through our newsletters, updates on NCLGA activities at our own tables, be they Council or Regional Districts, and reaching out to First Nations governments to introduce NCLGA and extend an invitation to join as members. Communication was also combined with education through webinars on issues such as mental health, energy innovation, and writing effective resolutions. The Mental Health and Addictions Accord Signatories held a focussed meeting in Prince George in fall of 2025, and continue to meet quarterly.

On advocacy, Board members met with Ministers at UBCM 2025 and spoke on a variety of topics important to our membership. Advocacy letters were sent to Provincial Ministers relating to NCLGA resolutions, and we raised with Premier David Eby the importance of engaging with local governments in the NCLGA region, including at our AGM. Our AGM and Conference is one time every year where we gather, offering a perfect opportunity for provincial ministers could engage directly with our members.

The past year has gone quickly and has presented me with an extraordinary learning opportunity. As NCLGA's appointee to the UBCM Board I have seen what we have in common with our colleagues across BC. I have also been struck by the humanity that local elected officials bring to their work, with such a deep love of community and desire to make them better places.

2026 is election year for local governments in BC and it will naturally be a time of change. My fervent desire is that we keep the discourse civil, to focus on the ideas, not the people. We will need to lead the election conversations with grace and fortitude to demonstrate what we hope to see in candidates and citizens. Whether you choose to seek another term or to move on to other adventures I thank you for your work and wish you all the best.

I offer thanks, too, to the members of the Board of Directors and to your Executive – Tony Zabinsky, Kyle MacDonald, and Judy Greenaway for their hard work and support. To our hard working and professional staff thank you, too – Terry Robert, Sandra Moore, and Bettina Johnson, you have helped make this past year memorable, enjoyable, and productive.



Gladys Atrill
President

2.2 Executive Director's Report

The 2025–2026 year reflects continued advancement of NCLGA's core role: strengthening regional advocacy, convening partners, and delivering value to members across Northern and Central British Columbia.

ADVOCACY IMPACT

NCLGA maintained a strong and focused advocacy presence through strategic engagement with the Province and the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM), coordinated advocacy letters, and support for direct member engagement with decision-makers.

This work ensures region-specific priorities—particularly those not fully captured at the provincial scale—are consistently advanced and positioned for action.

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Member engagement was strengthened through quarterly NCLGA Connections newsletters, ongoing outreach, and quarterly webinars (25–40 participants) on priority topics including rural healthcare, economic development, and effective advocacy through resolutions.

These efforts reinforce a coordinated regional voice. NCLGA is also exploring joint webinars and sponsorship opportunities with other BC area associations to expand reach and impact.

MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS ACCORD

The Mental Health and Addictions Accord continues to demonstrate strong regional alignment and momentum. The 2025 Symposium, co-hosted with partners including the Lheidli T'enneh, focused on advancing shared advocacy priorities and commitments.

The Accord expanded to 39 signatory organizations, supported by quarterly advocacy meetings to strengthen coordination, accountability, and collective action.

GOVERNANCE AND OPERATIONS

NCLGA's committee structure continues to provide strong governance, oversight, and strategic direction through the Executive, Finance, and Resolutions Committees, supporting effective leadership, financial stewardship, and a focused advocacy process.

Organizational Sustainability and Strategic Direction

Key efforts this year supported long-term stability and clarity, including:

- Ongoing review of the membership fee model to enhance fairness and sustainability
- Advancement of the Strategic Reserve Fund
- Alignment of financial planning with multi-year priorities

The updated Strategic Plan reinforces NCLGA's core priorities, maintaining strategic continuity while sharpening focus and execution in response to evolving regional needs.

LOOKING AHEAD

NCLGA will continue to strengthen advocacy outcomes, expand member engagement, and leverage partnerships to address shared regional challenges.

I would like to thank the NCLGA President, Executive, and Board for their continued leadership. Members are encouraged to engage with NCLGA to strengthen regional alignment in their advocacy efforts—our collective impact is strongest when advanced together.

NCLGA remains a strong, coordinated voice advancing the interests of local governments across the region.

2.3 2023–2026 Strategic Plan – Final Year Report

The AGM report includes updates on activities and progress related to the Plan's priorities. Please refer to the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan Update infographic, which will be available to all members at registration, for detailed updates related to our priorities and action plan.

The plan is grounded in its mission, vision, and values, which guide all priorities and actions and focuses on four core priorities: advocacy, communications, relationships, and good governance.

Together, these priorities support the overall goal of strengthening regional collaboration and advancing the well-being of North Central BC communities.

2.4 Committee Reports

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: A Standing Committee of the leadership (Table Officers) of the NCLGA, chaired by the President, to provide oversight, addresses operational decisions, and general advocacy. Meetings are held monthly.

SCOPE OF WORK: Provides leadership and direction to NCLGA, oversees implementation of strategic plans and initiatives, reviews and recommends policy updates, supports accountability and transparency, provides oversight of communications, including the NCLGA Connections newsletter, and facilitates coordination among Directors and staff.

IMPACT: Strengthened direct engagement with elected officials and advanced coordinated, member-driven advocacy at the provincial and federal levels.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: A Standing Committee of the leadership (Table Officers) of the NCLGA, chaired by the 1st Vice President, to provide recommendations to the Board on issues related to finance, including reports, recommendations, and funding opportunities. Meets four times per year.

SCOPE OF WORK: Reviews financial reports, membership fees, operating statements, reserve funds, policy updates, accountability measures, and revenue opportunities.

ACTIVITIES IN 2025 INCLUDED: Closing the Scotiabank account, reviewing a proposed streamlined membership fee model, reviewing a CPI-based framework, analyzing the Strategic Reserve Fund, following up on accounts receivable and deferred revenue, and recommending the 2026–2027 Budget.

IMPACT: Improved financial clarity and sustainability, positioning the organization to make informed decisions on fees, reserves, and long-term financial planning.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: To bring together the leadership (Table Officers) of the NCLGA to provide recommendations to the Board on issues related to governance, including bylaws, Board and Committee governance, recruitment of Directors, and review and development of policy and procedures. Meets four times per year.

SCOPE OF WORK: Reviews governance frameworks, policies, committee Terms of References, accountability mechanisms, Board orientation and development, and emerging best practices.

ACTIVITIES IN 2025 INCLUDED: Approval of the Communications Policy, approval of Board and strategy session dates, review and approval of Committee Terms of Reference, and ongoing governance improvements.

IMPACT: Strengthened governance structures and clarity, supporting effective decision-making and Board accountability.

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: The Planning and Priorities Committee serves as a Committee of the Whole, involving all Board members in guiding the organization's strategic direction. This committee ensures NCLGA's activities help advance the goals identified in the Strategic Plan. Meets four times per year.

SCOPE OF WORK: Reviews strategic priorities, emerging issues, planning processes, partnerships, initiatives, and provides recommendations to the Board.

ACTIVITIES IN 2025 INCLUDED: Providing oversight of the quarterly NCLGA Connections newsletter (4 issues), supporting strategic discussions on emerging issues, and overseeing sub-committees, including the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium and AGM planning.

IMPACT: Enhanced strategic alignment and communication with members, while advancing priority initiatives and organizational visibility.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: The Resolutions Committee serves as a Committee of the Whole, involving all Board members, and directs the development, implementation, monitoring, and reporting of the annual NCLGA Resolutions process.

SCOPE OF WORK: Develops and monitors the resolutions process and supports alignment with the Strategic Plan.

ACTIVITIES IN 2025 INCLUDED: Reviewing four Executive resolutions and 41 member-submitted resolutions, refining the resolutions process, and supporting alignment with strategic priorities.

IMPACT: Strengthened the quality, relevance, and strategic alignment of member-driven advocacy.

INDIGENOUS RELATIONS COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: To identify themes, priorities and strategies that advance Indigenous relations in north-central BC, through the implementation of the *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA).

SCOPE OF WORK: Collaborates with member communities and Indigenous partners, researches and advocates for solutions, and communicates Committee activities.

ACTIVITIES IN 2025 INCLUDED: Presentations to two First Nation communities, development of a First Nations information package, and ongoing engagement and relationship-building.

IMPACT: Strengthened relationships with First Nations and advanced understanding and collaboration across the region.

2025 Highlights

- Delivered coordinated advocacy through five delegations to all member regional districts and 21 advocacy letters to provincial and federal decision-makers
- Strengthened member engagement and communications through the quarterly NCLGA Connections newsletter
- Advanced financial sustainability through membership fee model review, CPI-based framework, and Strategic Reserve Fund analysis
- Continued progress on governance modernization, strategic alignment, and Indigenous engagement.



3. Looking Forward: Strategic Direction

3.1 Proposed Strategic Plan 2027–2030

The proposed edits to the 2027–2030 NCLGA Strategic Plan are minimal and focus primarily on improving clarity, consistency, and professionalism in language while aligning the document more closely with current organizational priorities. Minor grammatical and formatting adjustments were made throughout, along with refreshed references to ensure ongoing relevance beyond the COVID-19 recovery context. High-level refinements strengthen alignment with NCLGA’s advocacy mandate, commitments, and priorities, without altering the intent or structure of the existing plan. Overall, the revisions maintain the integrity of the original strategy while enhancing readability and contemporary relevance.

Examples of edits included:

- Corrected grammar and formatting (e.g., “decision – making” to “decision-making,” spelling errors like “Quaterly” to “Quarterly”).
- Simplified wording for clarity (e.g., “we saw an opportunity or theme emerge” to “a theme emerged”).
- Replaced informal language with more professional tone (e.g., “why we are awesome” to “the value we bring”).
- Updated references that were time-specific (e.g., reduced emphasis on COVID-19 recovery to reflect ongoing priorities).
- Improved consistency in terminology and formatting (e.g., electoral area naming, use of capitalization).
- Clarified membership and organizational statistics for accuracy.
- Reduced repetition and streamlined sections in the Action Plan tables.
- Added minor wording to better reflect ongoing priorities such as advocacy outcomes, reconciliation, and member engagement.

The core direction of the Strategic Plan remains unchanged. The following strategic priorities and vision continue as originally adopted:

- Vision: Supporting and making community needs visible to improve quality of life across North Central BC.
- Strategic Priorities:
 - Advocacy – Providing member input into informed decision-making.
 - Communications – To communicate effectively.
 - Relationships – To build productive relationships.
 - Good Governance – To operate a resilient and transparent organization that is sustainable over the long-term.

These priorities, along with the overall structure of the plan, have not been altered. The edits focus only on clarity, consistency, and ensuring the language reflects current context, without changing the intent or direction of the strategy.



4. Governance and Member Direction

4.1 Minutes of the 2025 NCLGA Annual General Meeting

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Tuesday May 15, 2025

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) President Judy Greenaway provided opening remarks and offered a Territorial Acknowledgement. She introduced herself as the Master of Ceremonies (M/C), welcomed all delegates and guests, and expressed appreciation to the host communities.

CALL TO ORDER: NCLGA President Judy Greenaway called to order the 2025 NCLGA AGM & Convention at 9:00 am on May 13, 2025, and introduced the Prince Rupert Rotary Choir, who sang the National Anthem.

President Greenaway gave regrets from the Honourable Brittany Anderson who was unavailable to attend in person and invited delegates to watch a welcome video message from Minister Anderson. NCLGA President Greenaway then introduced welcome video messages from MLA Tamara Davidson, as well as MP Ellis Ross.

Following this, NCLGA President Greenaway introduced and invited Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) President, Trish Mandewo, to the podium to address the delegates. The UBCM President welcomed the delegates and commented on the beauty of the north coast, while emphasizing the importance of area association gatherings as a key touchstone for local governments, especially considering the political climate involving Canada's relationship with the United States. The UBCM President referenced a model that UBCM has developed in partnership with Oxford Economics regarding how the trade war will affect the GDP, employment, and a host of other measures. The UBCM President continued by explaining how UBCM will continue to bring forth issues stemming from the trade war that will be affecting BC Municipalities, and she will continue to advocate to have municipalities supported through these times. UBCM will continue to voice concerns around Bill 15, and how this bill was created without any consultation. Delegates were thanked for taking the time to attend.

President Greenaway introduced and advised that the Chief Administrative Officer of the North Coast Regional District, Daniel Fish, a registered Parliamentarian, will be advising during the conference on matters of order. President Greenaway then referenced the 2025 NCLGA Agenda and Annual Report, which was 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 2025 Annual General Meeting, held in Prince Rupert, BC, from May 13-15, 2025, be APPROVED as presented. **CARRIED**

MINUTES

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the minutes 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**

NCLGA PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Judy Greenaway 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**

FINANCIAL REPORT

1st Vice-President and Chair of the Financial Committee, Gladys Atrill, reviewed the 2024/25 Financial Report and presented the North Central Local Government Association financial budget/statements.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association 2025/25 Budget Report, be RECEIVED as amended to strike the additional line item for the symposium for \$130K that was added in error. **CARRIED**

2024/2025 NOTICE TO READER

1st Vice President Atrill reviewed the 2024/25 Notice to Reader.

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's 2024-2025 Notice to Reader be RECEIVED as presented. **CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF 3% MEMBERSHIP FEE INCREASE

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's Membership Fee 3% increase for the 2025-2026 fiscal year be APPROVED as presented. **CARRIED**

BUDGET

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the North Central Local Government Association's 2025/2026 Budget be APPROVED as presented. **CARRIED**

MULTI-YEAR BUDGET

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

AUDITOR

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the appointment of KPMG as the North Central Local Government Association's 2025/26 Annual Accountant be APPROVED as presented. **CARRIED**

BOARD NOMINATIONS REPORT

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the 2025/26 NCLGA Board Nominations Report be RECEIVED as presented. **CARRIED**

MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED - President Greenaway recessed the Annual General Meeting - Business Session A at approximately 10:15 a.m. and reconvened at 10:25 a.m.

3. EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR AT LARGE NOMINATIONS

NCLGA Past-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 2025/26.

Past-President Boehm read out the names of nominations received in advance for the First Ballot (Executive):

- **President:** Gladys Atrill, Mayor, Town of Smithers
- **First Vice-President:** Tony Zabinsky, Councillor, City of Fort St John
- **Second Vice-President:** Kyle MacDonald, Councillor, City of Dawson Creek

Past-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 by acclamation:

- **President:** Gladys Atrill, Mayor, Town of Smithers
- **First Vice-President:** Tony Zabinsky, Councillor, City of Fort St John
- **Second Vice-President:** Kyle MacDonald, Councillor, City of Dawson Creek

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

- **Director at Large:** Jesse Wright, Councillor, District of Mackenzie

Past-President Boehm then called for any additional nominations from the floor, receiving the following nominations:

Director at Large:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Ron Polillo, Councillor, City of Prince George, be NOMINATED for NCLGA Director at Large. **ACCEPTED**

Director at Large:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Melanie Woods, Councillor, Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government, be NOMINATED for NCLGA Director at Large. **ACCEPTED**

Director at Large:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Barb Bachmeier, Director, Cariboo Regional District, be NOMINATED for NCLGA Director at Large. **ACCEPTED**

Director at Large:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Genevieve Patterson, Councillor, Town of Smithers, be NOMINATED for NCLGA Director at Large. **ACCEPTED**

Director at Large:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Julia Nelson, Councillor, District of Chetwynd, be NOMINATED for NCLGA Director at Large. **ACCEPTED**

Director at Large:

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT Steve Forseth, Director, Cariboo Regional District, be NOMINATED for NCLGA Director at Large. **DECLINED**

NCLGA Past-President Boehm announced the 2025-2026 election will be held from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Each candidate was given time to give a short speech about themselves.

Past-President Boehm announced the appointed Regional Representatives as follows:

- Leonard Hiebert, Peace River Regional District
- Jerrilyn Kirk, Fraser Fort-George Regional District
- Eric de Vries, Cariboo Regional District
- Sarrah Storey, Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako
- Julie Maitland, Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine
- Barry Cunningham, North Coast Regional District
- Brenda Enax, Northern Rockies Regional District.

4. PLENARY SESSION: TAKING STOCK OF THE TRADE WAR: LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACTS

President Gladys Atrill introduced guest speakers UBCM President Mandewo and Gary MacIsaac, Executive Director of Union of BC Municipalities, who explored the potential financial impacts on local governments based on modelling that UBCM has commissioned from Oxford Economics.

5. RESOLUTIONS SESSIONS – PART 1

NCLGA Directors at Large, Jerrilyn Kirk, Tony Zabinsky, and Parliamentarian Daniel Fish moderated Part 1 of the NCLGA Resolutions Session and described the resolution process.

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

E1. ADVANCING RECOVERY-INFORMED WORKPLACE PRACTICES

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

E2. BLOOD PLASMA DONOR CENTRE FOR NORTHERN BC

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

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

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

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. **CARRIED**

E5. MODERNIZATION OF REGIONAL DISTRICT LEGISLATION

WITHDRAWN

E6. PROVINCIAL SUPPORT FOR AREA ASSOCIATIONS THROUGH REGIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

WITHDRAWN

E7. ENGAGEMENT PROTOCOLS FOR REGIONAL DIRECTORS IN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

E8. CANADA-FIRST LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

E9. ELIMINATING INTERPROVINCIAL TRADE BARRIERS

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

E10. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERMANENT PROVINCIAL HOUSING POLICY ROUNDTABLE

MOVED/SECONDED

WHEREAS effective and sustainable housing policies require advance consultation with local governments, Indigenous organizations, non-profit providers, private sector experts, and academic institutions to ensure workable, coordinated solutions, and recent provincial housing legislation has often been developed without sufficient input from sector stakeholders, leading to unintended consequences, implementation challenges for local governments, and impacts on housing supply and affordability;

AND WHEREAS a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable, modeled on advisory bodies such as the Energy Step Code Council, would strengthen collaboration, improve the development and implementation of housing policy, and ensure ongoing engagement with key stakeholders;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) advocate for the Government of British Columbia to establish a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable with representation from local governments, Indigenous housing organizations, non-profit and private housing sectors, academic experts, and both provincial and federal housing ministries, to strengthen housing policy development, monitor impacts, and support coordinated solutions to British Columbia's housing challenges. **REFERRED TO NCLGA EXECUTIVE**

POINT OF ORDER:

In response to a point of order, it was advised the motion would be withdrawn and referred to the Executive.

MEETING RECESSED / RECONVENED

NCLGA Director Jerrilyn Kirk recessed the Annual General Meeting at approximately 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m. Polls opened for voting at 12:30 p.m.

6. PLENARY SESSION: GAAYHLXID/ GÍHLGALGANG “RISING TIDE” HAIDA TITLE LANDS AGREEMENT

NCLGA 2nd Vice-President, Kyle MacDonald, introduced guest speakers Barry Pages, Chair of North Coast Regional District (NCRD), Daniel Fish, CAO NCRD, Carolyn Kamper, Assistant Deputy Minister (MIRR), Heinz Dyck, Chief Negotiator, Gaagwiis, and Jason Alsop, President of Haida Nation, who shared what the recent 2024/2025 Crown recognition of Haida Aboriginal title to Haida Gwaii means for local governments and resident communities.

7. PLENARY SESSION: HOST COMMUNITY UPDATES

NCRD Representative, Barry Cunningham, introduced guest speakers Herb Pond, Mayor of the City of Prince Rupert, Knut Bjorndal, Mayor of the District of Port Edward, and Barry Pages, Chair of NCRD, who shared firsthand insights into the latest developments, challenges, and initiatives from host communities.

8. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS

Delegates attended concurrent panel sessions, as noted below:

Session 8A: Theme: Fires Safety

Title: The Volunteer/Paid on Call Firefighting Sector – How to Succeed in a Changing Environment

Speaker: Tim Pley, Former CAO and former President of the Fire Chiefs Association of BC

Session 8B: Theme: Resolution Collaboration

Title: NCLGA/Northern Chambers Collaboration on Resolutions

Speaker: Neil Godbout, CEO, Prince George Chamber of Commerce and Jerrilyn Kirk, Area Director, Regional District of Fraser Fort-George and Executive Director, Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce

Session 8C: Theme: Mental Health and Wellbeing

Title: Mental Health and Wellbeing for Local Government Elected Officials

Speaker: Brian Frenkel, Councillor, District of Vanderhoof and Terry Robert, Executive Director, NCLGA

Session 8D: Theme: Health Care

Title: Taking Action to Address BC's Healthcare Challenges

Speaker: Teri Forster, North West Regional Council Member, BCNU and Danette Thomsen, North East Regional Council Member, BCNU

Session 8J: Theme: Artificial Intelligence

Title: Harnessing AI for Enhanced Capacity in Local Government: A Case Study

Speaker: Megan Chorlton, CEO, MIABC, with Daniel Schroeter, Director of Corporate Services, Town of Smithers and Daphne Thomson, Director of Legislative Services, District of Port Edward

MEETING RECESSED / RECONVENED

The Concurrent Panel Sessions recessed at 3:50 p.m.

9. CONCURRENT PANEL SESSIONS, CONTINUED

Session 9A: Theme: Fire Safety

Title: The Volunteer/Paid on Call Firefighting Sector – How to Succeed in a Changing Environment

Speaker: Tim Pley, Former CAO and former President of the Fire Chiefs Association of BC

Session 9B: Theme: Resolution Collaboration

Title: NCLGA/Northern Chambers Collaboration on Resolutions

Speaker: Neil Godbout, CEO, Prince George Chamber of Commerce and Jerrilyn Kirk, Area Director, Regional District of Fraser Fort-George and Executive Director, Tumbler Ridge Chamber of Commerce

Session 9C: Theme: Mental Health and Wellbeing

Title: Mental Health and Wellbeing for Local Government Elected Officials

Speaker: Brian Frenkel, Councillor, District of Vanderhoof and Terry Robert, Executive Director, NCLGA

Session 9D: Theme: Health Care

Title: Taking Action to Address BC's Healthcare Challenges

Speaker: Teri Forster, North West Regional Council Member, BCNU and Danette Thomsen, North East Regional Council Member, BCNU

Session 9E: Theme: Artificial Intelligence

Title: Harnessing AI for Enhanced Capacity in Local Government: A Case Study

Speaker: Megan Chorlton, CEO, MIABC, with Daniel Schroeter, Director of Corporate Services, Town of Smithers and Daphne Thomson, Director of Legislative Services, District of Port Edward

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Wednesday May 14, 2025

10. REFLECTIONS OF DAY ONE

President Judy Greenaway reconvened the Annual General Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on May 14, 2025, and addressed concerns raised from the previous day's Resolution Session, noting the intention was to keep the session accessible and engaging, and NCLGA apologised to any delegates who felt the process was diminished.

President Greenaway introduced the 2025-2026 Board of Directors elected on the previous day as follows:

- Julia Nelson, Councillor, District of Chetwynd
- Melanie Woods, Councillor, Gitlaxt'aamiks Village Government
- Jesse Wright, Councillor, District of Mackenzie

BALLOTS OF 2025-2026 ELECTION

MOVED/SECONDED, THAT the NCLGA Executive Director destroy the ballots of the 2025-2026 Election. **CARRIED**

11. PLENARY SESSION: BUILDING BRIDGES: CLIMATE ADAPTATION, HOUSING AND RECONCILIATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

NCLGA Director at Large, Jesse Wright, introduced guest speaker Gaëtane Carignan, Climate Leadership & Energy Retrofits Collaborator, Community Energy Association and Kaitlyn Robinson, Climate Coordinator, Nisga'a Lisims Government, who highlighted the transformative work of the Nisga'a Nation in collaboration with the community Energy Association (CEA), focusing on climate adaptation, sustainable housing, and reconciliation through partnerships.

12. PLENARY SESSION: TALE OF A TAX SALE (WATSON ISLAND)

Teri Forster, Councillor, City of Prince Rupert, introduced guest speaker Corinne Bomben, Chief Financial Officer, City of Prince Rupert, who shared what happens when no one bids on a tax sale auction, and what happens when a municipality becomes an unwilling owner of a failed major industrial property.

MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED

2nd Vice-President, Tony Zabinsky, recessed the Annual General Meeting at 10:45 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

13. PLENARY SESSION: MIABC

Barry Pages, Chair, NCRD, introduced guest speaker Gord Klassen, NCLGA Representative to MIABC, who provided an update on MIABC.

14. PLENARY SESSION: NDIR

Barry Pages, Chair, NCRD introduced guest speaker Jordan Barrett, Manager, Partner Programs, Northern Development Initiatives Trust

15. PLENARY SESSION: NORTHERN MEDICAL PROGRAMS TRUST

Mayor Bjorndal, District of Port Edward, introduced Gord Klassen, President, Northern Medical Programs Trust, who highlighted the inspiring work of the Northern Medical Programs Trust (NMPT).

16. PLENARY SESSION: REGIONAL DISTRICTS – LEGISLATIVE REFORM

President Judy Greenaway introduced Donald Lidstone, K.C., Managing Partner, who gave a presentation and consultation with members regarding proposals for reforming legislation.

MEETING RECESSED / RECONVENED

NCLGA Director Jerrilyn Kirk recessed the Annual General Meeting at 12:10 p.m. and reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

17. RESOLUTIONS SESSIONS – PART 2, MAY 14TH

Jerrilyn Kirk, Tony Zabinsky, and Daniel Fish returned to moderate Part 2 of the NCLGA Resolutions Session.

MOVED/SECONDED

Motion to refer Resolution E10 to the NCLGA Executive Board.

CARRIED

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

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

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **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**

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

Submitted by: City of Dawson Creek

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R3. MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT FOR LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

Submitted by: Cariboo Regional District

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R4. RURAL FOUNDRY CENTRES

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R5. REVISITING THE DECRIMINALIZATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - WITHDRAWN

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

R6. PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL FOR NORTHERN BC

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

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R7. REGIONAL SECURE PSYCHIATRIC CARE FACILITY

Submitted by: City of Prince George

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

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

Submitted by: District of Chetwynd

MOVED/SECONDED

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.

CARRIED

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

Submitted by: City of Fort St. John

MOVED/SECONDED

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.

CARRIED

R10. LOWERING FINANCIAL BARRIERS FOR COMMUNITY HOUSING PROJECTS

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

MOVED/SECONDED

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.

CARRIED

R11. FUNDING OFF-SITE WORKS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

MOVED/SECONDED

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.

CARRIED

R12. SPECULATION AND VACANCY TAX

Submitted by: District of Kitimat

MOVED/SECONDED

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.

CARRIED

R13. INITIAL FIRE ATTACK CREW RELOCATION

Submitted by: District of Chetwynd

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 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.

CARRIED

R14. EMERGENCY SOCIAL SERVICES GRANT FUNDING FOR CAPITAL COSTS

Submitted by: Town of Smithers

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R15. RELEASE OF PROLIFIC OFFENDERS IN COMMUNITIES

Submitted by: City of Williams Lake

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

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

Submitted by: City of Dawson Creek

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

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

Submitted by: City of Terrace

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

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. **CARRIED**

R19. CONSERVATION OFFICER ADVOCACY

Submitted by: City of Prince George

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R20. ALLOCATION OF WILDLIFE REVENUES TO CONSERVATION

Submitted by: Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R21. MOOSE HABITAT CONSIDERATIONS IN LANDSCAPE PLANNING

Submitted by: Village of Burns Lake

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R22. BIODIVERSE CLIMATE RESILIENT ECOSYSTEMS

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

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R23. BALANCED EMISSIONS POLICIES

Submitted by: Peace River Regional District, District of Taylor

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

R24. NUCLEAR ENERGY IN BC

Submitted by: District of Mackenzie

MOVED/SECONDED

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. **CARRIED**

RESOLUTION FROM THE FLOOR

MOVED/SECONDED

THAT the remaining resolutions be referred to the NCLGA Executive for consideration. **CARRIED**

RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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, 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, and 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.

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.

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.

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.

18. PLENARY SESSION: CN MOVING THE ECONOMY SAFELY

Barry Pages, Chair, NCRD, introduced guest speakers Tyler Banick, Manager Stakeholder Relations, British Columbia and Stella Karnis, Sr. Director Environment who presented on CN's ambition to be the safest railroad in North America with an uncompromising commitment to the health and safety of everyone.

MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED

Mayor Herb Pond recessed the Annual General Meeting at 3:00 p.m., and Councillor Reid Skelton-Morven reconvened the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

19. PLENARY SESSION: GITXAALA ENTERPRISES CORPORATION: INVESTING IN PRINCE RUPERT'S FUTURE

Reid Skelton-Morven, Councillor, City of Prince Rupert, introduced guest speaker Blair Mirau, Director of Business Development, Gitxaala Enterprises Corporation, who shared the mission of the GECCO to create multi-generational wealth and economic self-sufficiency for Gitxaala citizens.

MEETING ADJOURNED

NCLGA President Judy Greenaway adjourned the Annual General Meeting at 4:30 p.m. on May 14, 2025.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Thursday, May 15, 2025

20. OPENING REMARKS – DAY 3

NCLGA President Judy Greenaway reconvened the Annual General Meeting at 9:00 a.m. on May 15, 2025, and introduced the Co-Hosts of the 2026 NCLGA AGM and Convention.

President Greenaway presented the Community Leadership Awards as follows:

- Economic Development: City of Prince Rupert and City of Prince George
- Environmental Stewardship: District of Mackenzie
- Environmental Stewardship: City of Prince George
- Social Responsibility: City of Fort St. John.

21. NCLGA STRATEGIC UPDATE

NCLGA First Vice President, Gladys Atrill, NCLGA Director Tony Zabinsky, and NCLGA Executive Director Terry Robert delivered the Strategic Update for NCLGA.

MEETING RECESSED/RECONVENED

Tony Zabinsky recessed the Annual General Meeting at 10:00 a.m. and Mayor Herb Pond reconvened the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

22. PLENARY SESSION: PRINCE RUPERT PORT AUTHORITY UPDATE

Herb Pond, Mayor, City of Prince Rupert, introduced guest speaker Kurt Slocombe, Vice President of Operations, Infrastructure & Planning, Prince Rupert Port Authority, who gave an overview of the Port of Prince Rupert operations and an update on how port development is unlocking new export capacity.

23. PLENARY SESSION: ROADS SAFE BC AND ICBC: INTERSECTION SAFETY CAMERA (ISC) PROGRAM

First Vice-President Atrill, introduced speakers Chad Stewart, Director of Road Safety Systems, and Brad Truswell, Executive Director of the Business Integration and Enhanced Enforcement Programs, who spoke on the Intersection Safety Camera Program in BC as an automated traffic enforcement initiative aimed at reducing motor vehicle crashes at intersections.

24. CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE 2026 NCLGA AGM

NCLGA incoming President Atrill presented President Greenaway with a thank you gift. President Greenaway 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. President Greenaway recognized passing of the mantle to incoming President Atrill.

MOVED/SECONDED THAT the NCLGA 2025 Annual General Meeting held in Prince Rupert from May 13-15, 2025, be **CONCLUDED** at 12:00 p.m. on May 15, 2025. **CARRIED**

4.2 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 2026 AGM. The existing bylaws remain in effect without modification.

FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

While no amendments are proposed for the 2026 AGM, in 2025 the Board actively engaged in discussions on key governance priorities that may result in bylaw changes at a future AGM:

1. Expansion of Executive Term Lengths

The Board considered a proposal to extend the term of Executive positions from the current one-year term to a two-year term, and determined a consultation process with NCLGA members is needed 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 2027 AGM.

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. The Indigenous Relations Committee continues to explore ways to enhance First Nations representation and engagement, which may include bylaw amendments.

CONCLUSION

NCLGA remains committed to continuous improvement in governance and long-term organizational stability.

4.3 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 2026-2027 NCLGA Board. We thank all of the nominees who have put their name forward.

NOMINATION PROCESS

Each candidate must be an elected official from an NCLGA member local government or First Nation, and must be nominated by two elected officials from an 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 17, 2026 is included in this Annual Report on Page 26.

Off the Floor Nominations - Off the Floor Nominations will be accepted at the 2026 NCLGA AGM & Convention.

ELECTION PROCESS

Full details of the process will be provided during the 2026 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 27.

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

DIRECTOR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

President:

- Chairs meetings of the NCLGA Board
- Acts as the main spokesperson for the Association when speaking to the media, membership, public, and other levels of government
- Acts as the Area Association representative on the UBCM Executive
- Provides direction to staff between Board meetings
- Ensures Executive input into the content of media releases and/or information disseminated to members and/or the Provincial Government
- Attends 12 – 24 virtual Table Officer meetings with the Vice Presidents, Past President, and NCLGA staff
- Sits on the Finance Committee.

First Vice President:

- Acts on behalf of the President in their absence
- Attends 12 – 24 virtual Table Officer meetings with the President, Second Vice President, Past President, and NCLGA staff
- As required, provides timely input into information disseminated to members and/or the Provincial Government
- Sits on the Finance Committee.

Second Vice President:

- Acts on behalf of the President in the absence of the First Vice President
- Attends 12 – 24 virtual Table Officer meetings with the President, First Vice President, Past President, and NCLGA staff
- As required, provides timely input into information disseminated to members and/or the Provincial Government
- Sits on the Finance Committee.

Past President:

- Acts on behalf of the President in the absence of the First Vice President
- Attends 12 – 24 virtual Table Officer meetings with the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and NCLGA staff
- As required, provides timely input into information disseminated to members and/or the Provincial Government
- Sits on the Finance Committee.

Director at Large:

- Provides a conduit between members (municipal councils and regional district boards) and the NCLGA Board by reporting out to members and bringing the concerns and perspectives of members to the Board table
- As required, provides timely input into information disseminated to members and/or the Provincial Government
- Attends minimum of four (4) Board meetings with the Vice Presidents, President, Past President, and NCLGA staff
- Sits on the Committees of the Whole
- With the approval of the President, may be asked to speak on behalf of the Association to the members, media, public, or other levels of government.

Regional Representative:

- Provides a conduit between members (municipal councils and regional district boards) and the NCLGA Board by reporting out to members within their region and bringing the concerns and perspectives of these members to their Regional District Board table
- As required, provides timely input into information disseminated to members and/or the Provincial Government
- Attends minimum of four (4) Board meetings with the Vice Presidents, President, Past President, and NCLGA staff
- Sits on the Committees of the Whole
- With the approval of the President, may be asked to speak on behalf of the Association to the members, media, public, or other levels of government.



4.4 Nominees for NCLGA Board Positions



Tony Zabinsky

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT

I am proud to put my name forward for the position of President of North Central Local Government Association, building on my experience serving as First Vice President since May 2025 and member at large since 2022.

Since 2018, I have served as a Councillor for the City of Fort St. John. This has given me the opportunity to represent our region, collaborate with other local leaders, and advocate for practical, community-focused solutions.

With a 32-year career in commercial banking, I bring a strong foundation in financial stewardship, accountability, and sound decision-making. Having called Fort St. John home since 1997, I am deeply committed to supporting and strengthening the community where I live and work.

My approach to leadership is grounded in respect, collaboration, and good governance. I believe in listening first, building strong relationships, and ensuring that the voices of our communities are heard at the table. I value open communication and make it a priority to respond to residents in a timely and accountable manner.

As a Director of the Peace River Regional District since 2018, I remain actively engaged in initiatives that help our region grow and prosper. I believe in leading by example, being approachable, and always being open to new ideas and different perspectives.

Over the past year as First Vice President, I have gained valuable experience in regional governance, strengthened partnerships, and contributed to meaningful discussions that impact our Municipalities, Regional Districts, and First Nations.

I am committed to continuing this work by bringing consistency, thoughtful leadership, and a collaborative mindset to the role. I look forward to the opportunity to continue serving NCLGA and supporting the priorities that matter most to our region.



Kyle MacDonald

CANDIDATE FOR FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

My name is Kyle MacDonald, and I am honoured to be seeking the position of First Vice President on the NCLGA Board of Directors. I am a proud husband of 19 years, a father of three daughters, and a small business owner. I currently serve as a first-term City Councillor for the City of Dawson Creek and as Second Vice President of the NCLGA.

Beyond my work with NCLGA, I am actively engaged in community leadership roles across Northern British Columbia. I serve as Vice President of the South Peace Crime Prevention Association, a Director with Dawson Creek Citizens on Patrol, and President of the Northern BC Crime Stoppers Association. I am also a member of the Dawson Creek Community Action Table and regularly participate in provincial Community Action Initiative gatherings.

I am a strong and committed advocate for Northern communities. I believe deeply in the importance of collaboration and in ensuring that the collective voice of the North is clearly heard and effectively represented at the provincial level. Our region plays a critical role in the economic strength and future of British Columbia, and it is essential that our perspectives help shape that path forward.

I am eager to bring my experience, energy, and commitment to this role, building on the strong foundation established by those who have served before me. Thank you for your consideration, and I would be honoured to have your support.



Jesse Wright

CANDIDATE FOR SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Hello NCLGA Members,

My name is Jesse Wright. I am a first-term Councillor with the District of Mackenzie and currently completing my second year as a Director-at-Large with the NCLGA. This year, I am running for the position of Second Vice President. My time on the Board has given me the experience, relationships, and understanding needed to serve effectively at the executive level.

Outside of municipal politics, I am a current Master's student in Counselling Psychology, a BC Certified Teacher, and the President of the Youth Wellness Society of Mackenzie, where I work to support youth in our community. I also hold a degree in Political Science and have worked across all three levels of government (municipal, provincial, and federal) at different points in my life, providing me with a broad perspective on governance and collaboration.

During my first year on the Board, I served as Chair of the Planning and Priorities Committee. Now finishing my second term, I serve as Co-Chair of the Resolutions Committee and Chair of the Mental Health and Addictions Accord Signatories Working Group. These roles have allowed me to grow as a leader and work collaboratively with members across the region.

My vision for the NCLGA is an organization that builds strong connections, relationships, and collaboration across the North Central region. In increasingly polarized times, I believe the NCLGA can model a more positive and constructive approach. One that builds bridges and advances shared priorities together.

I am a strong believer in social capital theory: the idea that our collective strength lies not only in material resources, but in the relationships/connections we build. By strengthening and growing these connections, we strengthen our region's ability to face challenges and move forward together.

Thank you for your consideration.



Julia Nelson

CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR AT LARGE

Julia Nelson is a dedicated community advocate with a strong commitment to public service in Northern British Columbia. Known for her practical approach and approachable nature, Julia has built her work around one simple idea: show up, listen, and get things done—preferably with a good cup of coffee in hand.

Through her experience in political and constituency work, Julia has developed a solid understanding of policy, communication, and the importance of representing rural and northern voices. She takes pride in working closely with residents, local organizations, and all levels of government to navigate challenges and find common-sense solutions that actually work on the ground.

Outside of her professional role, Julia is deeply connected to her community. Whether she's supporting local initiatives, volunteering, or helping someone make sense of government processes, she is known for being reliable, down-to-earth, and willing to roll up her sleeves when it matters most.

Julia's leadership style is rooted in integrity, accountability, and a genuine understanding of the realities facing families in the North. She believes strong communities are built through trust, collaboration, and a bit of perseverance—because in Northern BC, there's no such thing as a small problem, only an opportunity to work together.

She remains committed to advocating for sustainable growth, stronger communities, and opportunities that will benefit future generations.



Ron Polillo

CANDIDATE FOR DIRECTOR AT LARGE

I'm a first term Councillor with the City of Prince George and I believe strongly in the power of municipalities working together to advocate for the north! I'm passionate about my community and the north central region of our province. For the past 3 and half years, I have served on the Northern Medical Programs Trust and currently on the executive team. For 20 plus years, I have volunteered with the Crime Stoppers program and am currently the Vice President of Northern BC Crime Stoppers. The award-winning program serves 30 plus communities all over our region and has been directly responsible for the recovery of 40 million dollars in total property, cash and drugs seized since 1985. In addition, for the past few months, I have been part of the NCLGA planning committee for this year's convention in Prince George. I'm asking for your support to join the NCLGA executive this year. I will work very hard to represent you with passion, commitment and integrity.

I have been an active volunteer and community leader for over three decades in Prince George. I'm the President of the Prince George Italian Cultural Society, Chairperson of the St. Mary's Church Pastoral Council and a longtime referee and player with the Prince George Soccer Association.

I enjoyed a very successful 27-year broadcasting career in Prince George, including 18 years as Program Director at Pattison Media. In the fall 2020, I joined the awesome team at AiMHi and currently the Community Engagement/Home Share manager.

In 2018, I was elected to the SD 57 Board of Education and served 4 years as a School Trustee including 14 months as Vice Chair. I am the proud father of two beautiful girls Sophia and Lauren, who are currently attending post secondary education.

4.5 2025 Resolutions Progress Report

The 2025 NCLGA resolutions highlight key priorities including housing, healthcare, public safety, and rural infrastructure. Most resolutions were endorsed at UBCM, with others advanced through advocacy or were supported by the UBCM Executive, and a small number withdrawn. Meetings with provincial Ministers at UBCM also provided an opportunity to raise regional issues such as transportation, public safety, post-secondary impacts, and emergency preparedness. The NCLGA Resolutions webpage offers an opportunity to search for current and past resolutions by year, sponsor, or topic, and is regularly updated with outcomes from advocacy efforts.

1. Endorsed at UBCM (32 resolutions)

- NR36 / E3 – Short-Term Rental Accommodation Act Exemption Flexibility for Small Communities
- EB86 / E7 – Engagement Protocols for Regional Directors in Resource Development Processes
- NR123 / E10 – Establishment of a Permanent Provincial Housing Policy Roundtable
- EB2 / R1 – Streamlining Licensing for Out of Province and International Healthcare Professionals
- NR5 / R2 – Addressing Rural Physician Shortages Due to Practice Ready Assessment BC and Longitudinal Family Physician Changes
- NR11 / R3 – Mental Health Support for Local Elected Officials
- NR9 / R4 – Rural Foundry Centres
- NR23 / R9 – Co-op Housing Program and Sustainable Funding for Housing
- NR24 / R10 – Lowering Financial Barriers for Community Housing Projects
- EB15 / R11 – Funding Off-Site Works for Affordable Housing
- EB21 / R12 – Speculation and Vacancy Tax
- EB24 / R13 – Initial Fire Attack Crew Relocation
- NR48 / R14 – Emergency Social Services Grant Funding for Capital Costs
- NR56 / R15 – Release of Prolific Offenders in Communities
- NR55 / R16 – Creation of Regional Crime Prevention Officer Positions for Rural BC
- EB29 / R17 – Managing Policing Contract Costs Through Engagement in RCMP Collective Bargaining
- NR54 / R18 – Addressing RCMP Staffing and Contract Costs
- EB36 / R21 – Moose Habitat Considerations in Landscape Planning
- EB45 / R22 – Biodiverse Climate Resilient Ecosystems
- NR67 / R24 – Nuclear Energy in BC
- EB51 / R25 – Including Rail Related Activities in the Environmental Assessment Act Scope
- EB48 / R26 – Sustainable Funding for Small Water Systems
- EB56 / R34 – Expedite Municipal Applications for Crown Lands
- EB55 / R35 – Efficient Resource Permitting
- EB72 / R39 – Twinning of Highway 16
- EB68 / R41 – Forest Service Road Closures
- EB73 / R42 – Active Transportation Infrastructure on Rural Highways
- EB90 / R46 – Industrial Electrification Expansion
- EB90 / R47 – Expanding Industrial Electrification (combined with R46 in UBCM disposition)
- EB88 / R49 – Consultation on Removal of Crown Land
- EB94 / R51 – BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Representation in Rural BC Communities
- EB80 / L2 – Review of the BC Library Act

2. Advocacy Letters Sent (Resolutions not Endorsed at UBCM and referred back to NCLGA) (16 resolutions)

- NR13 / E1 – Advancing Recovery Informed Workplace Practices
- NR66 / R23 – Balanced Emissions Policies
- RR47 / E2 – Blood Plasma Donor Centre for Northern BC

- RR48 / R6 – Psychiatric Hospital for Northern BC
- (No UBCM #) / R7 – Regional Secure Psychiatric Care Facility
- RR45 / R8 – Enhanced Wraparound Supports and Second Stage Housing for Individuals in Recovery in Rural Northern Communities
- RR22 / R19 – Conservation Officer Advocacy
- RR25 / R27 – Provincial Funding for Public Libraries
- RR26 / R28 – Increased Funding for Public Libraries
- RR27 / R29 – Increased Capital Funding for Libraries
- RR34 / R36 – Removal of the BC Port Tax Cap
- RR31 / R37 – Essential Service Levels of Inland Ferries
- RR32 / R38 – BC Ferry Advisory Committees
- RR46 / R40 – Quesnel North South Interconnector
- RR35 / L1 – Highway Road Maintenance Agreements – Addressing Regional Adaptation
- NR86 / R32 – Accessory Dwellings in the Agricultural Land Reserve

3. Endorsed by UBCM Executive (Referred to UBCM Executive at UBCM Convention) (11 resolutions)

- NR70 / E4 – Regulation of Mushroom Harvesting Industry
- NR114 / E8 – Canada First Local Government Procurement Strategy
- NR115 / E9 – Eliminating Interprovincial Trade Barriers
- NR78 / R20 – Allocation of Wildlife Revenues to Conservation
- NR85 / R31 – Agricultural Land Reserve Boundary Review
- NR92 / R33 – Natural Resource Royalty Sharing with Watershed Associations
- NR107 / R43 – Leaves of Absence Provisions for Elected Officials
- NR109 / R44 – More Formalized Property Assessment Processes for Communities in BC
- NR112 / R45 – Economic Impact and Fair Resource Revenue Sharing
- NR111 / R48 – Natural Gas and Liquefied Natural Gas Strategy

4. Withdrawn (Not considered at UBCM) (5 resolutions)

- (No UBCM #) / E5 – Modernization of Regional District Legislation
- (No UBCM #) / E6 – Provincial Support for Area Associations through Regional Program Development
- (No UBCM #) / R5 – Revisiting the Decriminalization of Controlled Substances
- (No UBCM #) / R30 – BC Hydro Programs and Incentives
- (No UBCM #) / R50 – Ensuring Equal Compensation for Workers in Provincial and Municipal Elections

5. Meetings with Ministers at UBCM (4 meetings)

All requested meetings with Ministers at UBCM were approved, providing an opportunity to directly raise regional issues.

- The Honourable Jessie Sunner – Minister of Post-Secondary Education and Future Skills
Topics: Foreign workers and impacts to small businesses; loss of funding for international students
- The Honourable Brittany Anderson – Minister of State for Local Governments and Rural Communities
Topics: Public transportation for rural communities; post-secondary (rural community colleges shutting down); legislative reform
- The Honourable Nina Krieger – Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
Topic: Downtown safety
- The Honourable Kelly Greene – Minister of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness
Topic: Emergency preparedness (wildfire/drought)



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.

4.6 2026 Resolutions

EXECUTIVE RESOLUTIONS

E1. CONSIDERATION OF RURAL AND REMOTE IMPACTS IN RESOLUTION REVIEW

Sponsored by: NCLGA Board

WHEREAS UBCM applies evaluation criteria to assist in reviewing and making recommendations to the membership on submitted resolutions; and

WHEREAS policies and provincial actions may have differing impacts on rural, remote, and northern communities due to geography, population distribution, and service delivery realities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM, as part of its ongoing review of resolution evaluation practices, explicitly consider rural and remote community impacts when assessing resolutions for recommendation to the membership.

E2. TEACHER WORKFORCE SUSTAINABILITY

Sponsored by: NCLGA Board

WHEREAS persistent teacher shortages in rural, northern, and remote communities in British Columbia have resulted in increased reliance on Letters of Permission and have implications for community stability, workforce attraction, and population retention; and

WHEREAS local governments have an interest in education system stability where workforce shortages affect long-term community sustainability and regional economic resilience;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a provincial strategy to address teacher workforce shortages and reduce long-term reliance on Letters of Permission, including targeted recruitment and retention supports for rural, northern, and remote communities.

REGULAR RESOLUTIONS

R1. ADDITIONAL RESOURCE ALLOCATION FOR BC CROWN COUNSEL

Sponsored by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS BC Crown Counsel plays a critical role in ensuring the fair, timely, and effective administration of justice across the province; and

WHEREAS Insufficient staffing levels, workload pressures, and resource limitations within BC Crown Counsel services have resulted in delays, increased adjournments, burnout risk among prosecutors, and challenges ensuring timely access to justice for victims, accused persons, and communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA advocate to the Province to allocate additional and sustained funding, staffing, and operational resources to the BC Crown Counsel Service to ensure it can adequately meet current and future demands within the justice system.

R2. CREATION OF INDIGENOUS-LED HOUSING ALLIANCE

Sponsored by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS The Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA) has requested provincial support to create an Indigenous-led, cross-sector housing alliance to improve collaboration, strengthen service integration, and shape long-term housing strategies rooted in Indigenous knowledge and self-determination; and

WHEREAS Indigenous-serving housing providers across British Columbia are required to address increasingly complex social issues—such as life-skills development, tenancy stabilization, and responses to tenancy breaches—despite not receiving adequate, sustained funding to support these services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA advocates to the Province to support the creation and identify appropriate funding mechanisms for an Indigenous-led, cross-sector housing alliance, to be convened and guided by the Aboriginal Housing Management Association (AHMA).

R3. FEDERAL MINISTER OF FORESTS

Sponsored by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS tariffs and other international market challenges have created uncertainty across the forestry sector and duties and tariffs combine to exceed 45% on Canadian lumber entering the US market making our forest sector less competitive and endangering jobs; and

WHEREAS wildfire and other climate change related challenges are increasingly threatening the health and sustainability of Canadian forests;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA urges the Federal Government to appoint a federal minister to actively support the Canadian forestry sector through resolving the softwood lumber dispute, procurement policies requiring companies contracting with the federal government to source Canadian lumber first, and aggressively increase work to open new markets to Canadian forest products with all international partners.

R4. AMENDING THE DEPRECIATION OF INDUSTRIAL AND ELECTRICAL POWER GENERATING FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS REGULATION

Sponsored by: Village of Fraser Lake / Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako / City of Prince George

WHEREAS Section 9 of the Depreciation of Industrial and Electrical Power Generating Facility Improvements Regulation (the Regulation) significantly reduces municipal property tax revenues at a time when communities are already experiencing substantial job losses, and further impedes the ability of municipalities to build reserves for the reclamation of abandoned industrial sites that lack regulatory requirements for dedicated reclamation funds; and

WHEREAS the Regulation can create incentives for industrial proponents to shut down operations earlier resulting in premature job losses and reduced government revenues; the Regulation limits opportunities for new investors to acquire and redevelop industrial sites; the Regulation provides exclusive subsidies to the natural resource sector that hinder economic diversification; and the Regulation shifts financial risk from investors to municipalities while subsidizing failing or failed enterprises;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the provincial government, through the Ministry of Finance, to repeal and replace Section 9 of the *Depreciation of Industrial and Electrical Power Generating Facility Improvements Regulation* with provisions that support a clear and intentional strategy to provide more stable local economies, government revenues, revenues for reclamation of abandoned industrial sites, diversified economies, and sustainable economic growth.

R5. EXPANSION OF NURSE PRACTITIONER SERVICES TO ADDRESS RURAL HEALTH CARE GAPS

Sponsored by: District of 100 Mile House / District of Hudson's Hope / District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS there is a significant and ongoing shortage of health care professionals in the South Cariboo and across communities within the Northern Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) region; and

WHEREAS access to reliable and timely health care services is essential to the effective treatment, recovery, and overall well-being of residents in small rural, and remote communities throughout British Columbia;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA, in collaboration with the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), advocate to the Provincial Government for increased and sustained support for the expansion of the Nurse Practitioner Services as a means to address health care service gaps and better meet the needs of rural British Columbians.

R6. EXPANSION OF SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Sponsored by: District of 100 Mile House / District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS there is significant and on-going shortages of healthcare professionals in the South Cariboo and across communities in Northern Central Local Government Association (NCLGA); and

WHEREAS efforts have been made in some healthcare professions, many other healthcare professions need attention for the overall wellbeing of residents in small, rural, and remote locations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA, in collaboration

with the Union of British Columbia (UBCM), advocate to the Provincial Government for increased educational training seats in any appropriate college/university; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NCLGA, in collaboration with the Union of British Columbia (UBCM), advocate to the Provincial Government look to reduce any barriers in accessing those training seats and create incentives to encourage healthcare professionals to practice in rural areas.

R7. LOCAL PROCUREMENT POLICIES AND PRACTICES

Sponsored by: District of Houston

WHEREAS the provincial government incurs substantial expenses and carbon emissions on product distribution to its ministries and agencies due to the use of central stores and purchasing; and

WHEREAS with a variety of the products for these agencies and ministries could be sourced locally to support local businesses who have lost income due to provincial policy decisions which have changed the environment and reduced heavy industry dollars to local municipalities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities call on the Province of British Columbia to amend its procurement policies and practices to allow ministerial and agency operations to source products directly from local businesses to economically support the communities they serve.

R8. BC HOUSING DATA TRANSPARENCY

Sponsored by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS BC Housing's planning, operation, and management of affordable and supportive housing directly influence local governments' ability to plan for housing supply, infrastructure, and community services; and

WHEREAS limited access to timely, community level data, including vacancy rates, operational pressures, and annual priorities, impedes effective local planning and coordinated responses to housing needs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the provincial government and BC Housing to improve transparency by regularly providing local governments with community level housing data, including vacancy rates and annual plans outlining goals, targets, and challenges.

R9. BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Sponsored by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS many communities across British Columbia face ongoing challenges with contaminated, abandoned, vacant, or underutilized brownfield sites that limit housing supply, economic development, and efficient land use, and impose significant financial and administrative burdens on local governments; and

WHEREAS while British Columbia has established contaminated sites legislation and regulatory processes, local governments lack access to a coordinated provincial strategy and practical financial, fiscal, and risk management tools to support the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to develop and implement a comprehensive provincial brownfield redevelopment strategy that builds upon existing regulatory frameworks and provides local governments with practical and accessible tools to support the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites across the province.

R10. IMPROVING HIGHWAY RIGHTS OF WAY

Sponsored by: City of Fort St. John

WHEREAS provincial highway rights-of-way across British Columbia are experiencing increasing growth of noxious weeds and inadequate vegetation management, which negatively affects agricultural operations, local ecosystems, road safety, and the visual appearance of communities; and

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia is responsible for highway maintenance through contracted service providers, and inconsistent levels of service in mowing, brush control, and noxious-weed management have resulted in preventable impacts on farmland, infrastructure, and community well-being;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to improve the maintenance of highway rights-of-way by ensuring regular vegetation management, effective noxious-weed control, and clear, enforceable service standards for provincial maintenance contractors, supported by adequate funding and oversight to protect agricultural lands, community safety, and the environment.

R11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT IN DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACT IMPLEMENTATION

Sponsored by: City of Dawson Creek

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia is implementing the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA) and undertaking ongoing and future related legislative and policy reforms; and

WHEREAS local governments exercise statutory responsibilities for land use planning, infrastructure, and community services that may be affected by provincial legislative and policy changes arising from DRIPA implementation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the Province of British Columbia establish early, ongoing, and structured engagement with local government associations to ensure that local government responsibilities are considered in the development and implementation of DRIPA-related legislative and policy reforms.

R12. IMPROVED ACCESS TO PUBLICLY FUNDED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Sponsored by: Cariboo Regional District / City of Dawson Creek / City of Prince George / District of Fort St. James / District of Hudson's Hope / District of Kitimat / District of Mackenzie / District of Tumbler Ridge / District of Vanderhoof / Regional District of Bulkley Nechako / Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine / North Coast Regional District / Town of Smithers / Village of Burns Lake / Village of Granisle / Village of Pouce Coupe / Peace River Regional District / Regional District of Fraser-Fort George / Village of Valemount

WHEREAS local governments experience increasing pressures on emergency services, policing, bylaw enforcement, homelessness response, and community safety systems associated with gaps in timely and accessible mental health services; and

WHEREAS access to counselling and other mental health supports is often dependent on private insurance coverage, employer benefits, session limits, or out-of-pocket costs, creating barriers to equitable access, particularly in rural and northern communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request that the Province of British Columbia take steps to improve access to universal, publicly funded mental health services, including counselling and related supports, with a focus on early intervention and prevention.

R13. NORTHERN AND RURAL AREA HOMEOWNER GRANT BENEFIT

Sponsored by: City of Prince Rupert / Regional District of Bulkley-Nechako / District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS the Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Benefit was repealed effective January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS the repeal of this benefit further diminishes the purchasing power of homeowners in accessing services and supporting daily life thereby impacting housing, health, social, and economic well-being of all northern and rural communities; and

WHEREAS northern and rural communities face recruitment and retention challenges to support healthy, socially, and economically resilient communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the Province to reinstate the Northern and Rural Area Homeowner Benefit effective January 1, 2027.

R14. CONVERSION OF EXTREME WEATHER RESPONSE SHELTERS

Sponsored by: District of Kitimat

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia through BC Housing funds temporary, community-based emergency shelter spaces for individuals experiencing homelessness during severe winter weather, typically from October 15 to April 15; and

WHEREAS residents of the temporary shelters are displaced once the temporary shelters are shut down annually;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Union of British Columbia Municipalities advocate to the Province and BC Housing for an end to Extreme Weather Response (EWR) shelters and to convert existing EWR shelters to year-round shelters.

R15. USE OF CROWN LAND PRIOR TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT LAND FOR PROVINCIAL PROJECTS

Sponsored by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia requires land for the delivery of provincial services such as healthcare and social housing and relies on the availability of suitable land from local governments to accommodate these projects; and

WHEREAS local governments have limited or significantly diminished land holdings available, while the Province owns significant Crown land resources that are suitable for development;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) urge the Province of British Columbia to prioritize the use of Crown land for provincial services before pursuing land owned by local governments.

R16. REGIONAL CONSTRUCTION COST ADJUSTMENT IN PROVINCIAL FUNDING PROGRAMS

Sponsored by: Town of Smithers

WHEREAS construction costs in Northern and rural communities are significantly higher than in urban centres due to factors such as transportation, labour availability, climate, and supply chain constraints; and

WHEREAS provincially funded capital programs often prioritize the number of units or spaces created without adequately accounting for regional cost differences; and

WHEREAS this approach can disadvantage Northern and rural communities by limiting their ability to access sufficient funding to deliver comparable projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association urge the Province of British Columbia to

develop and implement a funding matrix or regional cost adjustment model within provincial capital programs that reflects the higher construction costs faced by Northern and rural communities.

R17. BUILDING ENERGY REGULATIONS AND RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE READINESS

Sponsored by: Village of Burns Lake

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has introduced phased improvements to building energy efficiency requirements through the BC Energy Step Code and related amendments to the BC Building Code in support of CleanBC objectives and the transition toward net-zero energy-ready new construction by 2032; and

WHEREAS rural and northern communities experience significantly different climate conditions, infrastructure capacity, and energy system realities than larger urban centres, including longer heating seasons, limited electrical grid capacity and redundancy, and a continued reliance on reliable and diverse energy systems to support residential, commercial, and industrial buildings;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Province of British Columbia to ensure that future building energy regulations, implementation timelines, and related policies recognize regional infrastructure capacity, climate conditions, and energy system reliability considerations in rural and northern communities, and that these policies be developed in consultation with rural and northern local governments.

R18. EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE SICKNESS BENEFIT DURATION

Sponsored by: Village of Burns Lake

WHEREAS Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits administered by the Government of Canada provide temporary income replacement for workers who are unable to work due to illness or injury, with benefits available for up to 26 weeks under the Employment Insurance Act; and

WHEREAS healthcare system wait times for diagnostic services, specialist consultations, and surgical procedures in Canada and British Columbia frequently extend for several months and, when combined with medically required recovery periods, may exceed the 26-week duration of EI sickness benefits, particularly for residents of rural and northern communities who often face additional barriers to timely access to specialized medical care;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Government of Canada to review the duration and flexibility of EI sickness benefits to better align with current medical treatment wait times and recovery periods, including consideration of mechanisms to extend benefits where treatment delays are beyond the control of the claimant.

R19. HIGHWAY 97 ROAD SAFETY, MAINTENANCE, UPGRADES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Sponsored by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS Highway 97 is the longest transportation corridor in the Americas running North – South, from Alaska, through the Yukon Territory, into British Columbia, the United States of America, Mexico, and South America; and

WHEREAS although we recognize that there have been significant upgrades to parts of Highway 97, it still requires Safety Upgrades, better Maintenance and Repairs, Expansion of, and Infrastructure Development, to facilitate the stated goals of both the Provincial and Federal Governments for transporting goods, like Agriculture Products, Forestry Resources, Minerals and other Mining Extractions to International Markets. Accesses need to be kept open for Oil, Gas and Hydro right of ways. Alternative routes are necessary when sections of the main Highway are closed (like the Quesnel- Hixon and Durrell

Roads), relief from bottlenecks near cities like Quesnel (new route around Quesnel and Replace the Taylor River Bridge), and Safety in all weather conditions for the general motoring public and truck transportation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA, UBCM, and FCM work with both the Province of British Columbia and the Federal Government of Canada to Maintain, Repair, Upgrade Road Safety Issues, and Expand and Develop the Road Infrastructure of Highway 97; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that NCLGA request that UBCM and FCM insist that the \$1.2 Billion Allocated through the 2020 – 2021 Natural Disaster Financial Assistance Financing from the Government of Canada to the Province of British Columbia for the 10 Road Recovery Projects in the Cariboo be spent on repairing all of the roads identified, including the Quesnel – Hixon Road and Durrell Road.

R20. RURAL POST-SECONDARY AND SKILLED TRADES TRAINING

Sponsored by: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS rural and northern communities in the Cariboo North Central region face significant labour market shortages across multiple sectors, including healthcare, education, skilled trades, and emerging natural resource industries; and

WHEREAS the region has experienced substantial economic disruption due to mill closures and contraction within the forest sector, increasing the need for retraining and workforce transition opportunities; and

WHEREAS access to locally delivered post-secondary and skilled trades training is essential to workforce development, economic resilience, and the long-term sustainability of rural and northern communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to prioritize and fund the delivery of post-secondary and skilled trades training in rural and northern communities to address regional labour shortages and support economic resilience.

R21. REMOTE COMMUNITIES FOREST SERVICE ROAD EMERGENCY EGRESS MAINTENANCE

Sponsored by: District of Fort St. James

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia has been faced with an increasing number of natural disasters annually and the downturn of the Forestry Industry has resulted in Forest Service Roads deteriorating; and

WHEREAS many remote communities rely on forest service roads to serve as emergency egress routes in the case of natural disaster evacuations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM petition the Ministry of Forests to review and identify forest service roads that serve as community emergency egress routes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forests incorporates increased maintenance standards for the forest service roads that are identified as community emergency egress routes.

R22. PRESERVATION AND REVITALIZATION OF STRATEGIC PROVINCIAL RAIL CORRIDOR

Sponsored by: City of Prince George

WHEREAS the loss of the Squamish–Cariboo rail line, which may ensue from CN Rail's plans announced in July 2025 to terminate its lease, would result in shippers being forced to use higher cost truck transport, increased public highway maintenance costs, loss of passenger (tourist or commuter) rail opportunity, higher GHG emissions, loss of transportation corridor redundancy affecting

Western Canada, and constrained regional economic development; and

WHEREAS rail discontinuance policies applying to the former BC Rail line do not necessarily account for regional and long term transportation needs and priorities, and may undermine the economic viability of potential new short line operators, while infrastructure funding solutions for maintaining this valuable rail line remain lacking;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the provincial and federal governments be encouraged to consider establishing a new regional authority or ownership structure including First Nations and to support a transition to a short line operator model to strengthen regional enterprise while maintaining the strategic redundancy of the Squamish-Cariboo rail line, and further be encouraged to explore potential public private funding solutions for ongoing rail line maintenance.

R23. REDUCE VEHICLE FATALITIES IN STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT ZONES

Sponsored by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George / Village Of Valemount

WHEREAS the Interior Health (highway death rate 15.2 per 100,000) and Northern Health (highway death rate 18.1) regions of BC, in combination, make up the largest number of fatalities for vehicle incidents in the province (average provincial highway death rate 6.0), being 189 out of 331 deaths in 2023 or 57%, while only representing 22% of the province's population; and

WHEREAS the province's commitment to upgrade Highway 1 between Kamloops and the Alberta border mitigates safety issues on one specific corridor, but does not address safety concerns on the other highway corridors through the interior and north connecting to the rest of BC;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities request the Province of BC's Ministry of Transportation and Transit to invest in and prioritize road upgrades, improve road maintenance standards and oversight of provincial highways across the interior and northern health regions, with the goal of reducing fatalities.

R24. HIGHWAY 29 ROAD CONDITIONS

Sponsored by: District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS safe, reliable transportation routes are essential for emergency response, access to health care, commerce, education, and daily travel; and

WHEREAS ongoing concerns continue to be raised regarding the state of Highway 29, including hazardous winding sections at Bear Flat and the unstable stretch at Halfway Hill, which is at significant risk of washout and poses a threat to public safety;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the Provincial Government to prioritize the remediation of Highway 29, including slope stability and hazard mitigation at Halfway Hill, as well as installing additional passing lanes and chain-up areas to enhance safety and ensure reliable travel for all users.

R25. RETAINING AND SUPPORTING LOCAL DOCTORS

Sponsored by: District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS stable access to primary care and community-based medical services is essential to the health and safety of residents, and recruitment and retention challenges in rural and remote communities can lead to service gaps, increased travel for care, and added strain on emergency services; and

WHEREAS retaining local doctors requires coordinated action

on physician supports, including sustainable workloads, locum coverage, housing availability, clinic operations, and community integration;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the Provincial Government to implement and strengthen retention measures for local physicians, including competitive incentives for communities that are both rural and remote, reliable locum relief, and supports that reduce administrative burden and provide appropriate clinic and staffing resources.

R26. ADDRESSING REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS

Sponsored by: District of Hudson's Hope

WHEREAS mental health and substance use challenges affect individuals, families, workplaces, and community safety, and rural and remote communities often face barriers to care, including limited counselling and psychiatric services, wait times, travel requirements, and challenges in crisis response; and

WHEREAS evidence-informed prevention, early intervention, and community-based supports—coordinated with schools, primary care, Indigenous partners, social services, and law enforcement—can improve outcomes and reduce pressure on emergency services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities lobby the Provincial Government to expand local mental health and substance use services in the northeast region, including counselling, crisis response, addictions support, and after-hours and virtual options where appropriate.

R27. EXEMPTING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS FROM EXPANDED PROVINCIAL SALES TAX

Sponsored by: Village of Pouce Coupe

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia's 2026 Budget expands the application of the Provincial Sales Tax (PST) to a broader range of services, including professional services such as engineering, architectural, and related advisory services that are routinely required by local governments to deliver core infrastructure and services; and

WHEREAS local governments have limited revenue tools and are already facing significant financial pressures related to infrastructure renewal, climate adaptation, housing delivery, and regulatory compliance, and unmitigated application of the expanded PST further constrains local government fiscal capacity; and

WHEREAS local governments are public-sector entities that deliver provincially mandated and community-essential services, and the application of PST to local government purchases represents a cost shift within the public sector that does not increase service value but places additional pressure on local government operating and capital budgets;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the Government of British Columbia to exempt or eliminate the impact to local governments from the application of the expanded Provincial Sales Tax requirements introduced in the 2026 Budget, including PST applied to professional and related services, to avoid intergovernmental cost downloading and to protect local government financial sustainability and local affordability.

R28. RESCINDING THE 2025 UBCM ER 1

Sponsored by: Village of Pouce Coupe

WHEREAS at the 2025 Union of BC Municipalities Convention, the membership endorsed Extraordinary Resolution ER1, which introduced significant changes to the resolution submission process; and

WHEREAS the changes implemented through ER1 represent a

fundamental shift in the resolutions framework that may impede the ability of local governments to collectively advance advocacy priorities and respond to evolving concerns;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the North Central Local Government Association and UBCM consider rescinding Extraordinary Resolution ER1 and restoring the prior resolutions submission process.

R29. PROTECTION OF FEE SIMPLE PROPERTY RIGHTS

Sponsored by: Village of Pouce Coupe

WHEREAS fee simple title has long been the primary form of land ownership in British Columbia and provides landowners with certainty, stability, and the ability to securely own, use, and transfer property; and

WHEREAS recent public policy considerations have raised questions and concerns about the future of fee simple title and the security of private property rights in the province;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of British Columbia Municipalities demand that the Government of British Columbia affirm and uphold the security of fee simple title and the private property rights of landowners in British Columbia.

R30. TRANSPARENCY IN INDIGENOUS NEGOTIATIONS

Sponsored by: Village of Pouce Coupe

WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada are engaged in important ongoing discussions and negotiations with First Nations regarding Indigenous title and land governance arrangements that may affect lands within the jurisdiction of municipalities and regional districts; and

WHEREAS recent developments, including the recognition of Indigenous title in the Cowichan region have occurred with limited prior notice or consultation with affected local governments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities call upon the Province of British Columbia to establish a transparency framework for Indigenous title and related negotiations that includes timely information sharing and consultation with affected local governments.

R31. HEALTH CARE PROVIDER CRISIS

Sponsored by: City of Williams Lake

WHEREAS there is a provincial crisis with lack of health care providers that is even more pronounced in Rural BC; and

WHEREAS Rural BC is at increased risk of closing universities due to low enrollment while additional local availability is urgently required;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Provincial Government to facilitate training/laddering of health care providers financially and through policy support; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province work with universities in all rural communities to focus on targeted education needs.

R32. INDIGENOUS-LED FIBRE RECOVERY FOR WILDFIRE REDUCTION

Sponsored by: City of Williams Lake

WHEREAS British Columbia is experiencing increasingly severe wildfires that pose significant risks to public safety, public health, critical infrastructure, and local government finances; and

WHEREAS extensive areas of fire-killed and weakened forest represent a known and ongoing wildfire hazard that, when left untreated, increases wildfire intensity, smoke impacts, suppression

costs, and risks to nearby communities and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS proactive removal of hazardous standing fuel prior to ignition is a cost-effective wildfire risk-reduction measure that improves firefighter safety and reduces long-term public liabilities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to establish stable, multi-year funding programs for Indigenous-led fire-killed fibre recovery and land rehabilitation as a core wildfire risk-reduction and public safety measure.

R33. FOREST SERVICE ROAD DECOMMISSIONING / RECREATIONAL ACCESS

Sponsored by: Village of McBride

WHEREAS the Village of McBride and surrounding region rely heavily on outdoor recreation activities such as snowmobiling, skiing, hiking, camping, and horseback riding that attract visitors and support local businesses including hotels, restaurants, fuel stations, grocery stores, and retail shops; and

WHEREAS the decommissioning of forest service roads in the Robson Valley, for example areas such as Castle Creek, Dore River, and McKale River, limits access to these recreational areas and negatively impacts tourism and the economic sustainability of rural communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government (Ministry of Forests) to review road decommissioning policies and work with rural communities to ensure continued reasonable access to recreation areas that support local tourism and economic development.

R34. ELECTRICAL RELIABILITY AND CAPACITY IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

Sponsored by: Village of McBride

WHEREAS rural communities require reliable and adequate electrical infrastructure to support economic development, industrial growth, and population stability; and

WHEREAS the Village of McBride continues to experience concerns related to power reliability, limited capacity, and lack of three-phase power infrastructure, which constrains industrial development and long-term economic growth;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM request the Provincial Government and BC Hydro to prioritize investments in rural electrical infrastructure, including improvements to reliability, transmission capacity, development of electrical substations, and completion of transmission loops to enable three-phase power and increased power availability.

R35. ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE GRAVEL FOR MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Sponsored by: Village of McBride

WHEREAS BC local governments rely on affordable aggregate resources, such as gravel, to maintain and construct essential infrastructure, including municipal roads; and

WHEREAS regulatory, land access, and development constraints have made it financially unfeasible for small municipalities to access crushed aggregate, which significantly increases infrastructure costs and financial pressure on small communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM request the Provincial Government (Ministry of Transportation and Transit) to work with BC local governments to improve access to affordable aggregate resources.

R36. EXPANSION OF RURAL HEALTH SERVICES

Sponsored by: Village of McBride

WHEREAS rural residents require timely access to essential healthcare services, which includes the need to increase the number of extended care units within their communities; and

WHEREAS reductions in rural medical services have resulted in patients travelling long distances for procedures such as childbirth and minor surgeries, while physician shortages and limited appointment availability increase pressure on emergency departments;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government and Regional Health Authorities to restore and expand rural healthcare services, including maternity care and minor surgical procedures, implement measures to improve physician recruitment and retention, and support the expansion of extended care units in rural communities.

R37. BC EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES – AMBULANCE COMMUNICATIONS

Sponsored by: Village of McBride

WHEREAS there is a need to improve emergency communication infrastructure, including radio repeaters, for ambulance communication and cell tower expansion to address substantial coverage gaps in the Robson Valley Region; and

WHEREAS an increased number of repeaters and cell towers would improve communications for BC Emergency Health Services, improving timely access to emergency health care and increasing safety during emergency transportation;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government and Regional Health Authorities to develop and expand emergency communication infrastructure to address the gaps in communication in the Robson Valley.

R38. EXPANSION OF SPECULATION AND VACANCY TAX

Sponsored by: Regional District of Fraser-Fort George

WHEREAS the Government of British Columbia Speculation and Vacancy Tax (SVT) has proven effective in turning vacant homes into housing for people in British Columbia (BC) and ensuring that foreign owners, and those with primarily foreign income, contribute fairly to B.C.'s tax system, so much so that the province has continued to expand the original Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to encompass more municipalities; and

WHEREAS the current Speculation and Vacancy Tax structure only applies to select municipalities, pushing the problems caused by speculation and properties left vacant into areas not covered by the SVT;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the North Central Local Government Association and Union of BC Municipalities advocate to the provincial government to expand the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program to the entire province of BC, including all municipalities and regional district electoral areas.

LATE RESOLUTIONS

L1. TAX REGIME ON CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS

Sponsored by: Peace River Regional District

WHEREAS clean energy projects, including wind farms, receive tax exemptions and incentives that allow such projects to contribute less toward local taxation despite considerable environmental and infrastructure impacts; and

WHEREAS the lack of a clear, consistent fiscal framework limits local governments' ability to support regional services and manage cumulative effects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM urge the Province of British Columbia to review and amend the tax regime for clean energy projects to ensure equitable, transparent, and predictable taxation that aligns such projects with other major industrial developments financial contributions to local governments and supports the provision of necessary regional infrastructure and services.

L2. CLASS 5 DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Sponsored by: District of Mackenzie

WHEREAS British Columbia's existing property tax classifications under the Assessment Act do not include a specific class for large-scale artificial intelligence (AI) compute centres, AI data centres, or Bitcoin and cryptocurrency mining operations; and

WHEREAS these facilities impose unique demands on municipalities that are not reflected in their current tax classification, including significant electrical infrastructure requirements, community planning impacts, emergency response considerations, lower employment levels relative to other industrial uses, and long-term land-use implications;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM request the Province of British Columbia and BC Assessment include high-energy digital infrastructure, including but not limited to AI compute centres, high-performance computing (HPC) data centres, and Bitcoin and cryptocurrency mining facilities, in Utilities or Class 5 Light Industry.

L3. SMALL RURAL MUNICIPAL ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

Sponsored by: Village of Telkwa

WHEREAS municipal road networks in small rural communities continue to deteriorate to critical levels, requiring urgent rehabilitation to ensure public safety, emergency access, and essential municipal operations, with costs far exceeding the financial capacity of municipalities with limited tax bases; and

WHEREAS rural municipalities rely heavily on provincial and federal funding to maintain core infrastructure, and the diversion of limited capital reserves from other critical projects such as water system upgrades poses risks to public health, long-term sustainability, and service delivery;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM advocate to the Province of British Columbia to establish dedicated, accessible infrastructure funding for small rural municipalities facing urgent road rehabilitation needs;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia provide emergency and/or accelerated infrastructure funding for small municipalities experiencing significant road deterioration that threatens public safety and essential services.





5. Financial Overview and Stability

5.1 NCLGA Financial Report 2025-2026 (Budget Vs Actuals)

INTRODUCTION

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

The North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) is pleased to present the 2025-2026 Financial Report to our members. Total revenue was \$486,124 with expenses amounting to \$472,216, resulting in a net surplus of \$13,908. This surplus has been fully allocated within the 2026–2027 budget to support AGM delivery and reserve replenishment.

Please refer to the Table: NCLGA 2025-2026 Budget Versus Actuals.

REVENUE OVERVIEW (\$486,124)

Membership fees were received totalling \$171,413, for 35% of the organization’s revenue. Membership fees continue to play a significant role in the organization’s financial sustainability. Event revenues included a total of \$214,331 for the 2025 NCLGA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Convention in Prince Rupert, and \$14,325 for the 2025 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium. The 2025 Symposium budget was decreased to reflect a streamlined format with Accord Signatories as the primary participants, and a focus on joint advocacy activities.

Other key events contributed to overall revenue, including the 2025 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) luncheon in Victoria, which brought in \$10,000 from sponsorships. The reliance on sponsorship revenues underscores the importance of maintaining strong relationships with corporate and government partners.

EXPENSE OVERVIEW (\$472,216)

Total expenses of \$472,216 reflect AGM and Convention delivery, Symposium costs, and core operational, governance, and program expenses.

The 2025 AGM and Convention in Prince Rupert incurred expenses related to catering and venue services, audio-visual and technical support, staging supplies, and communications, totalling \$212,599. The 2025 Mental Health and Addictions Symposium in Prince George was under budget due to the updated format, with total expenses of \$13,782.

Additional budget expenses included work on advocacy and outreach to advance key priorities, including advocacy letters, webinars, travel, research, and stakeholder engagement.

CONCLUSION

NCLGA continues to demonstrate strong financial stewardship, achieving a balanced outcome with a net surplus of \$13,908 for the 2025–2026 fiscal year. Revenue performance was strengthened by higher-than-anticipated AGM sponsorship and registration, while expenditures were carefully managed through operational efficiencies and strategic program delivery, including a streamlined Symposium format.

This financial position supports both immediate operational needs and future financial sustainability, including contributions to the Strategic Reserve Fund and continued investment in member services and advocacy.

NCLGA Strategic Reserve Funds held in Trust by NDIT

Category	Amount
Starting Balance - March 31, 2025	\$ 336,477.00
Investment Income and Market Change	\$ 38,475.00
Fees	-\$ 1,305.00
Ending Balance - March 31, 2026	\$ 373,647.00

Table: NCLGA 2025-2026 Budget Versus Actuals

Category	Budget	Actual Total	Variance %	Amount	Notes
REVENUE					
Annual Membership	\$171,458	\$171,413	100%	\$(45)	Underpayment of one fee (to be added to 2026/27 membership fees)
2025 AGM & Convention					
Sponsorship	\$70,000	\$81,821	117%	\$11,821	Exceeded budget expectations, driven by strong sponsorship uptake
Registration	\$115,075	\$132,510	115%	\$17,435	Exceeded budget expectations, driven by strong registration uptake
2026 AGM & Convention					
Sponsorship	\$35,000	\$73,500	210%	\$38,500	Early sponsorship fees, includes incorrect posting of partial 2025 AGM revenue in 2026
Registration (in person)	\$-	\$2,555	0%	\$2,555	Early registration fees
Registration (online)	\$-	\$-	0%	\$-	None received
NCLGA UBCM Luncheon					
Sponsorship	\$10,000	\$10,000	100%	\$-	No significant variance
2025 Symposium					
Sponsorship	\$56,250	\$11,125	20%	\$(45,125)	Under budget due to updated Symposium format
Registration (in person)	\$16,250	\$3,200	20%	\$(13,050)	Under budget due to updated Symposium format
Registration (online)	\$-	\$-	0%		Not applicable due to updated Symposium format
Member Webinars	\$2,060	\$-	0%	\$(2,060)	Revenue not secured
Fund Development	\$-	\$-	0%	\$-	N/A
TOTAL REVENUE	\$476,093	\$486,124	102%	\$10,031	
EXPENSES					
Professional Services - Operational (FBC Support)	\$154,500	\$154,500	100%	\$0	No significant variance
Professional Services - Event Planner	\$45,000	\$-	0%	\$(45,000)	Budget consolidated into AGM and Symposium expense categories
Professional Services - Accounting	\$5,500	\$4,214	77%	\$(1,286)	Decreased delivery costs
Insurance	\$5,033	\$4,600	91%	\$(433)	No significant variance
Interest & Bank Charges	\$283	\$1843	651%	\$1560	Increased bank service charges, plus investment admin fee
Telephone	\$500	\$633	127%	\$133	No significant variance
Office Expense	\$500	\$111	22%	\$(389)	Under budget
Miscellaneous	\$-	\$6,844	0%	\$6,844	Unbudgeted accounting adjustment related to GST payable/recoverable reconciliation
Communications	\$3,000	\$5,349	178%	\$2,349	Increased delivery costs
Board and Committee Meetings	\$34,750	\$38,289	110%	\$3,539	Increased delivery costs
Advocacy and Outreach	\$8,500	\$6,542	77%	\$(1958)	Partial expenses included in Board and Committee meetings
2025 AGM & Convention	\$172,030	\$212,599	124%	\$40,569	includes incorrect posting of partial 2026 AGM expense in 2025
2026 AGM & Convention	\$10,964	\$15,162	138%	\$4,198	Increased expenses billed in 2025/26
NCLGA UBCM Luncheon	\$7,725	\$7,748	100%	\$23	No significant variance
Symposium	\$27,809	\$13,782	50%	\$(14,027)	Intentionally delivered in a streamlined format, resulting in reduced revenue and expenses
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$476,093	\$472,216	99%	\$(3,878)	
NET	\$-	\$13,908	-	\$13,908	

5.2 2025-2026 KPMG Notice to Reader

Financial Information of
**NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**
And Compilation Engagement Report thereon
Year ended March 31, 2026

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet

March 31, 2026, with comparative information for 2025

	2026	2025
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 93,820	\$ 130,638
Accounts receivable	52,660	87,755
Investments and marketable securities	373,647	463,593
	<u>\$ 520,127</u>	<u>\$ 681,986</u>
Liabilities		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 38,378	\$ 217,525
Deferred revenue	52,660	87,755
	<u>91,038</u>	<u>305,280</u>
Net assets	429,089	376,706
	<u>\$ 520,127</u>	<u>\$ 681,986</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, 2026, with comparative information for 2025

	2026	2025
Revenue:		
Membership fees	\$ 171,413	\$ 166,339
Annual general meeting	290,386	221,419
Events	24,325	80,581
	486,124	468,339
Expenditures:		
Annual general meeting	227,761	276,984
Board meeting expense	17,473	3,385
Bank charges	1,843	2,281
Communications	5,349	3,025
Executive meetings and travel	27,358	64,153
Insurance	4,600	4,795
Legal and accounting	4,214	4,051
Office supplies and miscellaneous	6,955	74
Subcontracting	154,500	150,000
Symposium expenses	13,782	47,160
Telephone	633	573
UBCM luncheon	7,748	4,663
	472,216	561,144
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditures before other income	13,908	(92,805)
Other income:		
Gain on sale of marketable securities	2,857	83,015
Investment	11,291	14,008
Unrealized gain (loss) in value of marketable securities	24,327	(64,718)
	38,475	32,305
Excess of revenue over (under) expenditures	52,383	(60,500)
Net assets, beginning of year	376,706	437,206
Net assets, end of year	\$ 429,089	\$ 376,706

See accompanying note to financial information.

NORTH CENTRAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Note to Financial Information

Year ended March 31, 2026

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.



5.3 Strategic Reserve Fund Update

At its February 28, 2026 meeting, the NCLGA Board confirmed the formal classification of the Strategic Reserve Fund as a Board-designated reserve held in trust through the Northern Development Initiative Trust (NDIT). This clarification establishes a clear governance and financial framework for the reserve, with the primary objectives of risk protection and long-term financial sustainability.

REPAYMENT CONTRIBUTION INTO NDIT STRATEGIC RESERVE FUND

In 2024–2025, the Board approved a one-time withdrawal of \$121,653 from the Strategic Reserve Fund to support operational requirements. The 2026–2027 budget includes a \$12,165 contribution (10% of the withdrawn amount), representing an initial step toward restoring the reserve while balancing current operating pressures.

BACKGROUND

While historically referred to as an “endowment,” the NCLGA reserve does not meet formal endowment criteria, as principal may be accessed with Board approval. The fund is more appropriately classified as a strategic reserve, intended to support operational continuity, manage financial risk, and provide flexibility in the event of revenue shortfalls or extraordinary pressures.

INTENDED PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGIC RESERVE FUND

The Board endorsed the following primary and secondary purposes of the Strategic Reserve Fund:

Primary Purpose (Risk Protection):

- Provide capacity to cover approximately one year of operating costs in the event of a significant funding disruption.
- Ensure sufficient resources are available to meet legal, contractual, and staffing obligations should dissolution ever be required.
- Mitigate short-term revenue volatility or extraordinary financial shocks.

Secondary Purpose (Long-Term Sustainability):

- Once primary reserve thresholds are achieved, allow modest and predictable investment earnings to contribute to annual operating costs.
- Reduce long-term reliance on external funding sources while preserving financial flexibility.

Based on current reserve levels, NCLGA remains below the minimum target range required to fully achieve its risk protection objectives. As a result, the organization is in an early-stage reserve rebuilding phase.

PROPOSED RESERVE FUND TARGET LEVELS

The Board supports the proposed reserve target ranges as planning guides. The target ranges are intended as planning guidelines rather than fixed thresholds. Using the current operating budget, the indicative targets are:

Minimum Reserve Target – Risk Protection Floor:

- \$450,000–\$475,000 (approximately 12 months of operating expenses)
- Until achieved, no planned reliance on investment earnings for operations.

Stability Target Range – Financial Resilience Zone:

- \$450,000–\$675,000 (approximately 12–18 months of operating expenses)
- Investment earnings generally retained to support growth.

Sustainability Threshold – Revenue Support Zone:

- \$750,000–\$1,000,000
- At this level, a 3–4% annual draw could generate \$22,500–\$40,000 annually (5–9% of operating costs)
- Use of earnings subject to Board approval and market conditions.

FUNDING CONSTRAINTS AND CURRENT CHALLENGE

While there is strong Board support for building the Strategic Reserve, current operating budgets provide limited capacity for meaningful annual contributions without impacting core service delivery. This reinforces the need to pursue alternative, non-operating funding strategies to achieve long-term reserve targets.

The 2026–27 budget includes a modest contribution of \$12,165 to the reserve. While directionally positive, this contribution highlights the structural limitation of relying on operating budgets and risks framing reserve growth as competing with service delivery.

NEED FOR A STRATEGIC RESERVE FUND DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

To strengthen long-term financial resilience while protecting core operations, reserve growth should be supported primarily through non-operating and strategic funding sources.

Key principles:

- Protection of core programs and services
- Preference for non-recurring or extraordinary revenues
- Clear Board oversight and approval thresholds
- Alignment with NCLGA’s mandate and member expectations

This approach provides a clear and sustainable pathway to achieving reserve targets over time, while maintaining NCLGA’s ability to deliver core services and respond to emerging priorities.



6. Membership Fees and Financial Model

6.1 Annual CPI-Based Increase Framework

At its February 28, 2026, Board meeting, the NCLGA Board approved a proposed framework for informing annual membership fee recommendations using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as a baseline. This framework will fully respect the requirements of the NCLGA Bylaws that all membership fee increases be approved annually by the membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). Each year, the Board will recommend a specific membership fee adjustment for approval by the membership at the AGM.

For 2026–2027, the Board recommends a 4% membership fee increase for consideration by the membership at the May 2026 AGM. This recommendation is informed by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which averaged approximately 3% over the prior calendar year, with a modest adjustment to address cost pressures and support long-term financial sustainability. Final approval remains with the membership. Please refer to 6.3 2026-2027 Membership Fees - Proposed Membership Fee Increase

GOVERNANCE AND BYLAW CONTEXT

Under the NCLGA Constitution and Bylaws, changes to membership fees are considered non-routine business and must be approved by the membership at an AGM. As such, a CPI-linked approach does not create an automatic increase and does not delegate authority—membership approval at the AGM remains required each year.

PURPOSE OF A CPI-INFORMED RECOMMENDATION FRAMEWORK

Adopting a CPI-informed framework supports disciplined, predictable financial planning while maintaining flexibility for Board and membership decision-making. It will:

- Improve consistency and predictability in annual fee recommendations.
- Provide members with a clear, objective rationale for proposed changes.
- Reduce reliance on ad hoc or irregular “catch-up” increases.
- Support long-term financial sustainability while preserving full member approval authority.
- Align fee adjustments with inflationary trends, while allowing modest adjustments to address operational cost pressures.

RATIONALE

- Improves transparency and clarity around fee recommendations.
- Provides predictability while preserving flexibility.
- Supports sound financial planning without pre-authorizing increases.

6.2 Membership Fee Calculation Model Review

At its February 28, 2026 Board meeting, the NCLGA Board determined that the Membership Fee Calculation Model Review be presented to the membership for discussion at the 2026 AGM. While there is no requirement to change how membership fees are calculated, there is a history of inquiries about the Regional Hospital District Assessment Value method, and consideration should be given to equity, transparency, and a streamlined approach.

The Board noted member uncertainty and perceived unfairness for some areas with the current membership fees system, and a preference for a prompt implementation of the more transparent population-based method.

Membership fees for 2026-2027 have already been calculated using the existing Regional Hospital District Assessment Value method. As such, the membership is asked to consider the proposed streamline calculation model for the 2027-2028 membership fees and provide guidance to the NCLGA Board.

BACKGROUND

NCLGA membership fees are currently calculated using a three-part formula consisting of a pro-rated base rate, a population-based allocation, and a Regional Hospital District assessment-based adjustment. While the model was originally intended to balance equity, capacity to pay, and minimum participation, it has evolved into a system that is increasingly complex and challenging to administer.

WHY NOW AND RISKS OF NOT ACTING

This review is timely due to growing administrative and governance challenges associated with the current membership fee calculation model. Population data is readily available through census and inter-censal estimates and can be updated consistently and transparently. In contrast, Hospital District assessment values are difficult to update annually and often require interpretation or reliance on outdated information.

If no action is taken, NCLGA will continue to rely on data outside its control, increasing the risk of inconsistencies, reduced predictability, and difficulty explaining year-over-year fee changes to members. Over time, this undermines confidence in the fee-setting process, particularly among newly elected officials.

Assessment-based volatility may also continue to generate fee changes that are disconnected from NCLGA service delivery or participation, creating perceived inequities. Addressing the issue now within the annual budget cycle allows for a controlled and transparent transition and avoids the need for more abrupt changes in the future. It also supports good governance by ensuring the fee model is defensible, understandable, and consistently applied.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP FEE CALCULATION METHODOLOGY

The current model consists of three components. Members with populations under 1,000 pay a base fee of \$500, while members with populations of 1,000 or more pay a base fee of \$750. In addition, all members are allocated a share of costs based on population, and a further share is allocated using hospital district assessment values.

One of the strengths of the current model is that it attempts to balance community size with a measure of tax base capacity. This means that population is not the only determinant of fees. The assessment component can moderate impacts that might otherwise arise in a purely population-based model.

At the same time, this layered structure is also the model's primary weakness. For many members, it is not immediately obvious how the three components interact to produce their final fee. The inclusion of assessment data also reduces the model's transparency and makes it more difficult to communicate in a straightforward way.

PROPOSED STREAMLINED MEMBERSHIP FEE MODEL METHODOLOGY

The proposed streamlined model simplifies the fee calculation while preserving fairness and fiscal integrity. Under this approach, membership fees are calculated using two components only.

A fixed base rate applies to all members, maintaining a minimum contribution toward core operations. The remaining portion of total membership revenue is allocated solely on a population basis, using publicly available and regularly updated census data.

The hospital district assessment-based component is removed, eliminating reliance on difficult-to-maintain data and improving transparency, predictability, and administrative efficiency.

The simplified model consisting of a flat base fee of \$500 per member plus a population-based allocation of \$0.50 per resident.

The formula for the proposed model is: **\$500 + (Population X \$0.50)**.

The design intent behind the proposed model is to rely on a single, widely understood variable—population—while still preserving a shared baseline contribution from all members through the flat base fee. This is intended to produce a structure that is easier to understand, easier to explain, and easier to maintain from year to year.

The proposed \$500 base fee was selected as a balanced approach. A lower base fee would require a higher population rate and would therefore increase impacts on larger communities. A higher base fee would shift more cost toward smaller communities. The selected base fee moderates both ends of the distribution.

Revenue Neutrality: The proposed model does not increase total membership revenue. It redistributes the existing revenue requirement using a simplified structure.



MEMBER-LEVEL IMPACT ANALYSIS

The proposed model redistributes existing costs among members. As expected in a move away from an assessment-based component, members with larger population shares generally experience increases, while some members that currently contribute more through the assessment component experience decreases.

In broad terms, smaller communities generally experience minimal change. Mid-sized communities experience modest adjustments. Larger population centres experience moderate increases because the simplified model allocates a greater share of costs directly by population. Jurisdictions that are more heavily influenced by the assessment component experience decreases.

The distribution of impacts under the proposed model is as follows: 15 members would see a decrease, 18 members would see an increase under \$500, 6 members would see an increase between \$500 and \$2,000, and 2 members would see an increase above \$2,000.

SUMMARY OF POTENTIAL FEE IMPACTS

Overall, the analysis indicates that most members would experience relatively modest changes and that more significant impacts are concentrated among a small number of members. This suggests that the model achieves simplification without creating widespread fee disruption, although there are still important sensitivities for a limited number of jurisdictions.

Impact Category	Approximate Number of Members
Decrease	15
Increase under \$500	18
Increase between \$500 and \$2,000	6
Increase above \$2,000	2

The largest **increases** under the proposed model are as follows:

Member	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Change
Prince George	\$31,787	\$38,707	\$6,920
Cariboo Regional District	\$16,455	\$19,208	\$2,753
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District	\$7,338	\$8,485	\$1,146
Williams Lake	\$5,092	\$5,953	\$860
Prince Rupert	\$5,769	\$6,626	\$857

The largest **decreases** under the proposed model are as follows:

Member	Current Fee	Proposed Fee	Change
Peace River Regional District	\$19,757	\$9,854	-\$9,903
Northern Rockies Regional Municipality	\$6,086	\$2,466	-\$3,620
Kitimat	\$5,775	\$4,602	-\$1,173
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District	\$5,301	\$4,890	-\$411
Tumbler Ridge	\$2,014	\$1,695	-\$319

MODEL COMPARISON – DISTRIBUTION BY COMMUNITY POPULATION

The current and proposed models distribute costs differently across the membership.

Under the current model, the assessment component moderates the effect of population alone. Under the proposed model, costs are distributed more directly according to population, while still retaining a shared base contribution from all members.

Community Type	Current Model	Proposed Simplified Model
Small communities	Tiered base and assessment can moderate impacts.	Generally minimal change; some small increases or decreases.
Mid-sized communities	Balanced across three components.	Typically modest increases or decreases
Large communities	Population effect moderated by assessment component.	Higher share due to stronger population weighting.

CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING MODEL COMPARISONS

The choice between the current and proposed models is ultimately a policy choice. The current model incorporates both population and a proxy for tax base capacity, which can be seen as a more nuanced approach but is also more difficult to explain and maintain. The proposed model emphasizes transparency, simplicity, and ease of administration, but in doing so places greater weight on population representation.

Neither approach is inherently right or wrong. The key question is which approach better aligns with the priorities of the organization and its members. If the priority is a model that members can easily understand and staff can administer with less complexity, the proposed approach offers a strong case. If the priority is to preserve an additional balancing mechanism linked to economic capacity, the current model retains that feature.

UBCM FEE MODEL (CONTEXTUAL COMPARISON ONLY)

NCLGA is frequently asked to compare its fee structure to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM). For this reason, UBCM comparisons are often useful context; however, they should be interpreted carefully.

UBCM operates at a provincial scale with a much larger and more diverse membership base, including major urban centres. Its broader population and revenue base create distribution dynamics that are not directly comparable to NCLGA. NCLGA, by contrast, represents a smaller population spread across a vast geography and must support advocacy and convening functions for northern and central members with fewer economies of scale.

Using the 2025–26 member list and the estimated UBCM fee figures contained in staff’s analysis, the same group of members would collectively pay approximately \$159,778.46 under the UBCM model, compared with \$171,457.92 under the current NCLGA structure. This illustrates that UBCM is useful for context, but not as a direct benchmark for what NCLGA should charge.

Based on current per capita rates and provincial population estimates, UBCM generates potentially \$3.1M to \$3.2M annually in membership fee revenue, compared to approximately \$171,000 for NCLGA. This difference in scale reflects fundamental differences in membership composition and limits direct comparability between the two models.

For this reason, the UBCM model is included as contextual information only and is not being proposed for adoption.

RISKS AND SENSITIVITIES

Any change to a membership fee model creates redistribution effects, and those effects can lead to political sensitivity. In this case, the most significant sensitivity is the perception that larger communities may be asked to contribute disproportionately more under the proposed model.

There is also a risk that members may compare the proposed model to UBCM without taking into account the structural differences between the two organizations. Finally, members who currently benefit from the way the assessment component moderates fees may question why that element is being removed.

These risks can be mitigated through clear communication, revenue-neutral framing, and careful facilitation. The AGM discussion should be positioned as a consultation on overall approach and principles rather than as a line-by-line negotiation over individual member impacts.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

No changes are proposed for the current fiscal year. All comparisons in this briefing note are based on the approved 2025–26 membership fee structure, but any future implementation would occur only after consultation, further Board consideration, and formal approval through a future budget process.

If the NCLGA were to pursue a revised model following consultation, implementation options could include phased adjustments over multiple years to moderate year-over-year impacts for those members experiencing the largest changes.

If no change is made, the current model would remain in place. However, doing so would also retain the same complexity, continued reliance on the assessment dataset, and the same transparency concerns that prompted the review.

MEMBER DISCUSSION AT THE AGM – RECOMMENDED PLAN

The AGM session will be structured as a facilitated, consultative discussion focused on overall approach and principles, rather than individual member impacts.

The objective of the session is to:

- confirm whether members support a simplified, population-based approach
- test whether the proposed model is directionally appropriate
- identify any key concerns prior to future Board consideration

Table: Membership Fee Comparison (Current Vs. Proposed Calculation Method)

This table compares 2025–26 membership fees under the current fee calculation model and a proposed streamlined model based on a base rate and population allocation only.

MEMBER	POPULATION	CURRENT FEE	PROPOSED FEE	CHANGE \$	CHANGE %	ESTIMATED UBCM FEE
Bulkley-Nechako Regional District	16,031	\$7,338.36	\$8,485.00	\$1,146.00	15.6%	\$9,919.00
Burns Lake	1,659	\$1,362.41	\$1,326.00	-\$36.41	-2.6%	\$1,292.00
Cariboo Regional District	37,559	\$16,454.96	\$19,208.00	\$2,753.04	16.7%	\$15,442.00
Chetwynd	2,302	\$1,891.35	\$1,647.00	-\$245.00	-12.9%	\$1,793.00
Dawson Creek	12,323	\$6,113.85	\$6,638.00	\$524.15	8.6%	\$8,037.00
Fort St. James	1,386	\$1,131.44	\$1,190.00	\$58.56	5.2%	\$1,080.00
Fort St. John	21,465	\$10,850.93	\$11,191.00	\$340.07	3.1%	\$11,853.00
Fraser Lake	965	\$912.74	\$981.00	\$68.26	7.4%	\$752.00
Fraser-Fort George Regional District	15,185	\$8,313.00	\$8,063.00	-\$250.00	-3.0%	\$9,617.00
Granisle	337	\$621.71	\$668.00	\$46.29	7.4%	\$262.00
Hazelton	257	\$602.98	\$628.00	\$25.00	4.2%	\$200.00
Houston	3,052	\$1,905.19	\$2,020.00	\$114.81	6.0%	\$2,377.00
Hudson's Hope	841	\$1,026.27	\$919.00	-\$107.27	-10.5%	\$655.00
Kitimat	8,236	\$5,775.31	\$4,602.00	-\$1,173.31	-20.3%	\$5,725.00
Kitimat-Stikine Regional District	8,813	\$5,301.13	\$4,890.00	-\$411.13	-7.8%	\$6,052.00
Mackenzie	3,281	\$2,192.35	\$2,134.00	-\$58.35	-2.7%	\$2,556.00
Masset	838	\$814.61	\$917.00	\$103.00	12.6%	\$653.00
McBride	588	\$737.96	\$793.00	\$55.04	7.4%	\$458.00
New Hazelton	602	\$725.59	\$800.00	\$74.41	10.2%	\$469.00
Nisga/a Villages	1,481	\$939.00	\$1,238.00	\$299.00	31.8%	\$459.00
North Coast Regional District	981	\$1,043.00	\$989.00	-\$54.00	-5.2%	\$2,322.00
Northern Rockies Regional Municipality	3,947	\$6,085.91	\$2,466.00	-\$3,619.91	-59.5%	\$3,074.00
One Hundred Mile House	1,928	\$1,634.17	\$1,460.00	-\$174.17	-10.6%	\$1,502.00
Peace River Regional District	18,779	\$19,757.00	\$9,854.00	-\$9,903.00	-50.1%	\$10,897.00
Port Clements	340	\$636.11	\$669.00	\$32.89	5.2%	\$265.00
Port Edward	470	\$735.24	\$734.00	-\$1.24	-0.2%	\$366.00
Pouce Coupe	762	\$814.79	\$880.00	\$65.00	7.9%	\$594.00
Prince George	76,708	\$31,787.08	\$38,707.00	\$6,920.00	21.8%	\$18,292.00
Prince Rupert	12,300	\$5,769.46	\$6,626.00	\$857.00	14.9%	\$8,024.00
Prophet River First Nation	106	\$545.36	\$553.00	\$7.00	1.4%	\$83.00
Quesnel	9,889	\$4,728.01	\$5,426.00	\$697.99	14.8%	\$6,660.00
Smithers	5,378	\$3,003.26	\$3,179.00	\$175.00	5.8%	\$4,108.00
Stewart	517	\$864.42	\$758.00	-\$107.00	-12.4%	\$403.00
Taylor	1,317	\$1,196.00	\$1,156.00	-\$41.00	-3.4%	\$1,026.00
Telkwa	1,474	\$1,036.51	\$1,234.00	\$198.00	19.1%	\$1,148.00
Terrace	12,017	\$5,666.89	\$6,485.00	\$819.00	14.4%	\$7,864.00
Tumbler Ridge	2,399	\$2,013.81	\$1,695.00	-\$318.81	-15.8%	\$1,869.00
Valemount	1,052	\$939.80	\$1,024.00	\$84.20	9.0%	\$819.00
Vanderhoof	4,346	\$2,507.00	\$2,665.00	\$158.00	6.3%	\$3,385.00
Wells	218	\$590.18	\$609.00	\$19.00	3.1%	\$170.00
Williams Lake	10,947	\$5,092.43	\$5,953.00	\$860.57	16.9%	\$7,259.00
TOTAL	303,076	\$171,457	\$171,457	0.0%	0.0%	\$159,778.00

MEMBERSHIP FEE CALCULATION MODEL REVIEW Q&A SHEET

Why is NCLGA reviewing the membership fee model? The current model has become increasingly difficult to explain and administer because it includes multiple components, including a hospital district assessment allocation. The review is intended to test whether a simpler and more transparent approach can maintain the same revenue while being easier for members to understand.

Is this proposal increasing membership fees overall? No. The proposed model is revenue neutral. It is calibrated to generate the same total revenue as the approved 2025–26 membership fee structure.

Why are some members paying more under the proposed model? The proposed model removes the assessment component and places greater weight on population. Members with larger population shares therefore contribute more directly based on representation.

Why are some members paying less? Members that currently contribute relatively more through the assessment component may see lower fees under a model that relies primarily on population plus a shared base fee.

Why remove the hospital district assessment component? While the assessment component provides a proxy for tax base capacity, it adds complexity, is less transparent to members, and requires additional administrative effort to maintain.

Why was a \$500 base fee selected? The \$500 base fee was selected as a balanced approach. A lower base fee would shift more cost to larger communities by increasing the population rate, while a higher base fee would shift more cost to smaller communities.

What is the value proposition for members? NCLGA provides a regional advocacy and coordination platform for northern and central issues that may not advance through province-wide processes. The Mental Health and Addictions Accord is a strong example of how regional advocacy can help leverage provincial attention and commitments to services in the region.

Would any change take effect immediately? No. The AGM discussion would be consultative only. Any change would require future Board consideration and approval through a subsequent budget process.

Could implementation be phased? Yes. If a revised model is pursued, implementation options could include phased adjustments over multiple years to moderate impacts.

Why doesn't NCLGA adopt the UBCM membership fee model? UBCM's model reflects a much larger organization with a significantly different membership base. NCLGA's model needs to reflect the realities of a smaller, rural, and geographically dispersed region, and therefore cannot be directly replicated.

Why are some NCLGA members paying more than they would under the UBCM model? This difference reflects the scale and structure of the two organizations. UBCM distributes costs across a much larger population base, including major urban centres that contribute significant revenue. This allows for lower per-member costs in some cases. NCLGA, by comparison, operates with a much smaller overall revenue base while still providing regional advocacy, coordination, and member services across a large geographic area. As a result, the cost per member may be higher than under a province-wide model. It is also important to note that NCLGA and UBCM serve different roles. NCLGA focuses on advancing regional priorities that may not be addressed through province-wide processes, providing a level of representation and coordination that is not replicated elsewhere.

6.3 2026-2027 Membership Fees (Proposed Membership Fee Increase)

To continue delivering core programs and services and maintain the financial sustainability of NCLGA, a 4% membership fee increase is proposed for the 2026–2027 fiscal year. This adjustment reflects rising operational costs and aligns with the approximately 3% annual average Consumer Price Index (CPI) for BC, with a modest additional increase to support ongoing organizational stability and service delivery.

The decision to propose a 4% increase is based on the following:

- **Keeping Pace with Inflation:** The costs of delivering advocacy, events, and member services continue to rise. Aligning fee adjustments with CPI helps maintain service levels and organizational capacity.
- **Ensuring Financial Stability:** A modest, consistent increase supports predictable financial planning and reduces the need for larger adjustments in future years.
- **Supporting Organizational Priorities:** NCLGA continues to advance advocacy, networking, and member engagement initiatives. Adjusting membership fees enables sustained investment in these priorities.

Final approval of any membership fee increase remains with the membership at the AGM.

This approach reflects a balanced application of the CPI-informed framework, allowing flexibility to respond to current financial conditions.



7. Forward Planning and Financial Outlook

7.1 2026-2027 Budget

INTRODUCTION

Fiscal Year: April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027.

The North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA) is pleased to present the 2026-2027 Budget to our members for approval. The budget is balanced, with total projected revenue and expenses amounting to \$427,894.

Please refer to the Table: *NCLGA Budget 2026-2027*.

CARRY FORWARD FROM 2025-2026

The 2025–2026 fiscal year generated a net surplus of \$13,908, which has been fully allocated within the 2026–2027 budget. A total of \$1,743 has been applied to offset costs associated with the May 2026 AGM and Convention, while \$12,165 has been directed toward the NCLGA Strategic Reserve Fund. This approach ensures that prior-year surplus funds are strategically reinvested to support both immediate event delivery and long-term financial sustainability, resulting in a balanced carry forward position.

REVENUE OVERVIEW (\$427,894)

Membership fees total \$178,316, for 42% of the organization's total revenue, underscoring the role of member contributions in financial sustainability.

Additionally, event revenues serve as a main funding source, mostly derived from registration fees and sponsorship contributions.

As a significant revenue-generating event, the 2026 Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Convention in Prince George is projected to secure \$80,000 in sponsorship revenue. Registration revenues are anticipated to include \$118,528 from attendees. Looking ahead to the 2027 AGM and Convention, \$36,050 in sponsorship is projected as revenue to be received in the current fiscal year.

Other key events contribute to overall revenue, including the 2026 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) luncheon in Victoria, which is expected to bring in \$10,000 in sponsorship revenue. With the work of the Mental Health and Addictions Symposium completed in 2025-2026, this budget item is not included resulting in a \$72,500 decrease in revenue compared to 2025-2026.

The 2026-2027 Budget reflects NCLGA's commitment to fiscal responsibility, striking a strategic balance between membership fees, event sponsorship, and registration revenue. NCLGA continues to maintain strong relationships with corporate and government partners for ongoing sponsorship commitments, while registration revenues reflect strong member engagement in key events.

EXPENSE OVERVIEW (\$427,894)

Total projected expenses for the fiscal year are \$427,894 covering expenses for core operations, advocacy initiatives, event management, and member engagement initiatives. Projected expenses for the 2026 AGM and Convention hosted in Prince George will include catering services, venue rental, audio-visual and technical support, staging supplies, marketing and promotional materials, and transportation, for total expenses of \$163,617.

In order to secure the venue for the 2027 AGM and Convention as part of preliminary planning, deposits are expected to cost \$11,293. The 2026 UBCM Luncheon in Vancouver is projected to cost \$4,700, covering catering and event logistics.

A budget of \$8,755 is earmarked for advocacy and outreach, including travel, research, and stakeholder engagement to advance key initiatives.

\$1,402 is budgeted to be re-deposited into the NDIT Strategic Reserve Fund, as a repayment towards the \$121,653 withdrawal from the Strategic Reserve Fund in 2024-2025. Though no repayment was required for 2026, prudent financial and operational management allowed for the repayment.

The budget for 2026-2027 reflects the organization's commitment to long-term planning and fiscal responsibility, with a strategic approach to balancing operational efficiency, event execution, and member engagement.

KEY OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The NCLGA is working to expand its sponsorship efforts and diversify its revenue streams, to enhance local government capacity, and provide more value to its members without increasing financial pressure on existing revenue sources.

While high event costs remain a budget challenge, efficiencies are being explored and implemented, including for the 2027 AGM and Convention, with an overall decreased budget by 4.89% for AGM expenses, reflecting efficiencies that can be implemented when the AGM is hosted in a larger centre.

Membership fees serve as a primary revenue source, and it is recommended that NCLGA index membership fees to the Consumer Price Index to ensure sustainable revenue growth that keeps pace with inflationary pressures (please refer to 6.3 2026-2027 Membership Fees - Proposed Membership Fee Increase).

The NCLGA remains committed to financial sustainability as it continues to provide advocacy for its members and deliver key events and services. The 2026-2027 NCLGA Budget reflects a carefully structured financial plan that aligns with NCLGA's organizational priorities while maintaining a balanced approach to revenue generation and expenses.

Table: NCLGA Budget 2026-2027

CARRY FORWARD	
Category	Amount (\$)
From: 2025-2026 Net	13,908
To: Event 1 AGM & Convention (May 2026)	-1,743
To: NCLGA Strategic Reserve Fund - Deposit	-12,165
TOTAL	-

NEW	
Category	Amount (\$)
Annual Membership Fees	178,316
Event 1 AGM & Convention (May 2026) - Sponsorship	80,000
Registration	118,528
Event 2 AGM & Convention (May 2027) - Sponsorship	36,050
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon (Sep 2026) - Sponsorship	10,000
Member Webinars - Sponsorship	5,000
TOTAL REVENUE	427,894

EXPENSES	
Category	Amount (\$)
Deposit to NCLGA Strategic Reserve Fund	1,402
Professional Services - Operational	159,134
Professional Services - Accounting	5,665
Professional Services - Event Planner (AGM)	28,000
Administration (Insurance, Bank Fees, Phone, Office Expense)	6,505
Communications	3,030
Board and Committee Meetings	35,793
Advocacy	8,755
Event 1 AGM & Convention (May 2026)	163,617
Event 2 AGM & Convention (May 2027) - Venue Deposit	11,293
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon (Sep 2026)	4,700
TOTAL EXPENSES	427,894
NET	-



7.2 Multi-Year Financial Plan

The NCLGA is pleased to present the Multi-Year Budget Report for 2026-2032. This multi-year budget is a trend analysis, with a projected 3% growth in each year, reflecting estimated annual increases and the organizations operational priorities.

The multi-year budget report outlines projected revenues and expenses, reflecting a balanced approach to financial planning, ensuring operational sustainability. Continued efforts to secure external funding, optimize expenses, and maintain revenue growth 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.

The NCLGA's primary revenue streams include membership fees, sponsorships, event registrations, and limited external funding, with projected expenses to align with revenue trends.

The NCLGA proposes the adoption of a CPI-Informed framework to its membership, for informing annual membership fee recommendations using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) as the baseline. Adopting a CPI-informed framework will improve consistency and predictability in annual fee recommendations, and support long-term financial sustainability while preserving full member approval authority.

The NCLGA also proposes a Membership Fee Calculation Model Review, to update the calculation model from the current Regional Hospital District Assessment Value method to a population-based model.

A 4% increase in membership fees is proposed for the 2026-2027 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.

Table: NCLGA Multi-Year Budget 2026-2032

Category	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32
REVENUE	4.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%	3.00%
Annual Membership Fees	\$178,316	\$183,666	\$189,176	\$194,851	\$200,696	\$206,717
Event 1 AGM & Convention Current - Sponsorship	\$80,000	\$82,400	\$84,872	\$87,418	\$90,041	\$92,742
Registration	\$118,528	\$122,084	\$125,746	\$129,519	\$133,404	\$137,406
Event 2 AGM & Convention Upcoming - Sponsorship	\$36,050	\$37,132	\$38,245	\$39,393	\$40,575	\$41,792
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon - Sponsorship	\$10,000	\$10,300	\$10,609	\$10,927	\$11,255	\$11,593
Member Webinars - Sponsorship	\$5,000	\$5,150	\$5,305	\$5,464	\$5,628	\$5,796
TOTAL REVENUE	\$427,894	\$440,731	\$453,953	\$467,571	\$481,598	\$496,046
EXPENSES						
NCLGA Strategic Reserve Fund	\$1,402	\$1,444	\$1,487	\$1,532	\$1,578	\$1,625
Professional Services - Operational	\$159,134	\$163,908	\$168,825	\$173,890	\$179,107	\$184,480
Professional Services - Accounting	\$5,665	\$5,835	\$6,010	\$6,190	\$6,376	\$6,567
Professional Services - Event Planner	\$28,000	\$28,840	\$29,705	\$30,596	\$31,514	\$32,460
Administration (Insurance, Bank Fees, Phone, Office Expense)	\$6,505	\$6,700	\$6,901	\$7,108	\$7,321	\$7,541
Communications	\$3,030	\$3,121	\$3,215	\$3,311	\$3,410	\$3,513
Board and Committee Meetings	\$35,793	\$36,867	\$37,973	\$39,112	\$40,285	\$41,494
Advocacy and Outreach	\$8,755	\$9,018	\$9,288	\$9,567	\$9,854	\$10,149
Event 1 AGM & Convention Current	\$163,617	\$168,526	\$173,581	\$178,789	\$184,152	\$189,677
Event 2 AGM & Convention Upcoming (Deposit)	\$11,293	\$11,632	\$11,981	\$12,340	\$12,710	\$13,092
Event 3 NCLGA UBCM Luncheon	\$4,700	\$4,841	\$4,986	\$5,136	\$5,290	\$5,449
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$427,894	\$440,731	\$453,953	\$467,571	\$481,598	\$496,046

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