

**SKEENA-QUEEN CHARLOTTE REGIONAL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

AMENDED AGENDA

**100 1st Avenue East, Prince Rupert, BC
Saturday, May 24, 2014
9:00 A.M.**

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA (additions/deletions)

3. BOARD MINUTES & BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None.	-
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4. STANDING COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MINUTES – BUSINESS ARISING

None.	-
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5. DELEGATIONS

5.1 Nichola Wade, Project Manager, Northwest Readiness Project	Verbal
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6. FINANCE

None.	-
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7. CORRESPONDENCE

<u>Add:</u> <u>7.1</u> Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development – Planning Grants Available for Northwest Communities	Pg a-c
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8. REPORTS / RESOLUTIONS

8.1 D. Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer – 2014 UBCM Convention Meeting Requests	Pg 1
8.2 D. Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer – 2014 UBCM Resolutions	Pg 2-4

9. OLD BUSINESS

None.	-
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10. NEW BUSINESS

None.	-
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11. PUBLIC INPUT**12. IN-CAMERA**

None.	-
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13. ADJOURNMENT

Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, Economy Sector, Families Sector, Government Operations Sector, Health Sector, Cariboo Chilcotin Coast Region, Northern B.C. Region

Planning grants available for Northwest communities

/2014/05/planning-grants-available-for-northwest-communities.html



Friday, May 16, 2014 12:30 PM

TERRACE - Grants totalling up to \$1 million are being provided to help local governments in the Northwest plan for economic growth associated with new industrial developments, Community Sport and Cultural Development Minister Coralee Oakes announced today.

Oakes joined representatives from Northwest communities and Northern Development Initiative Trust in announcing two new grant programs that will help local governments update their bylaws and official community plans, as well as review and assess local infrastructure needs to prepare for LNG developments and industrial expansion.

The grants are available to the City of Terrace, City of Prince Rupert, District of Kitimat, District of Port Edward, Regional District of Kitimat-Stikine and the Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District.

Two grant programs, at up to \$500,000 each, will assist communities to develop plans for:

- Asset Management Capacity Building – grants will support the review of infrastructure capacity (water, sewer, drainage, local roads) and assist communities in determining what additional services are needed for their specific growth needs.
- Community Land-Use Planning - grants will assist local governments to do the work required so that their land use bylaws, policies and plans align with the needs for industrial expansion and maintain community health and quality of life for existing residents. This could include updating local official community plans or zoning bylaws, or conducting new studies for targeted areas like housing affordability.

This announcement surpasses the commitment made by Premier Clark at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' 2013 Convention to help the Northwest plan for success.



Quotes:

Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development Coralee Oakes –

“Our government is committed to ensuring local communities realize all opportunities afforded by major industrial developments. Preparing for economic growth is a good challenge to have - and these grants will augment the existing tools available to communities to ensure they develop and update community plans to build vibrant, sustainable communities well into the future.”

Janine North, chief executive officer, Northern Development Initiative Trust –

“Northern Development is a regional economic development trust that provides funding and capacity building services to build a stronger north. We believe that the Province’s investment in Northwest community readiness is an example that will serve the development of diversified sustainable communities in the Northwest. It will also provide a great model for other regions that grapple with new industrial opportunities.”

City of Terrace Mayor David Pernarowski –

“Terrace is experiencing major growth due to all the economic development in the area and these Northern Development grants will help us meet the challenges that come as a result. Northern Development Initiative Trust has given us a lot of support over the last decade and we appreciate their assistance in helping us build an even more vibrant community. ”

Quick Links:

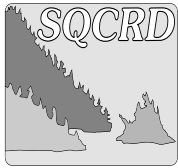
Community, Sport and Cultural Development: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/cscd/>

Northern Development Initiative Trust: www.northerndevlopment.bc.ca/

Media Contacts:

Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development
250 507-3418

Northern Development Initiative Trust
Director, Communications
250 561-2824



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 23, 2014
FROM: Daniel Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer
SUBJECT: 2014 UBCM Convention Meeting Requests

Recommendation:

THAT the staff report entitled “2014 UBCM Convention Meeting Requests” be received;

BACKGROUND:

The 2014 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention will be held at the Whistler Conference Centre from September 22-26, 2014.

UBCM's annual convention provides an opportunity for local government leaders to discuss local issues and initiatives with provincial government elected officials and staff, as well as to develop policy that guides UBCM's advocacy efforts and work throughout the year.

As the April 2014 SQCRD Regular Board meeting, a special Board meeting was set for May 24, 2014, to further discuss the 2014 UBCM Convention and, more specifically, meetings the Board wishes to request with the various Provincial Cabinet Ministers.

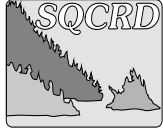
DISCUSSION:

Staff is recommending that the Board discuss the topics and issues that it would like to see brought forward as a meeting request to the 2014 UBCM Convention. Once topics and issues have been identified, staff will have the opportunity to contact the appropriate Provincial Ministry to go about scheduling a meeting request and prepare briefing notes beforehand.

Staff has contacted the UBCM Meeting Coordinator with the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and found that the online meeting request page will be open and available to schedule meetings by the second week of June, 2014.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is recommending that the Board designate a lead Board member for each issue/topic identified for a meeting request. This will allow staff to efficiently coordinate with the Board to ensure that briefing notes and subject matter are completed accurately and in a timely fashion.



STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 24, 2014
FROM: Daniel Fish, Deputy Corporate Officer
SUBJECT: 2014 UBCM Resolutions

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the staff report entitled “2014 UBCM Resolutions” be received.

BACKGROUND:

The 2014 Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) Convention will be held at the Whistler Conference Centre from September 22-26, 2014.

UBCM’s annual convention provides an opportunity for local government leaders to develop policy that guides UBCM’s advocacy efforts and work throughout the year.

The main forum for UBCM policy-making is the annual resolutions cycle. It provides an opportunity for local governments of all sizes and from all areas of the province to express concerns, share their experiences and take a united position.

DISCUSSION:

UBCM Resolutions

Local governments are urged to submit resolutions first to Area Associations (North Central Local Government Association) for consideration. Resolutions endorsed at Area Association annual meetings are submitted automatically to UBCM for consideration and do not need to be resubmitted to UBCM by the sponsor. The following resolutions were submitted to the NCLGA before its March 7, 2014 deadline:

LNG Projects in Northern British Columbia

WHEREAS the Province is actively supporting the development of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) as British Columbia’s future economic driver;

AND WHEREAS multiple proposals and applications for LNG and other large scale industrial projects are creating a drain on the limited resources of many small communities and regional districts;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that NCLGA and UBCM urge the Provincial Government to develop an LNG plan to provide immediate and meaningful assistance to local governments in British Columbia to address the issue.

BC Assessment Authority

WHEREAS limited and infrequent property sales may not accurately reflect market values in many rural areas of British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS the BC Assessment Authority is legislated to use mandated formulas based on market data when assessing residential properties, and this has historically contributed to significant shifts in the assessed values of properties in some rural communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of BC Municipalities urge the Provincial Government to provide BC Assessment Authority with more flexibility when assessing properties in rural British Columbia.

Coastal Ferries: Restoration of Service Levels, Fiscal Fairness, and Long-Term Strategy

WHEREAS the Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) has requested that the Province abandon any plans to increase fares and/or reduce core ferry service levels, as such actions would have irreparable negative impacts on the economic well-being of coastal communities and the provincial tourism sector;

AND WHEREAS the UBCM has called on the Province to implement legislation that recognizes ferry services as essential extensions of our public highway system and ensures fiscal fairness between BC's terrestrial and marine highway systems;

AND WHEREAS the UBCM has requested that the Province develop a long-term ferry services strategy, based on detailed socio-economic inquiry, that supports the sustainability of coastal communities and the provincial tourism sector;

AND WHEREAS over the past year the Province has (a) failed to implement a long-term ferry services strategy, (b) allowed further rapid escalation of ferry fares, and (c) implemented deep cuts to ferry services without conducting a socio-economic impact analysis;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the NCLGA and UBCM request the Province to:

- Reverse the cuts to coastal ferry services implemented on April 28, 2014 and restore 2013 service levels;
- Work co-operatively with coastal community on implementing a long-term strategy for the coastal ferry system, based on detailed socio-economic inquiry, that supports the sustainability of coastal communities and the provincial tourism sector;
- Implement legislation that recognizes the coastal ferry system as an extension of our highway system and ensures fiscal fairness between the marine and terrestrial components of our highway system; and
- Freeze ferry fares and service levels at 2013 levels until such time as the above legislation and strategy are implemented.

Local governments may submit council- or board-endorsed resolutions directly to UBCM until **June 30, 2014**.

With that said, staff is requesting that the Board begin to consider the issues and initiatives it would like brought forward at the 2014 UBCM Convention, so that staff is able to draft and finalize any resolutions before the UBCM resolution submission deadline.