Council Member Motion
For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 7, 2019

To: Committee of the Whole                                      Date: February 3, 2019
From: Councillor Collins and Councillor Loveday
Subject: Provincial Universal School Food Program

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council endorse the following resolution and direct staff to forward copies to the Premier of
British Columbia, the Minister of Education, the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal
Communities (AVICC) Annual Convention, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)
Annual Convention, and member local governments and regional districts within the Capital
Region, AVICC and UBCM, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support:

WHEREAS almost 500,000 individuals in BC experience food insecurity, and Canada remains
one of the only Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations
without a national school food program. And, Canada’s current patchwork of school food
programming reaches only a small percentage of students.

WHEREAS school food programs have been shown to increase children’s consumption of
vegetables, fruits and other healthy foods and decrease the consumption of unhealthy ones;
improve students’ mental health, including reductions in behavioural and emotional problems;
improve cognitive skills and increase scholastic success.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities
advocate to the provincial government for a Universal Healthy School Food Program that will
enable all students in BC to have access to healthy meals at school, building on existing
programs and including food education to serve culturally appropriate, local, sustainable food to
the fullest extent possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Collins                      Councillor Loveday