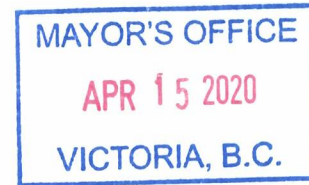


April 8, 2020

Mayor Lisa Helps  
City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6



Dear Mayor Helps:

**Re: 2020 Resolution(s) Submitted to AVICC**

UBCM is in receipt of the attached resolution(s) that your Council submitted to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC).

With the cancellation of the AVICC Spring Convention, your resolution(s) will be brought to the 2020 UBCM Convention in September for consideration.

As per the *UBCM Resolutions Process* letter dated March 4, 2020 that was sent to your Council, UBCM may have already, or may need to reach out to your staff to work on clarifying your resolution(s) in order to ensure it meets our criteria.

If you have any questions, please contact Jamee Justason, Resolutions and Policy Analyst at 604.270.8226 ext. 100 or [jjustason@ubcm.ca](mailto:jjustason@ubcm.ca).

Yours truly,

Maja Tait  
UBCM President

*Enclosure*

**Amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to Reduce “No Pet” Clauses**

**Victoria**

Whereas companion animals have significant quality of life and health benefits for pet owners, and there are also significant benefits to landlords of pet-friendly housing, such as higher rents and longer-term and more reliable tenants;

And whereas no pet clauses in lease agreements greatly reduce the availability and adequacy of rental suites for renters who own pets, further exacerbating extremely challenging rental market conditions for renters:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to reduce “no pet” clauses in lease agreements in British Columbia as long as responsible ownership and animal welfare issues are also considered.

**Convention Decision:**

**Amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to Strengthen  
Maintenance Standards**

**Victoria**

Whereas property maintenance standards are vital for protecting existing housing stock and tenants as they help to ensure that living environments are safe, secure, and appropriate;

And whereas many jurisdictions currently lack regional and municipal standards or regulations, including municipal bylaws or health standards:

Therefore be it resolved that the AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to amend the *Residential Tenancy Act* to strengthen standards of property maintenance that set out a breadth of health, safety, and security standards, and establishes enforcement mechanisms that ensure adherence to these standards.

**Convention Decision:**

## **Tax Land and Improvements Separately**

**Victoria**

Whereas unaffordable housing generally reflects high land values that are driven up by speculation, which makes ownership very expensive to buy, but profitable for sellers and developers, and puts rental housing at a disadvantage when competing for buildable sites;

And whereas a lower property tax rate on improvements and a higher rate on land value could be made to keep taxes the same or lower for most properties, but would reduce the speculative gain from ownership and make rental housing developments more competitive:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM request that the Province amend the *Community Charter* to grant municipalities the option of setting different property tax rates for land and improvements.

**Convention Decision:**

## **Provide Universal No-Cost Coverage of Prescription Contraception**

**Victoria**

Whereas cost is a significant barrier to people accessing contraception, particularly to people with low incomes, youth, and people from marginalized communities;

And whereas providing free prescription contraception has been shown to improve health outcomes for parents and infants by reducing the risks associated with unintended pregnancy, and is likely to reduce direct medical costs on the provincial health system:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to make all prescription contraception in BC available at no cost under the Medical Services Plan.

**Convention Decision:**

## **Partnerships for Fare-Free Public Transit**

**Victoria**

Whereas equitable access to mobility is fundamental to full and meaningful participation in local communities, including access to education, employment, services, recreation, culture and community life, and noting that emissions from transportation generate a majority of community-based emissions in many communities, meaning that changes in transportation options have the potential to have a substantial impact in reducing green-house gas emissions;

And whereas forward-looking jurisdictions around the world from Kingston, Ontario to Kansas City, Missouri, to Luxembourg and Estonia are eliminating user-fee barriers to public transit ridership, with residents paying for transit services through the tax system rather than at the fare box:

Therefore be it resolved that AVICC and UBCM call on the provincial government to work with local governments to introduce fare-free public transit services where communities support the elimination of user-fee barriers to public transit ridership.

**Convention Decision:**