

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE REPORT
FROM THE MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 25, 2021

For the Council meeting of February 25, 2021, the Committee recommends the following:

H.2 Council Member Motion: AVICC Climate Leadership Motion

1. That Council adopt the following motion and forward it to AVICC.
2. That this matter be forwarded to the daytime Council meeting of Thursday, February 25th.

WHEREAS coming out of a workshop at AVICC in 2019, the Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate Leadership Plan (VICC-CLP) steering committee was formed with representatives nominated from each Regional District in the AVICC region to develop a 2030 Climate Action Plan for the AVICC Region;

AND WHEREAS on November 6th 2020, the VICC-CLP steering committee along with faculty and students from the University of Victoria with whom VICC-CLP has been working held a day-long workshop for elected officials and staff in the AVICC region to develop preliminary 2030 Climate Action Goals;

AND WHEREAS in March 2021 the VICC-CLP steering committee will hold two further workshops, one with youth and one with First Nations to ensure that the 2030 Climate Action plan is also grounded in youth experience and Indigenous cultural knowledge;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the AVICC membership endorses in principle the directions laid out in the "Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities Climate Action Goals Working Draft" (attached) and requests that the VICC-CLP also grounds the plan in the cultural and land-based knowledge of Indigenous peoples and the experiences of youth;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AVICC membership requests that the VICC-CLP steering committee present a final plan for the membership's consideration at AVICC 2022.

H.3 Council Member Motion: UBCM Resolution - Paid Sick Leave for Workers

That Council endorse and submit the following resolution to AVICC and UBCM for consideration:

WHEREAS one year into a global pandemic that has killed thousands of British Columbians and millions of people worldwide, there is no legislation ensuring adequate, employer-paid sick days with the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit being temporary, sometimes inaccessible, and not of use for the crucial first few days of an illness;

AND WHEREAS if paid sick day legislation had been in place before the global pandemic, lives would have been saved because infection rates would have been reduced. The lack of legislated paid sick days has especially hurt Black, Indigenous, workers of colour and women workers who are over-represented in frontline jobs, with low pay, few benefits, and without the ability to work from home;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia legislate a minimum of ten (10) accessible, universal, and permanent, paid sick days for all workers and additional days during public health outbreaks.

F.1 Support Downtown Vibrancy and Vitality Report

That Council:

1. Approve \$100,000 from the 2021 Financial Plan contingency budget to be allocated toward a Downtown Vibrancy and Vitality Initiative to be administered by the Downtown Victoria Business Association (DVBA) as outlined in this report.
2. Authorize a partnership agreement, on the terms satisfactory to the Head of Business and Community Relations and in the form satisfactory to the City Solicitor, with the DVBA to provide services on behalf of the City for the Downtown Vibrancy and Vitality Initiative.
3. That staff report to council with an update on the block watch and downtown ambassador component of this expenditure which the information is available.

H.1 Council Member Motion: Council Endorsement of Help Cities Lead Campaign

That Council formally endorse the Help Cities Lead campaign and consider the following actions:

- a. Write a letter to the following provincial ministers to voice Council's support for the five policies detailed in this report:
 - Minister of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca
 - Minister of Municipal Affairs, MAH.Minister@gov.bc.ca
 - Minister of Energy, Mines, and Low-Carbon Innovation, EMPR.Minister@gov.bc.ca
 - Minister of Finance, FIN.Minister@gov.bc.ca
 - Attorney General and Minister responsible for Housing, AG.Minister@gov.bc.ca
- b. Write a letter to the Capital Regional District requesting regional endorsement of the campaign.
- c. Write a letter to all BC local governments asking to endorse the campaign.

H.4 Council Member Motion: AVICC and UBCM Resolution: Acquisition of Apartment Buildings for Affordable Housing

That Council adopts the following resolution and directs staff to forward electronic copies to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC), the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM), and AVICC member local governments, requesting favourable consideration and resolutions of support:

Resolution: Acquisition of Apartment Buildings for Affordable Housing

WHEREAS communities face acute challenges around housing affordability and housing availability, undermining the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities;

AND WHEREAS purpose-built rental apartment buildings from previous decades are an essential component of the current rental housing supply, meaning that future renewal of these properties poses substantial opportunities and risks to current occupants as well as local communities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia work with local communities, the not-for-profit sector and other partners on a program of land banking purpose-built rental apartment buildings, to preserve and renew this essential component of the affordable rental housing supply.