

March 7, 2019

Chair and Board Columbia Shuswap Regional District Box 978 Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4P1

Dear Chair and Board:

Re: Provincial Response to 2018 Resolutions

UBCM has received the Province's response to your Board resolution(s) from 2018. Please find the enclosed resolution(s) and their provincial response(s).

All responses from the Province have been posted to the UBCM web site under Resolutions & Policy.

Please feel free to contact Jamee Justason, Resolutions and Policy Analyst, if you have any questions about this process.

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Very Best Wishes,

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Arjun Singh UBCM President

Enclosure

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2018 B27 Recycle BC Stewardship Plan Update

Whereas Recycle BC is currently conducting a review of its stewardship program, and appears that the following section from the Recycle BC's March 2018 Packaging and Paper Product Extended Producer Responsibility Plan (Plan) will have serious impacts on many local governments in establishing new curbside collection recycling programs:

4.3.2 New Curbside Programs:

Local governments in communities that did not have PPP curbside collection programs by May 2014, when the program was launched, are eligible to join the Recycle BC program as contractors collectors if the employment a PPP curbside collection program, provided each of the following criteria is met.

Packaging and Paper Product Extended Producer Responsibility Plan:

- 1) A curbside garbage collection program was in place by May 2014;
- 2) The community represents an incorporated municipality; and
- 3) The community has a minimum population of 5,000 residents.;

And whereas the impact of the proposed changes to the above section will leave numerous communities and electoral areas within British Columbia ineligible to receive any Recycle BC incentives to administer new curbside collection programs in the future, leaving new curbside collection programs initiated to increase diversion of packaging and printed paper to be funded solely by the taxpayer:

Therefore be it resolved that the Province of BC immediately act to improve legislation in order to hold the stewardship agencies accountable for the total cost associated with the delivery of the depot program and, specifically, the Minister of Environment address the proposed changes in the Plan and acknowledge the tax funded subsidies in the Plan to ensure that all British Columbians have access to Recycle BC services through a fully funded producer responsibility stewardship model.

Convention Decision: Endorsed

Provincial Response

Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

The Recycle BC (RBC) program has been consulting on a revised program plan for the next five years, including establishing a revised threshold on curbside delivery. The revised plan proposes that for new curbside services a community must be: an incorporated municipality, have a minimum population of 5,000 residents, and have provided garbage collection as of May 2014. Other communities would be served by depots. Consultation on the revised program plan has been ongoing since November 2017 and concluded with RBC receiving comments on the latest revised plan (Phase II) through September 6th, 2018.

The Ministry recently issued guidance to stewardship agencies for the demonstration of "producers paying the costs" in their stewardship plans.

The Ministry is aware of RBC's proposed threshold for curbside service. The final plan will be provided to the Ministry to be reviewed by a statutory decision maker. The review will include rural access criteria, an evaluation of "producer paying the cost" and ensuring a satisfactory consultation process took place.

2018 B35 Change to Class E Regulations to Allow Farm Gate Sales

Whereas for the benefit of producers and consumers and in the promotion of a prosperous agricultural industry, it is vital for farmers in British Columbia to be able to operate their farms to establish a living income and for citizens of British Columbia to have the ability to purchase heritage meats through farm gate sales;

And whereas current licensing regulations require that rural farmers living within 2 hours of an abattoir must take their livestock to a facility for slaughter, where the existing abattoirs do not have capacity to meet the service demands:

Therefore be it resolved that the Minister of Agriculture be requested to make an immediate change to the Class E licensing requirements to give farmers the ability to slaughter their livestock on farm premises and to offer and promote farm gate sales.

Convention Decision: Endorsed

Provincial Response

Ministry of Agriculture

Government appreciates the concerns, comments and feedback about the challenges facing small agriculture producers. The Ministry of Agriculture launched a consultation in March 2018 to gather information about Class D and E licences and the licensing process. The Select Standing Committee on Agriculture, Fish and Food (SSCAFF) established on April 24, 2018 launched a province-wide public consultation on meat production, including consideration of Class E licences.

In late September 2018, SSCAFF released their report which had 21 recommendations for government, including review of the current policy for Class E licences. Since the report came out, Ministry staff have been working to address many of the recommendations and to ensure appropriate consideration of the work by the Committee, including the review of Class D and E licensing.

2018 B44 Resourcing Collaborative Planning on Provincial Crown Land

Whereas cumulative development pressures and conflicts on provincial Crown land continue to escalate in a context of outdated land use management plans, most of which have not been updated for approximately 15 or more years;

And whereas the provincial government has recently stated its intent to modernize land-use planning and sustainable management of BC ecosystems in collaboration with stakeholders:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development be urged to take a leadership role and immediately provide sufficient funding and resources to enable effective, community-based, collaborative land use planning for Crown land which includes First Nations, local governments, provincial government agencies, industry sectors, interest groups, and local residents.

Convention Decision: Endorsed

Provincial Response

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Modernized land use planning program development began in 2018 and will be jointly designed and led by the Government of B.C. and First Nation governments. It will evaluate historic land use plans, explore new land use opportunities, and respond to emerging challenges in the management of B.C.'s public lands and natural resources. The Province envisions a fiscally modest program that will be targeted and scalable. Communities, local governments, industry and other stakeholders will also have the opportunity to provide feedback on the program's design.

Land use planning projects are expected to begin in April 2019.

Whereas there are increased issues in terms of timeliness and quality of snow and ice removal in rural areas, particularly during the past 2017 /2018-winter snow season;

And whereas the deteriorating level of winter maintenance in rural areas is creating a public safety issue in regards to emergency response vehicles (fire, police, ambulance) having the ability to access streets and roadways in the event of emergency, and affecting school bus routes, leading to unsafe situations for drivers, passengers and pedestrians:

Therefore be it resolved that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure be requested to immediately undertake a review of their contractor obligations, and agreement specifications for snow and ice control in the rural areas, including a review of minimum equipment standards and staffing requirements.

Convention Decision: Endorsed

Provincial Response

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

The current winter maintenance standards have been in place since 2003. At that time these standards were similar to other jurisdictions around North America. For example the maximum snow accumulation standard was the same as New York State and the bare pavement after a weather event standard was the same as Washington State.

Since that time the weather and climate has been changing in B.C. with more frequent high intensity snowfall events and greater freeze-thaw cycles occurring. In addition, driver's expectations of maintenance standards have increased. To manage these expectations the Ministry has doubled the level of winter monitoring of the maintenance contractor out in the field over the last few years and has also increased the number of reviews of the maintenance contractor's procedures and processes.

As part of the retendering of the highway maintenance contracts the Ministry reviewed the current maintenance standards taking into consideration the issues identified from our monitoring, audits and input from our stakeholders over the last several years. In addition, we have also recognized there is a change in climate and driver's expectations. In light of this, some of the changes include quicker response times to return pavement to bare after a weather event when the road temperature is -9 degrees or warmer, specific requirements to maintain compact snow for safe driving when the road temperature is below -9 degrees, specific requirements for the contractor to be more proactive and apply anti-icing chemicals or winter abrasives prior to a weather event and increased patrol frequencies prior to and during a weather event.

In addition, the Ministry is updating the Contractor Assessment Program, which is the process used to audit and oversee the maintenance contractor's performance to ensure the contractor is meeting their obligations.