

October 12, 2023

SUBJECT: Post 2023 UBCM Convention Member Update

Dear NCLGA Members,

I would like to congratulate all the candidates of the 2023 Union of British Columbia (UBCM) elections for their dedication to the well-being and interests of the region and I encourage you to reach out for assistance as you navigate local government decision-making processes.

2023/24 UBCM Executive Members from the NCLGA Operating Area

- **Art Kaehn**, Director, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (NCLGA Past President) – Acclaimed as UBCM First Vice-President.
- **Cori Ramsay**, Councillor, City of Prince George (NCLGA Past President) – Elected as UBCM Director at Large.
- **Gord Klassen**, Councillor, City of Fort St. John (NCLGA Past President) – Elected as UBCM Director at Large.
- **Jerrilyn Kirk**, Director, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George (current NCLGA Director at Large) – Elected as UBCM Electoral Area Representative.
- **Michael Moses**, Councillor, City of Williams Lake (current NCLGA Director at Large) – Elected as UBCM Director at Large.
- **Sarrah Storey**, Mayor, Village of Fraser Lake (NCLGA Past President) – Elected as UBCM Director at Large.
- **Sheila Boehm**, Councillor, City of Williams Lake (Current NCLGA President) – Appointed as NCLGA Representative.

Note: Representation from the NCLGA on the 2023-24 UBCM Executive Board is 33%.

The NCLGA is the regional voice for its membership and strives to advance solutions identified via the development of resolutions. Advocacy includes any action that speaks in favour of, recommends, or argues for a cause. Effective advocacy can amplify emerging themes across the region, leading to a stronger and more cohesive voice. This cohesive voice increases the ability to achieve positive outcomes for the entire membership, as opposed to the smaller voices of disparate communities.

Recent Activities:

- **2023 NCLGA Resolution Letters** – All Minister and related advocacy letters from the 2023 AGM are submitted. Advocacy letters were also submitted, post 2023 UBCM, on themes related to access to local media content on META Platforms, the Quesnel North-South Interconnector project, and the Taylor Bridge project. Additional letters are currently in development.
- **2023 NCLGA Victoria Delegation** – Each year, representatives from the NCLGA Executive travel to Victoria to follow up on and discuss resolutions with Ministers, MLAs, and senior government officials. The next delegation is being planned for Oct/Nov 2023.
- **Healthcare Opioid Crisis** – The preliminary scoping session on a collaborative approach to addressing the opioid crisis was completed in September 2023. The first session was well attended, and additional

perspectives are encouraged to join the discussion. The next discussion session is being planned for October 2023.

- **Indigenous Relations** – The newly formed NCLGA Indigenous Relations Committee, chaired by NCLGA Director Moses, is exploring strategies to advance the implementation of the *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*, and enhancing relationships and reconciliation among local and Indigenous governments. The first Committee meeting is planned for Fall 2023.

Communications:

- **Website Redesign** – The new NCLGA website is scheduled for release in November 2023. Multiple communities have submitted imagery to help exemplify the communities we collectively represent. The goal of the redesign is to improve access to information and additional profile for activities. A notice will be released to all members when launch is completed.
- **Ethical Space Webinar** – This NCLGA webinar is scheduled for November 17, 2023 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Presented by Gwen Bridge, this one-hour webinar will describe Ethical Space as a framework for Reconciliation dialogue. Foundational information on the roots of conflict between indigenous and non-Indigenous society will be described. We will provide examples of good practices and think through the challenges of moving towards and through ethical space-based engagement. Registration will be available late October 2023 through our NCLGA website. Stay tuned for more information to be sent to members in the coming weeks.

2024 NCLGA AGM and Convention – Save the NEW Date – May 13th to 16th 2024 - Co-hosted by the Town of Smithers, District of Houston, and the Regional District of Buckley-Nechako

- The 2024 NCLGA AGM and Convention is now scheduled for May 13-16, 2024. The date was altered due to the recent announcement on the timing of the Minerals North Conference. Details will be shared on the NCLGA AGM website page as planning develops.

2025 NCLGA AGM and Convention – Date to Be Determined for May 2025 – Co-hosted by the City of Prince Rupert, District of Port Edward, and the North Coast Regional District

- The 2025 NCLGA AGM and Convention will be in May 2025 in the Prince Rupert area. Details will be shared on the NCLGA AGM website page as planning develops.

Upcoming NCLGA Board Meetings

- **November 25 (8:30 AM to 3:00 PM), 2023** – Virtual (Zoom)
- **March 15 (3:00 PM to 7:00 PM) and 16 (8:30 AM to 3:00 PM), 2024** – In-person (Prince George, BC)

Please do not hesitate to reach out if there is anything the NCLGA can do to be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Sheila Boehm
President, NCLGA
Councillor, City of Williams Lake