

DATE: August 19, 2022

TO: MAYOR AND COUNCIL

NAME AND TITLE: Councillor Brian Skakun, Chair
Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions

SUBJECT: Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions Summary

ATTACHMENTS: None

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated August 19, 2022 from the Chair of the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions titled “Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions Summary.”

PURPOSE:

For Council’s information.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

The Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions is established to advocate with all levels of government on matters of interest to Council through the development of resolutions on key issues for consideration by the North Central Local Government Association (NCLGA), Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) and Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM).

For the 2018-2022 Council term, the Committee including Chair, Councillor Brian Skakun, Councillor Kyle Sampson, and Councillor Susan Scott, held sixteen (16) meetings.

A summary of the topics addressed by the Committee is outlined below:

- Proceeds of Crime (Resolution to UBCM 2019 Convention);
- Clean-Up of Needles and Other Harm Reduction Paraphernalia (Resolution to UBCM 2019 Convention);
- Sharing Payments from Opioid Class Action Lawsuit (Resolution to UBCM 2020 Convention);
- Overdose crisis and a Call for an Overdose Action Plan (Advocacy through correspondence to Government of Canada);
- BC Hydro’s 2020 Street Lighting Rate Increase Application (Advocacy through correspondence to BC Utilities Commission);
- Interagency meetings with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police;
- Intergovernmental meeting with MLA Shirley Bond and MLA Mike Morris;
- Increased Capacity at the National Forensic Lab Services (Resolution to UBCM 2021 Convention);

- Improved Efficiencies in the Prosecution of Criminal Offenses (Resolution to UBCM 2021 Convention);
- Increasing Capacity in Provincial Court Systems (Resolution to UBCM 2021 Convention);
- Comprehensive Training Model for RCMP Members (Resolution to UBCM 2021 Convention);
- Implementing No Barrier Housing (Resolution to UBCM 2021 Convention);
- Provincial Government Funding Increase for BC Public Libraries (Resolution to NCLGA 2022 Annual General Meeting & Convention);
- Consideration of a resolution advocating for the provincial government to amend the definition of “emergency” in the *Emergency Program Act*; and
- Review of Committee Terms of Reference including purpose and mandate.

In June 2021, Council referred to the Committee a request to submit a resolution to the NCLGA and UBCM to amend the definition of “emergency” in the *Emergency Program Act* to include public health-related emergencies. During the Committee’s review of this referral and in consultation with City Staff, it acknowledged the province’s ongoing review and engagement process with its stakeholders to repeal and replace the *Emergency Program Act* with new emergency management legislation, expected to be introduced in the Legislative Assembly in 2022. The Committee liaised with MLA Mike Morris to represent the City of Prince George’s interest in ensuring the proposed legislative changes highlight peak areas of interest to assist communities with cost recovery during public health crises. Further, the Committee discussed ongoing advocacy with all levels of government and other stakeholders to create a coordinated approach to address the opioid crisis in Prince George.

Lastly, the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions extends its appreciation to their fellow members of Council, Director of Public Safety and Manager of Emergency Programs for their support and input on initiatives to further enhance the City of Prince George’s advocacy and relationship-building with other municipalities, other levels of government, and with our community.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION:

The Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions submits this report for Council’s information as a summary of the Committee’s efforts throughout the 2018 – 2022 Council Term.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

Councillor Brian Skakun, Chair
Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Resolutions

MEETING DATE: August 29, 2022