

August 29, 2024

City Council
City of Prince George
1100 Patricia Boulevard
Prince George, BC V2L 3V9

Dear Prince George City Council:

Thank you for your letter dated June 24, 2024 requesting additional information regarding two resolutions sponsored by your community: 2021-NR2 and 2023-EB4.

Each of these resolutions were endorsed at their respective UBCM Convention and each was addressed to the provincial government. Following each Convention, the resolution was conveyed to the provincial government and in following spring, responses were received from the Province. As the sponsor of each resolution, UBCM would have shared the responses received from the provincial government, via a letter to your Council.

An endorsed resolution become a UBCM policy position. Policy positions are considered when the UBCM Executive and Committees set their work plans. Where applicable, policy issues are raised with MLAs and MPs at meetings and via working groups. Also, the resolution and provincial response are posted to the UBCM resolutions database that is available on our website.

As you are aware, following the endorsement of resolution 2021-NR2, the Province advised that the BC Prosecution Service (BCPS) had developed a Comprehensive Disclosure Strategy, which among other things prioritized the development of an end-to-end Digital Evidence and Disclosure Management (DEMS) system to improve the transmission of disclosure materials from police agencies to the BCPS and accused persons. UBCM received an update indicating that, in 2023, the Province completed the implementation of the core DEMS system; and, as of May 2024, most BCPS staff, including Crown Counsel, have been trained and given access to the platform. New tools have also been developed to expedite evidence reviews and the creation of disclosure packages. Additional functionality, workflows and integrations are also planned to help expedite the transmission of evidence from police agencies, and provision of disclosure materials to accused persons.

Regarding resolution 2023-EB4, we can share the following update. The Local Government Financial Review Working Group received an updated from the Ministry of Health in May 2024 on the work of the Pre-Hospital Care Collaborative Committee. The Pre-Hospital Care Collaborative Committee has a sub-group that is working on templates for First Responder Service Agreements (FSRA) and Operational Response Plans (ORP) outlining the roles and responsibilities of fire departments, including the level of care provided. Once the templates are complete, BCEHS will be undertaking individual

conversations with over 200 local governments and their corresponding first responder agency to develop the FSRA and ORP that is tailored to each community's need. They will be starting these conversations by Summer 2024 with a completion date of Summer 2026. At the May 2024 update, Working Group members asked about compensation to local governments, and reminded the Health staff that the need for funding was the number one issue identified to them during their 2022/2023 consultation process that was reported out on the in 2023 Consultation Summary. Despite this, funding is outside of the Collaborative Committee's mandate. They do anticipate that as engagement happens with local governments around service agreements that will inform requests for additional funding from the ministry.

These are important issues of broad interest to local governments, and we will provide further updates through our weekly newsletter to highlight these issues and any progress in addressing local government concerns.

Thank you for raising your questions with us. I look forward to seeing you at our annual convention in September.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mandewo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Councillor Trish Mandewo
UBCM President