

Mayor Report to Council

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Date: May 30, 2025
To: Council.
Name and title: Mayor Simon Yu
Subject: 2025 UBCM Resolution Recommendation: BC Ambulance Agreements
Attachment(s): N/A

Recommendation(s):

That Council ENDORSES the resolution as proposed in the report dated May 30, 2025, from Mayor Yu, titled, "2025 UBCM Resolution Recommendation: BC Ambulance Agreements"

Purpose:

This report supports Council conversation on a draft Union of BC Municipalities (UBCM) resolution submission and communicates work undertaken by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs to support a 2025 UBCM direct submission resolution regarding BC Ambulance Service.

Background:

The annual deadline for direct submission of resolutions to UBCM is June 15.

At the May 6, 2025 Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs meeting, the Committee considered a report from the Chair titled "BC Ambulance Service" and moved to submit a resolution to UBCM calling on the Province of British Columbia to increase funding, staffing, and resources for BCEHS (BC Ambulance Service), to ensure the Province fulfills its responsibilities for emergency healthcare delivery and reduces reliance on municipal first responders.

As the deadline for submissions falls before the next scheduled meeting of the Committee meeting, Council is asked to consider the resolution below for direct submission to UBCM prior to the June 15 deadline.

BC Ambulance Service

Resolution background: In 2023, the City of Prince George endorsed a resolution asking the provincial government to develop a funding model to compensate local governments providing emergency medical services and pre-hospital care through their fire and rescue services. The provincial response emphasized the voluntary nature of the agreements between BCEHS and the municipality, advising that costs may be managed by scaling back participation in providing lifesaving emergency medical services and pre-hospital care by fire and rescue services. The City feels this is an inappropriate and impractical response to our genuine concern.

Draft Resolution:

WHEREAS agreements between BC municipalities and BCEHS regarding municipal fire services providing pre-hospital care lapsed in 2010; and

WHEREAS provincial investment and staffing have not kept pace with the growing demand for emergency medical services and pre-hospital care causing municipalities to increasingly become involved through their fire rescue services;

THEREFORE be it resolved that UBCM petition the province to finalize agreements with BC municipalities as soon as possible and include a funding component to compensate local governments providing emergency medical services and pre-hospital care through their fire and rescue services for related costs including, but not limited to, medical supplies and training.

Summary and conclusion:

This report provides draft content to aid conversation and communicates work undertaken by the Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs to support a 2025 UBCM direct submission resolution.

Respectfully submitted:

Mayor Simon Yu

Meeting date: 2025/06/09