

The following standing resolutions were kept open by delegates of the 2019 UMNBA AGM.

Resolution	Title
U-12-01	Deadline to Establish, Manage & Contribute to Reserves
U-12-05	Watercourse and Wetland Alteration – Municipal Consultation
U-16-03	Framework and Implementation Plan for waste packaging and paper stewardship program (PPP)
U-17-07	Streetlights and NB Power rate hearing
U-17-10	NB Coastline Protection
U-18-02	RCMP Services
U-18-03	NB Power slow response times
U-18-04	Designated Highways funding notification & information
U-18-05	Railway Right of Way Flooding
U-18-06	Funding for Fire Emergency Responses for Highways
U-18-07	Automatic funding from LSDs for Recreational Infrastructure and Services
U-18-08	Low Carbon Economy
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U-18-11	By-Law Enforcement Officers
U-18-12	Billing Number System
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U-12-01

Subject: Deadline to establish, manage and contribute to reserves

Whereas Municipalities financial year end is December 31, and;

Whereas Weather conditions are unpredictable, and;

Whereas Municipal efforts to maintain safe road conditions in the winter can create a financial burden on municipalities, and;

Whereas the New Brunswick Regulation 97-145 under the Municipalities Act (O.C. 97-1036) paragraphs 3(1), 4(1), 5(1), 6(1), 6.1(1) and 6.2(1) requires a resolution for the establishment, management and contribution to reserves, and;

Whereas the New Brunswick Regulation 97-145 under the Municipalities Act (O.C. 97-1036) paragraphs 3(4), 4(3), 5(5), 6(4), 6.1(4) and 6.2(3) impose a deadline for December 31 of the same calendar year for any resolution to transfer fund to or from reserves, and;

Whereas New Brunswick municipalities' accountability to its constituents is fundamental, and;

Whereas Unforeseeable expense(s)/income(s) can occur up to December 31 of each year, and;

Whereas Municipalities need to keep funds in the operating budget until the last week of December for snow removal and related winter maintenance expenses, and;

Whereas New Brunswick municipalities' administration need a window of time to finalise year-end expenses;

Be it resolved that the UMNb request that the deadline for transferring monies to or from reserves during any budget year be moved from December 31 to January 31 of the next calendar year.

U-12-05

Watercourse and Wetland Alteration – Municipal Consultation

WHEREAS the owner of a property, located within the boundaries of a municipality, may prepare and submit an application for a Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Permit to the Department of Environment and Local Government; and

WHEREAS the application shall then be reviewed and evaluated by the Department of Environment and Local Government; and

WHEREAS after consideration by the Department of Environment and Local Government, a Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Permit may be issued to the property owner; and

WHEREAS the above review, evaluation and consideration of the said application and the subsequent issuance of the permit may be carried out without consultation with a representative of the municipality in which the property is located.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick request that the Department of Environment and Local Government ensure that the operating process(es) and / or procedure(s) for processing applications for Watercourse and Wetland Alteration Permits include consultation with municipal officials, prior to issuing a permit or denying same, when the property in question is located within the boundaries of a municipality.

U-16-03

Subject: Framework and Implementation Plan for a Waste Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program- Province of New Brunswick (PPP)

Whereas the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick recognized the many benefits that would be realized by enacting the necessary legislation to permit the implementation of a Waste Packaging and Paper Stewardship Program as an Extended Producer Responsibility, including the creation of good jobs, extension of landfill sites' usage, environmental impacts and redirection of costs related to the recycling of paper and packaging to the industry and away from the Municipalities; and

Whereas the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick recognizes there are already several models for the Recycling Plastic Printed Paper (PPP) as an Extended Producer Responsibility, (EPR) Program implemented in many Provinces across Canada, which could serve as a template for New Brunswick; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick at its October 2, 2016 Annual Meeting, hereby endorses the Extended Producer Responsibility Program – “Plastic and Printed Paper Management” and urges the Province of New Brunswick and Recycle N.B. to continue the legislative process to expedite the implementation of this worthwhile program in the Province of New Brunswick within the 2017 calendar year.

U-17-07

Subject: Streetlights and NB Power rate hearing

WHEREAS on May 10, 2017 the CBC news reported that municipalities are concerned that NB Power may be significantly over charging municipalities for street lighting, and

WHEREAS the report indicated that the municipality of Miramichi has reviewed their street lighting charges and believe the rates to be excessive, and

WHEREAS it is stated that street lighting costs are relatively insignificant for NB Power, but one of the most lucrative sources of revenue for the utility, and

WHEREAS the town of Sackville wants to ensure its citizens are receiving street lighting service at a fair and reasonable rate,

Now therefore, the Town of Sackville urges UMNb to represent all New Brunswick municipalities during the upcoming NB Power rate hearings held annually, and advocate that NB Power adjust the current rates to a level that provides fair pricing for street lighting service within all municipalities.

U-17-10

Subject: NB Coastline Protection

WHEREAS the experts in environment of the Government of New Brunswick are all in agreement that climate changes are inevitable, and

WHEREAS the sea level will increase and storms will be more and more frequent, and

WHEREAS the Province of New Brunswick has a lot of town and villages along the coastline of the Atlantic Ocean

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick should ask the Government of New Brunswick – Department of Transportation to invest money in the protection and maintenance of the coastline.

U-18-02

Subject: Funding for services from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)

WHEREAS the municipalities participating in the Provincial Policing Service Agreement (PPSA) of the RCMP have been incurring annual increases that are largely surpassing the inflation costs, for the last fifteen years;

WHEREAS the RCMP is the national police force and is an organization that reports to the Canadian Department of Public Safety;

WHEREAS the Government of Canada has the obligation to adequately fund its national police force in order to serve the rural regions of the country, at an affordable cost for the provinces and the municipalities that have the services of the RCMP;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has designated the RCMP has the provincial police force;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has the obligation to assume a larger part of the RCMP costs in order to have an accessible and affordable service for all municipalities and local service districts in the province;

WHEREAS the municipalities are assuming most of the costs for the RCMP services and that this proportion is increasing significantly, comparatively to the contribution of the Government of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS the RCMP costs increases in the last years were taken on by the municipalities in the PPSA in bigger proportion;

WHEREAS there are important inequities between the municipalities, the local service districts (LSD's) and the different regions of the province, regarding the cost sharing formula;

WHEREAS the municipal associations were not invited to take part in the work undertaken by the working committee put in place by the Department of Public Safety of the province who are currently renegotiating some of the provisions of the PPSA with the representatives of the RCMP, and that, contrary to the disposition in the agreement;

Be it resolved that UMNb begin the necessary steps with the federal and provincial authorities in order to find solutions to the ongoing increasing costs of the RCMP services and to eliminate the inequities to the provincial cost sharing formula related to the Provincial Policing Service Agreement

Resolution U-18-03

Subject: NB Power crew slow response times

Whereas there have been numerous occasions when our Fire Department has been required to wait for NB Power to arrive on the scene for calls such as power poles on fire, trees fallen on power lines, and downed power lines.

Whereas it is necessary for the fire fighters to wait for NB Power to arrive on scene before dealing with these situations due to the potential for significant harm.

Whereas the slow response time by NB Power has a significant impact on the fire department's ability to respond in a timely manner and constrains our fire fighters and equipment.

Whereas the wait times have ranged from one hour to several hours before NB Power arrives on scene to shut off power and allow our department to respond effectively to the emergency situation.

Whereas this renders our fire fighters and equipment unavailable to respond to other emergency calls for lengthy periods of time.

Whereas our Fire Chief has advised us that numerous Fire Chiefs throughout the province share the same concerns, and therefore we are proposing that UMNB advocate and facilitate the necessary measures to result in positive changes.

Be It Resolved That UMNB confer with all members regarding levels of concerns relating to the slow response time, and associated repercussions, by NB Power crews when responding to fire related service calls; and

Be It Further Resolved That if members agree that this is an issue of shared concerns, that UMNB contact the appropriate authorities at NB Power and the Department of Public Safety for further discussion and to establish appropriate solutions to address the issue.

U-18-04

Subject: Designated Highways funding notification & information

Whereas the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure administers funding annually for capital improvements to Provincial Highways in municipalities; and

Whereas the Department annually invites municipalities to submit funding applications for projects to improve these highways; and

Whereas municipalities wishing to see improvements to the Provincial Highways within their jurisdiction must apply annually for funding indicating whether or not, and in what amounts, the municipalities will contribute to the cost of said projects; and

Whereas there are specific eligibility requirements for projects to be funded necessitating coordination with other municipal work; and

Whereas it does not seem to be the practice of the Department to notify municipalities that are not to receive any funding;

Be it resolved that Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick adopts the following motion;

That the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure be requested to notify all municipalities that apply for funding under the Designated Highways program whether funding will be granted, such notification to be provided no later than April 15th each year;

And that the Government of New Brunswick is asked to annually publish, before the end of the fiscal year, the projects funded under the Designated Highways program including the following for each project:

- a. the name of the municipality
 - b. the amount of Government funding
 - c. the amount of municipal funding
 - d. a description of the work undertaken
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U-18-05

Subject: Infrastructure Fund for Railway Right of Way Flooding

Whereas climate change is bringing more acute climate events and precipitation across the country; and

Whereas local governments are already struggling to adapt infrastructure to better manage the larger and more acute impacts from climate events; and

Whereas local governments with railway right of ways through its jurisdiction or adjacent to its borders, have seen events around many railways become more acute over the years often leading to flooding of nearby lands and sometimes of the rail bed itself; and

Whereas local governments alone have limited ability to influence O&M decisions of railway owners including taking preventive action ensuring culverts and ditches are clear of debris and blockages; and

Whereas we understand that the costs of undertaking the required work across the country to prevent this type of flooding is enormous;

Be it resolved that UMNb investigate the scope of this issue across the province and prepare a recommendation for its members on whether there is-- or whether there should be a request for – an infrastructure fund that can financially assist in creating cooperation between the local government and the subject rail company - to help address such flooding risks from drainage issues in and around railway right of ways.

U-18-06

Subject: Funding for Fire Emergency Responses for Highways

Whereas municipalities receive funds from local service districts relating to providing fire protection for the local service districts; and

Whereas the funds received from the local service districts in many cases do not adequately cover the true cost of providing services to the local service districts; and

Whereas the funding formula currently in place does not cover the real cost of the infrastructure and equipment municipalities are providing such as buildings and fleet maximums for cost sharing being much lower than real cost of the items; and

Whereas certain municipal budget items that should be included in the cost sharing arrangement are not included; and

Whereas no funds are provided to municipalities for providing services to highway that are a provincial responsibility;

Be it resolved that UMNb lobby the province of New Brunswick that changes take place in the current funding of municipalities for fire services that are provided to local service districts, and that a funding formula be implemented whereby the province contribute towards fire emergency responses for highways.

U-18-07

Subject: Automatic funding from LSDs for Recreational Infrastructure and Services

Whereas municipalities provide a great deal of recreational infrastructure and services within their municipality that are used by local service districts; and

Whereas in most municipalities the cost of these services which are used by many people in local service districts are borne 100% by the municipalities; and

Whereas the only current funding mechanism involves a complex and difficult process whereby a municipality must request funding from each local service district in their area; and

Whereas some local service districts may agree to funding and others may not thereby possibly creating inequities amongst areas contributing to these services;

Be it resolved that UMNb lobby the province of New Brunswick to enact appropriate legislation which would enable automatic funding from local service districts through their tax rates to be provided to municipalities for the purpose of providing recreational infrastructure and services.

U-18-08

Subject: Transition to a Low Carbon Economy

Whereas we need to streamline processes and commit to educating Provincial Inspectors to encourage and promote sustainable energy sources if we want New Brunswick to reduce its reliance on carbon sourced energy, and be successful in its transition to renewal energy sources, and

Whereas there are obstacles that make facilitating renewable projects in New Brunswick challenging for developers and contractors, and that can discourage them from undertaking further energy renewable projects;

Be it Resolved that UMNb lobby the Province of New Brunswick to aid NB communities in their ability to transition to a low carbon economy by:

- Improving communication between plan review staff and the field inspection staff; improving communication between Department of Public Safety officials, Utilities, the Contractors and Customers; and increasing consistency between inspections under the Department of Public Safety.
 - Adopting the National Energy Code for Buildings to establish minimum insulation standards, and building efficiencies specifically related to energy use.
 - And by facilitating other considerations to help NB move forward in its Climate Change initiatives, which may include:
 - PACE Style programming/financing;
 - Virtual net-metering and Smart Metering programs,
 - Co-procurements;
 - Continue encouraging local governments to pursue Community Energy Plans.
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U-18-09

Subject: Nurse Practitioners

Whereas approx. one in six Canadians are without a primary care provider, and

Whereas Nurse practitioners (NP) improve access to holistic care, cost effective care that reduces wait times in Canadian emergency rooms and costs through the broader health care system, and

Whereas even though New Brunswick has upward of 20000 residents without a primary health care provider, NP's are losing their licenses and are they are not being utilized by the province as part of a reasonable solution for a more efficient, cost effective Health care system.

Be it resolved that UMNb lobby the Department of Health to recruit and retain Nurse practitioners (NP) in Areas which have been identified as difficult to recruit. These areas would be defined as areas where Physician billing positions have been vacant one year or more.

Be it further resolved that UMNb lobby that the Regional Health Authority in cooperation with the Department of Health be given the ability to convert Billing position (or salary equivalents), typically held by Physicians in these Areas to staff with salaried NP positioned. The Regional Health Authority will work with these communities in determining the appropriate places to staff these NP positions based on community resources, whether it is Community Health center or local clinics.

U-18-10

Subject: Physician hours of practice and billing positions

Whereas physicians working in New Brunswick work from billing number positions assigned to a community, and the physician retains this billing position regardless of their status of having fulltime practice or full patient load within the community they practice, and

Whereas this type of system restricts the community in having adequate Physician coverage as they are bound by the Billing position held by the physicians. It also restricts the physician in needing to decrease his practice, without penalizing the community, and

Whereas every Resident needs the ability to practice and retire as he or she wishes and every community needs the ability to give its resident access to unrestricted health care providers.

Be it resolved UMNB lobby the Department of Health to create a new Billing position system wherein Physicians who work fulltime or Part-time practice hours are permitted to do so without it having a detrimental effect on the community in which they serve. This system will permit communities to have full coverage determined by population data studies regardless of whether a physician holding the billing position is working Full time, Part time or just decided to keep his billing position number.

U-18-11

Subject: By-Law Enforcement Officers

Whereas the majority of Villages, Towns, LSD, Rural Communities, and Regional Municipalities do not have a By-Law Officer; and

Whereas this is a dilemma for enforcing municipal rules and regulations,

Be it resolved that UMNB propose the creation of a specialized agent or officer for bylaw enforcement, whether through Sherriff Services or hired by the RSCs, to be funded through a tax to the above municipalities and available to the above municipal bodies at a reasonable hourly rate.

U-18-12

Subject: Billing number position system

Whereas the billing number position system in New Brunswick is unique to this province and very out-of-date, and

Whereas too many New Brunswickers do not have a family physician, and

Whereas outdated bureaucratic regulations discourage physicians from setting up practice in New Brunswick where they are greatly needed,

Be it resolved that UMNB lobby the Department of Health to change the system to recruit based on population driven data and community needs.

U-18-13

Subject: Ambulance Response Time

Whereas ambulance response times and coverage in rural New Brunswick are currently unacceptable,

Be it resolved that UMNB lobby the Province to improve ambulance response times, coverage, and quality of service for New Brunswick rural communities.