

1. New Resolutions

The following resolutions have been adopted by members of UMN at the 2021 AGM:

Resolution	Title
U-21-01	RCMP Costs
U-21-02	Municipal Insurance Program
U-21-03	Medical Clinics
U-21-04	Service New Brunswick
U-21-05	Ban Recyclable and Compostable Materials at Landfills
U-21-06	Permanent Residents Voting Rights
U-21-07	Indigenous Languages on Ballots
U-21-08	Municipal Climate Change Funding
U-21-09	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

U-21-01

Mover: Town of Grand Bay-Westfield

Subject: RCMP Costs

Background (submitted): An internal government memo obtained by Global News warns that costly contract policing obligations across Canada are draining resources from the force's federal duties in areas such as organized crime and national security. The report goes on to say that "Public Safety Canada and the RCMP have confirmed there are systemic sustainability challenges impacting the whole of the RCMP."

The RCMP are contracted to provide services to three territories, 8 provinces and 153 municipalities with 60% of their budget allocated to contract policing and more than 70% of the Members assigned to contract policing in the 153 municipalities. The federal share of these contracts is between 70%-90% of the services.

These challenges have led to growing dissatisfaction with both the municipalities, territories and provinces on one hand due to service deficiencies regarding community safety and the federal government because of costs and insufficient national enforcement.

Former Supreme Court Justice Bastarache has argued that it is time to question the structure and governance of the RCMP. One of the issues to be addressed is whether the RCMP should be involved in provincial policing.

Senator Peter Harder of Ontario has openly called for a review of the RCMP through the establishment of an inquiry. He notes that the last review was with the former Prime Minister Trudeau which resulted in the creation of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service.

From coast to coast to coast there is a desire to see increased satisfaction with the RCMP. The reasons vary but there is agreement, it seems, at all levels of government that the RCMP is not performing to the satisfaction of all its stakeholders and contractees.

Motion:

WHEREAS there are increased calls to have a review of the RCMP; and

WHEREAS many provinces and municipalities are studying the feasibility of establishing their own police force or have established their own police force; and

WHEREAS the cost of police services is increasing and the establishment of local police forces is costly;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UMNB partner with the Province of New Brunswick, other municipal associations, and Regional Service Commissions within New Brunswick, to determine the most effective and efficient way to provide policing that meets or exceeds minimum policing standards in the province and in its municipalities.

U-21-02

Mover: Town of Grand Bay-Westfield

Subject: Municipal Insurance Program

Background (submitted): The municipal sector has been hard hit in the current insurance market. There have been double digit increases with some municipalities experiencing an increase in insurance costs in excess of 40%. There are a variety of reasons for the hard market:

- Increase in natural catastrophes,
- Fewer firms in the municipal market, and
- Increase in a variety of claims related to poor governance, asset conditions, cost of capital and scarcity of capital.

To mitigate the increase in costs insurers and municipalities are using larger deductibles, removing some types of coverages and reducing the type of coverage. Further, as municipal property values increase for repair and replacement, insurance costs are increasing to offset those material increases.

For most of the past five years costs have been reasonable. However, since 2016 insurance costs have increased by over 30%.

On July 2, 2021 Calgary had a hailstorm. According to initial estimates from Catastrophe Indices and Quantification Inc., the cost of the damage is estimated to be \$247 million. In 2020 Calgary had the fourth costliest natural disaster of all time in Canada due to another hailstorm at \$1.2 billion. The other top disasters that have driven up insurance costs in Canada include:

- Fort McMurray wildfire - \$4 billion
- Calgary Flooding - \$3.5 billion

Claim payouts are covered through premiums and investments. It is also important to note that insurance companies work on an international scale to mitigate their exposure. There have been significant natural disasters around the world including Australia (wildfires & flooding), Russia (wildfires), Asia (flooding) and Europe (flooding and terrorism)

There are alternatives to the guaranteed cost model of purchasing commercial insurance municipalities use to manage risk.

- Guaranteed Cost: complete transfer of risk to a commercial insurer (current model),
- Retro Policy: assumption of limited risk in exchange for return premium and deferred premium in the event of a larger than expected loss year
- Deductible Policy: significant, or complete, risk assumption in exchange for deductible credit,
- Reciprocal: pooling of risk with participants subject to governance oversight and regulatory oversight,
- Single Parent Captive/Protected Cell Company: a complete assumption of risk that is subject to regulatory oversight.
- Self-insured Fund: complete risk is assumed with no regulation

It is important to note that with the Guaranteed Cost model, municipalities have low financial control and low program control. The highest financial control and highest program control is the Self-Insured Fund.

Insurance costs for 2022 are expected to be significant again. Other means of managing risk may reduce costs and increase risk management services available to municipalities. The likelihood of achieving any of this for 2022 or 2023 are low.

Motion:

WHEREAS municipal insurance costs have been significantly increasing; and

WHEREAS there are alternative means of managing risk;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNb study the feasibility of establishing a municipal group liability insurance and property insurance program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UMNb consult with the other maritime provincial municipal associations, partners and stakeholders to determine if they are interested in establishing a working group to study the feasibility of establishing a municipal group liability insurance and property insurance program.

U-21-03

Mover: Town of Riverview

Subject: Medical Clinics

WHEREAS the Horizon Health Network laboratories provide specimen collection services in several locations throughout New Brunswick. Blood collection is performed by medical laboratory professionals, and

WHEREAS patients wait many hours before being seen by a physician at the Moncton city, George Dumont Hospital, Dr. Everett Chalmers Regional Hospital, and many other emergency departments, and

WHEREAS the established Community Health Centres provide primary health care and promotes healthy lifestyles with illness and injury prevention, acute and chronic disease management, community development services, and health education within the communities, and

WHEREAS New Brunswick has an aging population faced with mobility and health challenges, the demand for healthcare services is under serious challenge due to rising demand and cost structures (population growth, aging and inflation rising costs), and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNb called upon the provincial government to establish clinics in rural and under-served areas of the province with teams including physicians, a nurse practitioner, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, physiotherapist, a dietitian, mental health practitioners, and an X-ray technologist, which will support and complement existing rural and urban hospitals.

U-21-04

Mover: Town of Riverview

Subject: Service New Brunswick

WHEREAS Service New Brunswick (SNB) provides over 300 services to the public through a network of offices, online services, teleservice (call service), and;

WHEREAS New Brunswick has an aging population with many having mobility and health issues and for those in rural areas who do not have adequate internet services or use today's technology, particularly seniors, accessing Service NB becomes difficult, and;

WHEREAS users have been experiencing long wait times and inconvenience associated with obtaining in-person SNB services, which can be especially difficult during periods of inclement weather, and;

WHEREAS According to its website, Service New Brunswick is dedicated to customer service, customer consultation and customer satisfaction;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNb lobby the provincial government to review the delivery of Service New Brunswick services in rural and under-served areas.

U-21-05

Mover: Town of Sackville

Subject: Ban Recyclable and Compostable Materials at Landfills

WHEREAS the UMNb has been working on and gaining ground related to province-wide regulations on packaging and paper products, which has been supported by both Recycle NB and the New Brunswick Conservation Council;

WHEREAS 78% of all landfill waste comes from commercial of which apartments, multi-residential units and universities are considered part;

WHEREAS enacting the proposed would shift responsibility onto the provincial government, preserving the relationship between New Brunswick communities and their landlords and business owners, and;

WHEREAS the province of Nova Scotia has passed similar regulations as the proposed in the Nova Scotia Solid Waste Resource Management Regulations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMN petition the Provincial Government to ban recyclable and compostable materials from going into general waste at landfills across the Province of New Brunswick.

U-21-06

Mover: Town of Sackville

Subject: Permanent Resident Voting Rights

WHEREAS a significant amount of the population of New Brunswick does not have the right to vote and are politically voiceless and powerless in decisions that have a direct impact on their livelihood;

WHEREAS permanent residents, also known as ‘Canadians in waiting,’ are contributing members of the economic and social society;

WHEREAS often permanent residents who are directly impacted by municipal legislation do not have a say in the services and programs that are put in place to help them;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMN petition Elections NB to change the NB Elections Act to allow for permanent residents to vote municipally.

U-21-07

Mover: Town of Sackville

Subject: Indigenous Languages on Ballots

WHEREAS there are approximately 16,509 First Nations people living in New Brunswick, 9,889 on reserve and 6,620 off reserve;

WHEREAS First Nations people are a major part of our population and culture;

WHEREAS starting at #13 and running to #17 in the Truth & Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, there are specific calls to action addressing the importance of, recognition of, and preservation of Indigenous languages;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMN petition Elections NB to include Mi’kmaq, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati languages on municipal and provincial ballots.

U-21-08

Mover: Town of Sackville

Subject: Municipal Climate Change Funding

WHEREAS the province raises a significant amount of money through a carbon tax (\$163 million in 2021-22);

WHEREAS the province created the climate change fund under the Climate Change Act (S.N.B 2018, c.11), which was to receive the carbon tax revenue and spend it on projects to address climate change;

WHEREAS the carbon tax of \$163 million in 2021-22 is slated to be distributed as follows:

- \$78 million will be returned to taxpayers through the April 2020 reduction in gasoline and diesel taxes;
- \$36 million will be allotted to the climate change fund and climate initiatives; \$12 million will go towards the natural gas distribution offset established last year;
- \$9 million will be provided to First Nations; and
- \$28 million will be returned to New Brunswickers through a reduction in personal income tax.

WHEREAS a portion of the \$36 million allotted to the climate change fund is intended to ensure that 75% of the climate action plan commitments are implemented;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNb petition the provincial government, and the Department of Environment and Climate Change, to ensure that a significant portion of the carbon tax revenue be dedicated to implement the commitments of the Climate Action Plan and be re-invested in the 9 climate change commitments directed toward municipalities.

.....
U-21-09

Mover: Board of Directors

Subject: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

WHEREAS the Government of Canada declared September 30th as the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (also known as Orange Shirt Day);

WHEREAS the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) recognizes September 30th as a federal statutory holiday that honours survivors and mourns lost children of residential schools along with their families, communities, and nations;

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has not yet declared September 30th as a provincial statutory holiday;

WHEREAS the first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was observed by many municipalities throughout the province;

WHEREAS Article 80 of the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada says “We call upon the federal government, in collaboration with Aboriginal peoples, to establish, as a statutory holiday, a National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honour Survivors, their families, and communities, and ensure that public commemoration of the history and legacy of residential schools remains a vital component of the reconciliation process”;

WHEREAS recognizing September 30th as a provincial holiday would be a step forward on the path of reconciliation between the Province of New Brunswick and the Wolastoqey, Mi’gmaq, and Peskotomuhkati Nations and other Indigenous nations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick calls upon the Government of New Brunswick to declare September 30th as a provincial statutory holiday to “use this day as an opportunity to consider what each of us can do ... to advance reconciliation and help to create a better, more inclusive province”;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick authorizes its Executive Director work with the UMN Board to lobby the Government of New Brunswick to recognize September 30, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, as a statutory holiday.