UMNB RESOLUTIONS AS OF OCTOBER 23, 2026

STANDING RESOLUTIONS KEPT OPEN AT 2026 AGM

Resolution	Title
U-19-05	Municipal Property Tax Exemptions
*U-19-06	Provincial HST Rebates for Municipalities
U-20-03	Universal Affordable High-Speed Internet Access in New Brunswick
U-21-01	RCMP Costs
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-22-05	Shortfall in Budgets due to Tax Increase Limits
U-23-01	Meaningful Reserves
U-23-02	Removing Barriers to Housing: Regulation 81-126
U-23-03	Removing Barriers to Housing: Environmental Impact Assessment
U-23-04	Short-term Rentals
U-23-05	RSC Social Focus Mandate
U-23-06	Municipal Land Grants
U-23-07	Cellphone service
U-23-08	Designated Highways
U-23-10	New Revenue Tools for Municipalities
U-24-01	Reasonable Fees for RTIPPA Requests
U-24-02	Fire Marshal Consistency and Fairness
U-24-03	Financial Contribution Towards Highway Fire Protection
U-24-04	Stronger rules and regulations for private quarries and pits
U-24-05	Removal of HST on Radon Mitigation Systems
*U-24-06	Bail Reform Implementation Plan
U-24-07	Banning Private Cannabis Dispensaries
U-24-08	Maintaining and Enhancing Adequate Ambulance Coverage Across the Province of New Brunswick
U-24-09	Establishment of a Joint Use Agreement Between the Province of New Brunswick and Municipalities for the Use of Educational Facilities
U-24-10	Transfer of Surplus GNB Lands to Municipalities
U-24-11	Review of the UMNB Member Dues Formula
U-24-12	Municipal Representation on Service New Brunswick Board of Directors
U-25-01	Urgent Care on Early Learning and Childcare Access and Equity
U-25-02	Urgent Care to Address Long-Term Care Bottlenecks Impacting Provincial Health
U-25-03	Regulation of Electric Scooters and E-Bikes
U-25-04	Reinstatement of Municipal Advisor, Training and Support for Mayors and Councillors
U-25-05	Lobbying for Home Improvement Grants
U-25-06	FCM Rural Report
U-25-07	Joint Provincial-Municipal Police Contract Management Committee

U-25-08	Advocacy for HST revenue sharing agreement

**Resolution text updated at 2026 AGM*

NEW RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN 2026

Resolution	Title
U-26-01	Support for a Pan-Canadian Strategy on Mental Health, Addictions and Chronic Homelessness
U-26-02	Modernization of the *Municipal Elections Act*
U-26-03	Action to Address Provincial Regulation for the Sale and Use of Consumer Fireworks
U-26-05	Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) – Direct Remittance to Municipalities
U-26-06	Ensuring Accurate Property Assessments
U-26-08	Establishing Programs Based on "Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)" Models
U-26-09	Property Tax Reform Phase 2
U-26-10	Transparent Reporting and Allocation of Provincial Road Levy
U-26-11	Determination of RCMP Shared Tier 1 and Tier 2 Policing Services Costs for Municipalities
U-26-12	Cost Recovery Levy Mechanism for Local Impacts Related to Mineral Development Projects

U-19-05
Mover: Town of Sackville
Subject: Municipal Property Tax Exemptions

WHEREAS municipalities pay provincial property tax on properties that they own, and;

WHEREAS currently rinks, libraries, and fully volunteer-only fire departments are examples of exempt provincial property taxes, and;

WHEREAS fire departments provide an essential service to all residents of every municipality in New Brunswick and not just those being served by volunteer departments, and;

WHEREAS water, stormwater management, and waste water are critical infrastructure that residents rely on municipalities to provide for their health and well-being;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick meet with the Province of New Brunswick in order to exempt more municipally owned property from paying provincial property taxes as follows:

1. That beginning in 2020 all fire station properties be Provincial Property Tax exempt (not only fully volunteer departments),
2. That beginning in 2020 all water, storm water, and waste water properties be tax exempt,
3. That a review be undertaken to begin the process of making all properties owned by municipalities tax exempt from provincial property taxes in the future.

U-19-06
Mover: Town of Sackville
Subject: Provincial HST Rebates for Municipalities

WHEREAS municipalities pay HST on all purchases made, whether for operational or capital purchases, and;

WHEREAS on April 1, 2004 the Federal Government granted municipalities a 100% rebate on the federal portion of HST paid, and;

WHEREAS municipalities continue to only receive a 57.14% rebate on the provincial portion of HST paid, and;

WHEREAS on July 1, 2016 the HST was increased from 13% to 15% with the Provincial portion increasing from 8% to 10%, and;

WHEREAS the non-rebatable portion of the HST has a significant annual impact on municipalities operating and capital budget financing;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB meet with the Province of New Brunswick to advocate that legislation be brought forward to provide municipalities in New Brunswick with a 100% rebate on the provincial portion of HST paid on goods and services.

U-20-03
Mover: Zone 5
Subject: Universal Affordable High-Speed Internet Access in New Brunswick

WHEREAS in order to respond to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, governments, businesses and institutions have placed a greater reliance on internet connectivity as a means of providing essential products, services, and communication to residents of New Brunswick, and;

WHEREAS the continued quality of life, healthcare, safety, education, inclusivity, and economic prosperity of people and businesses in New Brunswick will require modernized, effective and efficient tools, and;

WHEREAS internet access in many parts of New Brunswick is limited to dial-up connection at home or no internet connection at all leaving residents and businesses in those areas at a significant disadvantage;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick request that the Government of New Brunswick invest in and lobby the Federal Government of Canada to invest in, universal and affordable broadband internet access of at least 50 megabits per second (Mbps) download speed and 10 Mbps upload speed for all residents of the province that will contribute to and support economic growth, access to essential products and services, inclusivity and a modern quality of life.

U-21-01
Mover: Town of Grand Bay-Westfield
Subject: RCMP Costs

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-21-05
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 UMNB 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 UMNB 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 UMNB petition Elections NB to include Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati languages on municipal and provincial ballots.

U-22-05
Mover: Village of Perth-Andover
Subject: Shortfall in Budgets due to Tax Increase Limits

WHEREAS tax increase limits, especially in former LSD areas, will leave shortfalls in new municipalities' budgets that in the past were absorbed by the provincial government;

BE IT RESOLVED that UMNB lobby the provincial government for adequate subsidies to expanded municipalities for the costs of providing services within any new entity where those costs are not covered due to tax increase limits imposed by the province

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U-23-01
Mover: Town of Grand Bay - Westfield
Subject: Meaningful Operating Reserves

WHEREAS current regulations state that municipal Operating Reserves are capped at five per cent (5%) of revenue; and

WHEREAS the best practice identified by the Government Financial Officers of America, is that municipalities should set aside twenty per cent (20%) for Operating Reserves; and

WHEREAS Operating Reserves are required for a multitude of purposes including cash flow, financing costs for capital projects such as the procurement of fire trucks and investment in buildings, unexpected equipment and facility repairs, natural emergencies, and financing costs related to projects that have grants from other levels of government.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that The Union of the Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) advocate with the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) to change the Local Governance Regulation capping Operating Reserves at five per cent (5%) to up to twenty per cent (20%).

U-23-02
Mover: Town of Grand Bay - Westfield
Subject: Removing Barriers to Housing: Regulation 81-126

WHEREAS there is a national, provincial, and regional housing shortage; and

WHEREAS the housing shortage is artificially driving up assessment values; and

WHEREAS municipalities are working with developers to ensure housing is developed; and

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments have a role to play in overcoming the housing shortage; and

WHEREAS NB Regulation 81-126 restricts multi-unit developers in areas without a wastewater system; and

WHEREAS NB Regulation 81-126 under the Community Planning Act creates a barrier for the development of the 'missing middle' of housing; multi-unit housing that is affordable; and

WHEREAS the Regulation permits a senior citizens' home; and

WHEREAS a senior citizens' home of forty (40) rooms plus staff and parking is equivalent to a 'missing middle' twenty (20) unit dwelling with two bedrooms,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick partner with the Association Francophone des Municipalités de Nouveau-Brunswick to work with the Government of New Brunswick to amend Regulation 81-126 to permit multi-unit housing in areas without a wastewater system.

U-23-03
Mover: Town of Grand Bay - Westfield
Subject: Removing Barriers to Housing: Environmental Impact Assessments

WHEREAS there is a national, provincial, and regional housing shortage

WHEREAS the housing shortage is artificially driving up assessment values

WHEREAS municipalities are working with developers to ensure housing is developed

WHEREAS the federal and provincial governments have a role to play in overcoming the housing shortage.

WHEREAS housing is needed today,

WHEREAS developers have stated that completing an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has taken up to eighteen (18) months for project approval,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick advocate with the Government of New Brunswick to reduce the EIA approval process period to six (6) to eight (8) weeks and reduce the cost of the approval process by allocating resources to increase capacity.

U-23-04
Mover: Village of New Maryland
Subject: Tourism Accommodation Levy Applicable to Short-Term Rental Properties

WHEREAS pursuant to municipal reform initiatives, the Government of New Brunswick has mandated new responsibilities for local governments including regional tourism promotion which is to be implemented and conducted through regional service commissions; and

WHEREAS the cost of this new mandated responsibility is to be borne by the local government entities in each regional service commission; and

WHEREAS pursuant to section 10(1)(m.1) of the *Local Governance Act*. Chapter 2017, c.18 (the LGA), a local government may make by-laws for municipal purposes respecting a tourism accommodation levy which by regulation 101.1 of the LGA is defined to include "a tourism accommodation levy to be paid by guests of lodging establishments within the territorial limits of the local government"; and

WHEREAS pursuant to Regulation 101.1(8), a local government that imposes a levy shall use the proceeds of the levy collected for tourism promotion and development which may include a local government's payments to regional service commissions for their share of regional tourism promotion which would thereby reduce the financial burden on those local governments to pay for such a new mandated responsibility; and

WHEREAS the tourism accommodation levy regulation does not include the specific application of a levy to those accommodation properties listed on online accommodation platforms like

those operated by Airbnb and VRBO which gives those operators an unfair advantage over hotels and other accommodation providers that are subject to the levy; and

WHEREAS municipalities have also expressed concern regarding the shortage of rental housing and the impact short-term rentals have on their housing stock, charging an accommodation levy on such properties as a means to address the impact these rentals might have on housing stock that might otherwise go to longer term rentals would be beneficial; and

AND WHEREAS local governments are ill equipped to locate or track short-term rental properties or rentals on those online accommodation platforms within their territorial limits and therefore, have limited ability to extend the tourism levy to those short-term rental properties listed on those online accommodation platforms; and

WHEREAS other provinces such as British Columbia, Quebec and Alberta have implemented regulations extending the application of their tourism levies to short-term rental properties listed on online accommodation platforms like Airbnb and VRBO thereby generating additional revenue to pay for tourism promotion and development,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The UMNB advocate to and request that the Government of New Brunswick amend the sections of the LGA dealing with tourism accommodation levies so that the application of such levies would specifically extend to all short-term rental properties listed on online accommodation platforms like those operated by Airbnb and VRBO.

2. The UMNB advocate to and request that the Government of New Brunswick work with online accommodation platforms including Airbnb and VRBO to create a system whereby tourism accommodation levies can be collected by those companies as part of their rental service agreements and then remitted to the local governments in which those properties operate to be used for tourism promotion and development.

3. That UMNB advocate to and request that the Government of New Brunswick create a central registry to ensure that all short-term rental properties operating within the province are registered with the province so that municipalities may better understand how many short-term rental properties are operating within their jurisdiction, who manages those properties and the impacts such short-term rental properties may have on the availability of rental housing stock.

U-23-05
Mover: Town of Quispamsis
Subject: Removal of social focus mandate from the Regional Service Commission's community development mandate

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick introduced Local Governance Reform; and

WHEREAS this reform expanded the roles and mandates of the regional service commissions to include economic development, community development, tourism promotion, regional transportation, cost-sharing on recreation infrastructure, and public safety committees; and

WHEREAS the three largest commissions - Southeast, Fundy and Capital regions - have been given the Social Focus Mandate (Homelessness, Mental Health and Poverty Reduction), which falls under the Community Development Mandate to partner with the provincial government to ensure the co-ordination of services to address growing community social needs, including homelessness, poverty, newcomer services and mental health; and

WHEREAS Municipalities are limited with respect to funding and only have limited human resources, that may not have the necessary skillsets nor facilities to assume the responsibilities of the Social Focus Mandate; and

WHEREAS by downloading these areas of responsibility and associated costs to the municipalities who fund the regional services commissions, the provincial government is clearly abdicating its duty; and encumbering these local governments with further significant financial costs,

BE IT RESOLVED that UMNB call upon the Government of New Brunswick to remove the Social Focus Mandate from the regional service commissions' Community Development Mandate, including the added costs associated with their 2024 budgets, OR, if the Government of New Brunswick continues to support the Social Focus Mandate being added to the responsibilities of the Regional Service Commissions, then the Province also agrees to fund the RSC's 100% of the full cost for this added mandate on an ongoing basis.

U-23-06
Mover: Zone 4
Subject: Municipal Land Grants

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick is experiencing population growth the likes of which we have not seen in decades; and

WHEREAS consequently one of the issues we are experiencing at the municipal level from this population increase is a lack of housing of all types; and

WHEREAS the provincial and federal levels of government have recognized the issue and have marshalled financial assistance in an effort to alleviate the situation; and

WHEREAS most municipalities recognize they need new housing and are willing to access the funding being made available but they might be lacking the land resources required; and

WHEREAS the lack of available land has therefore become a key deterrent to economic growth, and that the wealth creation and social growth that would arise from municipal land grants could be used to greatly enhance the social fabric of New Brunswick;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities adopts the following motion; that the Government of New Brunswick be requested to grant up to 50 acres of Crown Land to Municipalities within the following guidelines:

- The land be granted within one year of a Municipal request;
- The Municipality provide a plan regarding the number of housing units to be built and the infrastructure required;
- The granted land may only be used for the building of housing;
- The granted land must be used within a 5 year time horizon.

U-23-07
Mover: Ville de Champdoré
Subject: Reliable cell phone reception in New Brunswick

WHEREAS cell phone reception is unreliable in many areas of New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS this issue puts citizens and businesses in these regions at a disadvantage; and

WHEREAS the current situation can affect public safety, education, health care, citizens' quality of life, business prosperity and regional growth,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick work in collaboration with the AFMNB and FCM to lobby the provincial and federal governments to invest in the development of reliable access to cell phone reception for all citizens.

U-23-08
Movers: Town of Tantramar & Town of Grand Bay - Westfield
Subject: Sustainable and Transparent Department of Transportation & Infrastructure (DTI) Funding Agreement

WHEREAS the province provides municipalities with grant funding towards operational costs of the provincially owned designated highways that run through municipalities; and

WHEREAS the cost of providing these services has increased significantly over the years but the grant that municipalities have received has changed very little; and

WHEREAS DTI funds repairs, maintenance and replacement of designated highways based on their fiscal and timeline priorities with consultation from municipalities; and

WHEREAS DTI’s process does not align with municipal processes for determining capital budgets; and

WHEREAS municipal asset management requires a transparent and predictable process to address the ongoing maintenance, repairs, and replacement of designated highways within municipal boundaries,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick advocate with the Government of New Brunswick (GNB) to develop a new funding agreement with a funding formula, based on a per kilometre basis, that is tied to the economic growth of the province as defined by a share of the provincial portion of the HST from the previous fiscal year.

U-23-10
Mover: Board of Directors
Subject: New Revenue Tools for Municipalities

WHEREAS the implementation of Phase-1 of local governance reform has resulted in increased areas of jurisdiction and responsibility for New Brunswick's municipalities; and

WHEREAS these reforms have had a significant impact on the fiscal situation of municipalities

WHEREAS pressures from a fast-growing population, increasing costs from the effects and mitigation of climate change, and expanded responsibilities through the Regional Service Commissions have created more financial demands on municipalities; and

WHEREAS these increased responsibilities have not yet come with adequate and respectful levels of funding or funding options; and

WHEREAS "financing local governance" is one of the four pillars outlined in the provincial government's plan to create vibrant and sustainable communities; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB urge the province of New Brunswick to implement new revenue tools for municipalities, including but not limited to: vacating property tax room and modernizing the property tax system; provincial-municipal revenue-sharing options; a fairer and more responsible equalization program; and long-term offsets to compensate for new responsibilities carried out by Regional Service Commissions.

U-24-01
Mover: Salisbury
Subject: Reasonable Fees for RTIPPA Requests

WHEREAS: Municipalities recognize the importance of being transparent and providing information through formal Right to Information (RTI) requests; and

WHEREAS: New Brunswick is one of the only provinces that does not charge administrative fees for RTI requests; and

WHEREAS: Municipalities have limited resources to process certain frivolous and vexatious or re-occurring RTI requests that do not meet the threshold of extensions or dismissals from the

Office of the New Brunswick Ombud, and that these considerations must be balanced with an Applicant's right to access/request information; and

WHEREAS: The Minister's Report on the 2022 *Review of the Right to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* has not yet been implemented/enacted into legislation, and do not currently list the implementation of fees as a recommendation; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the UMNB advocate to the Government of New Brunswick to amend the necessary provincial regulations and legislation as part of the modernization of the Right to Information and Protection of Personal Privacy Act in order to permit Municipalities to charge reasonable fees for (RTIPPA) information requests, in alignment with other provincial/territorial jurisdictions.

U-24-02
Mover: Saint John
Subject – Fire Marshal Consistency and Fairness

WHEREAS municipalities have expressed some concerns with the Fire Marshal's Office over lack of flexibility, inconsistent enforcement and the overruling of Local Assistants to the Fire Marshall.

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB advocate to the Government of New Brunswick to strike a working group consisting of all relevant GNB departments, stakeholders and UMNB to determine functional and fair framework and processes, including the possibility of an appeal process for Fire Marshal decisions.

U-24-03
Mover: Tantramar
Subject – Financial Contribution Towards Highway Fire Protection

WHEREAS municipalities provide fire protection and emergency services such as vehicle extrication, to their residents as well as other areas outside their boundaries; and

WHEREAS there is no funding for municipalities providing services to highways which includes the Trans-Canada Highway and/or provincially designated highways

WHEREAS municipalities have to purchase additional fleet and equipment as well as provide training to their members/employees to respond to highway emergencies; and

WHEREAS a significant amount of personnel time and resources are spent by each municipality in being trained for and in responding to highway emergencies that are very specific in nature; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB lobby the provincial government of New Brunswick and the federal government in order to provide municipalities a full cost recovery structure for training,

capital investment, and operational fire emergency services provided for highways within their jurisdiction.

U-24-04
Mover: Tantramar
Subject – Stronger rules and regulation for private quarries and pits

WHEREAS several municipalities across New Brunswick have private quarries and pits within their boundaries; and

WHEREAS those private quarries and pits are subject to an approval to operate issued by the Department of Environment and Local Government under the air quality regulation – Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS residents within a municipality tGrhat has private quarries and pits may be negatively impacted by the activities of those operations;

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB lobby the provincial government of New Brunswick for stronger rules and regulations including the addition of a mandatory pre-blast survey as outlined in New Brunswick regulations 89-108, Schedule "A" Blasting Code and the requirement for more frequent onsite inspections.

U-24-05
Mover: Butternut Valley
Subject – Removal of HST on Radon Mitigation Systems

WHEREAS radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that has been identified by Health Canada as being present in all buildings and as being the second leading cause of lung cancer in Canada; and

WHEREAS according to Statistics Canada, New Brunswick has the highest rates of newly diagnosed lung cancer rates in the country, lung cancer being the deadliest form of cancer in Canada; and

WHEREAS according to NB Lung and Health Canada, more than 1 in 4 New Brunswick homes have dangerous levels of radon, this being the second highest rate in Canada; and

WHEREAS remediation and mitigation systems are being installed as life-saving devices

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED That the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick work in collaboration with NB Lung to lobby the Government of New Brunswick for the removal of the provincial portion of HST on radon mitigation systems and their installation.

U-24-06
Mover: Woodstock
Subject: Bail Reform Implementation Plan

WHEREAS local governments in New Brunswick have the responsibility to foster the economic, social and environmental well-being of their communities and to develop and maintain safe and viable communities; and

WHEREAS the cost of providing adequate policing services constitutes a substantial portion of municipal budgets, and

WHEREAS incidents where violent offenders fail to attend court or engage in additional offences while on bail undermine community safety and public confidence in the administration of justice, while also increasing the cost of policing in municipalities; and

WHEREAS Provincial and territorial governments are responsible for the administration of justice, including most bail hearings and enforcement of bail conditions, as well as for most facilities where people awaiting trial are held, and;

WHEREAS *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code,* formerly Bill C-48 in the 1st Session of the 44th Parliament, and the *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act* (Bill C-14, 1st Session, 45th Parliament) are both in effect as of July 15th, 2026, and;

WHEREAS these statutes amend the *Criminal Code* to:

- Expand and create new reverse onus provisions to target serious repeat violent offending involving weapons
- Expand the list of firearms offences that trigger a reverse onus
- Broaden the reverse onus targeting repeat offenders of Intimate Partner Violence
- Clarify that the *Criminal Code's* "principle of restraint" does not mandate release of an accused and that the "ladder principle" does not apply to accused persons who are subject to a reverse onus.
- Require courts to consider an accused person's history of convictions for violence when making a bail decision
- Require courts to state on the record for any bail decision that they have considered the safety and security of the community in relation to the alleged offence, thereby increasing accountability to the public
- Require courts to state on the record for any bail decision how they have considered the particular circumstances of Indigenous accused and accused from vulnerable overrepresented populations, as required by section 493.2 of the *Criminal Code*.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that UMNB engage with the provincial government to clarify what the provincial government has done to implement *An Act to Amend the Criminal Code (bail reform)* (formerly Bill C-48 in the 1st Session of the 44th Parliament) and the *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act* (Bill C-14, 1st Session, 45th Parliament), and if these statutes have not yet been implemented, what is the plan to implement them.

U-24-07
Mover: Municipalité Régionale de Grand-Sault – Grand Falls Regional Municipality
Subject – Enforcing Bans on Unlicensed Cannabis Dispensaries

WHEREAS the legalization of cannabis in Canada has led to the establishment of various cannabis dispensaries across the country; and

WHEREAS the regulation of cannabis distribution and sales falls under provincial jurisdiction, allowing provinces to decide on the retail framework that best suits their needs; and

WHEREAS the proliferation of private cannabis dispensaries in our communities raises concerns about public safety; and

WHEREAS the province of New Brunswick existing government-run cannabis stores has successfully ensured strict control, better enforcement, and greater transparency in cannabis sales, meeting the needs of the population effectively; and

WHEREAS enforcing the ban on private cannabis dispensaries would help to reduce the potential negative impacts on public health and safety, and would ensure that cannabis distribution is controlled by a regulated, accountable, and transparent government system; and

WHEREAS a government-controlled cannabis distribution system would better align with the goals of public health and safety by limiting access and reducing the risk of illegal sales.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick and the Association francophone des municipalités du Nouveau-Brunswick urges the Provincial Government of New Brunswick to enforce the ban on unlicensed cannabis dispensaries in favor of a government-operated cannabis retail system that prioritizes public health, safety, and transparency.

U-24-08
Mover: Municipalité Régionale de Grand-Sault – Grand Falls Regional Municipality
Subject: Maintaining and Enhancing adequate Ambulance Coverage Across the Province of New Brunswick

WHEREAS Ambulance New Brunswick is an organization funded by the Government of New Brunswick;

WHEREAS Ambulance New Brunswick is managed by Medavie Health Services New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS Ambulance New Brunswick's vision and mission are to improve the quality of life of New Brunswickers within their communities and provide excellence in emergency and community care; and

WHEREAS existing and documented situations have clearly happened in many New Brunswick communities because of lack of coverage and response time; and

WHEREAS the increasing population caused by urban and rural developments in New Brunswick requires a greater demand that our residents receive basic primary ambulatory health care in a timely manner; and

WHEREAS some injuries can cause people to deteriorate extremely rapidly, the lag time between injury and treatment should ideally be kept to a bare minimum; this has come to be specified as no more than 60 minutes, after which time the survival rate for people who have sustained trauma is alleged to fall off dramatically;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT UMNB advocates to the Government of New Brunswick to investigate, review and modernize the inner working of Ambulance New Brunswick as well as its service delivery model;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the UMNB request the Government of New Brunswick to produce a public report and put in place new strategies within the next 12 months to address the lack of ambulance coverage and response time across the province.

U-24-09
Mover: Grand Bay – Westfield
Subject: Establishment of a Joint Use Agreement Between the Province of New Brunswick and Municipalities for the Use of Educational Facilities

WHEREAS municipalities in New Brunswick recognize the importance of maximizing the use of public facilities to benefit the community; and

WHEREAS school facilities such as gyms, auditoriums, fields, tracks, and classrooms are valuable resources that can serve a dual purpose for both educational and community, cultural, leisure and recreational needs; and

WHEREAS many school facilities remain underutilized during non-school hours, evenings, weekends, and holidays; and

WHEREAS joint use agreements between municipalities and school boards have proven successful in some jurisdictions by optimizing facility usage, reducing duplication of infrastructure, and enhancing community access to cultural, leisure, recreational and educational spaces; and

WHEREAS such agreements can foster stronger community bonds, predictability, and trust, promote healthy living, and provide greater opportunities for youth and adults to engage in sports, arts, leisure, and other recreational activities;

WHEREAS collaboration between municipalities and the Province of New Brunswick can lead to more efficient use of public funds, ensuring that existing facilities are used to their full potential; and

WHEREAS municipalities can benefit from scheduling, and programming of school facilities, which can lead to cost savings and improved service delivery to residents;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) advocates for the Province of New Brunswick to establish and implement a comprehensive joint use agreement with municipalities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UMNB engages urges the provincial government to engage in consultations with municipalities, District Education Councils, school boards, and other stakeholders to develop a framework for these agreements, ensuring that the needs and interests of all parties are considered.

U-24-10
Mover: Beaurivage
Subject: Transfer of Surplus GNB Lands to Municipalities

WHEREAS the Province of NB owns properties lands in our communities

WHEREAS many of these properties are unused .

WHEREAS buildings on these properties are more or less abandoned

WHEREAS municipalities could benefit from these properties

WHEREAS municipalities could use these properties for the benefit of their citizens

WHEREAS New Brunswick continues to experience a significant housing shortage across the province

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB and the AFMNB work with the Government of New Brunswick to develop a strategy to donate these properties over to municipalities (or transfer them at a nominal cost) in a timely fashion so that they can be used to address urgent community and provincial priorities such as housing, economic development, tourism, healthcare, education, and social inclusion.

U-24-11
Mover: Board of Directors
Subject: Review of UMNB Member Dues Formula

WHEREAS the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick is a non-profit organization funded by its member municipalities; and

WHEREAS during the 2023 AGM, UMNB leadership agreed to revisit the dues formula over the coming year in consultation with the membership; and

WHEREAS during 2024, the UMNB welcomed the Cities Association of New Brunswick and is in the process of updating the organizational structure to ensure appropriate and effective representation for UMNB member communities of all sizes; and

WHEREAS this process will be completed in 2025, so that the membership will have time to consider proposed governance changes; and

WHEREAS these governance changes might have financial impacts on the organization,

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB Board of Directors complete its revision of the member dues formula in 2025 in consultation with UMNB member municipalities.

U-24-12
Mover: Board of Directors
Subject: Municipal Representation on Service New Brunswick Board of Directors

WHEREAS the implementation of Phase-1 of Local Governance Reform has had significant impacts on the fiscal situation of New Brunswick's municipalities; and

WHEREAS "financing local governance" is one of the four pillars outlined in the provincial government's plan to create vibrant and sustainable communities; and

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick has stated that Service New Brunswick will continue to be responsible for property assessment services; and

WHEREAS Local Governments rely on revenue generated as a result of property assessment valuations (Tax Base) for over 80% of their annual budgets; and

WHEREAS Municipalities and Municipal Associations are recognized as unique and essential partners with the Government of New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS decisions made by Service New Brunswick have significant and widespread implications for Local Governments in regard to property assessment, land registry, permitting and inspection services, and

WHEREAS Service New Brunswick also provides a broad range of important services affecting local communities across the province, including Health and Wellness, Driving and Vehicles, Family and Community, Business, Land and Environment, and more,

BE IT RESOLVED that the UMNB petition the Province of New Brunswick to allocate one seat on the Service New Brunswick Board of Directors to a representative of Local Governments.

U-25-01
Mover: Quispamsis
Subject: Urgent Action on Early Learning and Childcare Access and Equity

WHEREAS access to affordable, high-quality Early Learning and Childcare (ELCC) is essential not only to economic growth and workforce participation, but also to the healthy cognitive, emotional, and social development of children; and

WHEREAS the early years are a crucial period in brain development, and participation in high-quality early learning environments has been shown to improve long-term educational, health, and social outcomes for children; and

WHEREAS municipalities across New Brunswick are experiencing an urgent shortage of licensed ELCC spaces, preventing families from returning to work, straining local labour markets, and limiting the potential of local economies; and

WHEREAS the federal government has committed to creating 100,000 new ELCC spaces nationwide as part of its national Early Learning and Childcare strategy; and

WHEREAS municipalities need tools and a clearly defined role in ELCC planning and delivery to ensure that local needs are met efficiently and equitably; and

WHEREAS both nonprofit and for-profit ELCC providers operate as essential community institutions and small businesses that families rely on every day; and

WHEREAS ELCC facilities should be formally recognized as essential social infrastructure, equivalent in importance to schools, health care facilities, and recreation centres; and WHEREAS such a designation would empower municipalities to prioritize ELCC developments in zoning, permitting, and land-use processes, expediting the delivery of new childcare spaces in areas of need;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick call on the Government of Canada and the Government of New Brunswick to:

1. Accelerate the creation and long-term funding of licensed Early Learning and Childcare spaces in communities across the province;

2. Recognize the essential role of both nonprofit and for-profit ELCC providers in meeting diverse community needs, without bias toward governance model;

3. Designate Early Learning and Childcare facilities as essential social infrastructure, enabling municipalities to prioritize and fast-track development approvals through local land-use processes;

4. Establish clear and consistent channels for municipalities to engage in ELCC planning and advocacy, ensuring that local governments have the tools and resources to respond to community needs in collaboration with provincial and federal partners.

U-25-02
Mover: Quispamsis
Subject: Urgent Action to Address Long-Term Care Bottlenecks Impacting Provincial Health Infrastructure

WHEREAS the Saint John Regional Hospital serves as a provincial centre of excellence, home to both the New Brunswick Heart Centre and the provincial trauma centre, providing critical tertiary care services for residents from across New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS a significant number of hospital beds at the Saint John Regional Hospital and other regional hospitals are currently occupied by individuals who have been medically cleared for discharge but are waiting for placement in long-term care facilities; and

WHEREAS the Department of Social Development is responsible for long-term care assessments and placements in New Brunswick, and the growing provincial waitlist for long-term care is resulting in delays in discharge and increased strain on the acute care system; and

WHEREAS these delays reduce hospital capacity, increase wait times for emergency care and elective surgeries, and limit access to specialized services — particularly at the Saint John Regional Hospital, which serves as a critical provincial resource; and

WHEREAS municipalities, healthcare professionals, families, and patients are calling for urgent provincial action to expand long-term care options and relieve pressure on acute care hospitals;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick calls on the Government of New Brunswick, specifically the Department of Social Development, to:

1. Immediately increase the number of long-term care beds across the province, with priority given to areas served by major regional hospitals such as Saint John, where acute care capacity is under significant strain;

2. Accelerate and streamline the assessment and placement process for long-term care, ensuring individuals who no longer require hospital-level care can transition into appropriate residential or supportive housing settings without delay;

3. Invest in transitional care models and community-based housing solutions to reduce the reliance on hospitals as holding environments for medically stable seniors.

U-25-03
Mover: Quispamsis
Subject: Urgent Action to Address Risks Associated with Use of Stand-up Electric Scooters & E-Bikes

WHEREAS the prevalence of stand-up electric scooters (e-scooters) and electric bikes (e-bikes) has been increasing on municipal streets and trails, particularly among youth; and

WHEREAS elected leaders, health professionals and law enforcement are expressing concern with the risks presented by e-scooters; and

WHEREAS there are no age limits for the use of e-scooters and e-bikes, children under the age of 15, who have no driving experience, are at risk of serious injury when riding e-scooters; and

WHEREAS electric scooters and e-bikes are silent and can have speeds up to 64km/h, the risk to sidewalk pedestrians is also a concern that can be addressed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick calls for member support of UMNB to lobby the Ministers of Justice and Public Safey, Health, Local Government and others as appropriate, to implement safety regulations for the use of stand-up electric scooters and electric bikes.

U-25-04
Movers: Fundy Shores and Valley Waters
Subject: Reinstatement of Municipal Advisor, Training and Support for Mayors and Councillors

WHEREAS New Brunswick implemented significant changes with Local Governance Reform in early 2023; and

WHEREAS many Mayors and Councillors, not only in newly formed local governments, but also those serving well established local government units have demonstrated struggles related to new legislative requirements and governance; and

WHEREAS the efficient and effective operation of local government entities are impacted by the aforementioned struggles,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick:

1. Request that province reinstate the position of Municipal Advisor, a position which previously provided valuable support, guidance, and expertise to local governments in legislative matters, and their removal has resulted in a gap in a consistent and accessible knowledge base/navigation support for complex government structures

2. Along with the aforementioned support to be provided, this position should also provide on-going supportive training for elected and appointed officials based on the recommendations of government and local government associations.

U-25-05
Mover: Valley Waters
Subject: Lobbying for Home Improvement Grants

WHEREAS the Village of Valley Waters contracted Turner Drake & Partners Ltd. to undertake a Housing Needs Assessment for the Village, the final report dated July 2nd, 2025; and

WHEREAS a key finding of the Assessment was that persistent housing condition issues exist in the Province, highlighting the need for targeted support to address aging and substandard dwellings; and

WHEREAS housing availability in general is already a challenge for municipalities across the Province, and the proper maintenance of the existing housing stock is key; and

WHEREAS the Province has endorsed the WHO's Age-Friendly Community initiative; and

WHEREAS many seniors are challenged to remain in their homes due to the financial costs of repairs and upgrades

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick ask the Government of New Brunswick – Department of Environment and Local Government to assist municipalities by streamlining access to provincial, federal, and regional funding programs aimed at supporting home repair and energy efficiency upgrades. Support for low- and moderate-income households living in aging or inadequate dwellings should be prioritized.

U-25-06
Mover: Valley Waters
Subject: FCM Rural Report

WHEREAS the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) commissioned a research study on "*The Future of Rural Canada*" which was released in May 2025, AND

WHEREAS the study found that rural municipalities cover 95% of the country's landmass and are responsible for 36% of core public infrastructure; AND

WHEREAS from 2023-24, Canada's rural population grew 30 times faster than Canada's overall population growth rate; AND

WHEREAS the FCM Study includes several recommendations which would allow rural municipalities to prosper, innovate and thrive, including recommendations on digital connectivity, infrastructure and transportation, housing and homelessness, community safety, and climate change adaptation and mitigation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick ask the provincial government to encourage the Government of Canada to adopt the recommendations of the FCM study on "*The Future of Rural Canada*".

U-25-07
Mover: Board of Directors
Subject: Joint Provincial-Municipal Association RCMP Contract Management Committee

WHEREAS each local government in New Brunswick must make by-laws for the provision of policing services in their community, and

WHEREAS a strong majority (75%) of UMNB member communities currently provide local policing services via the Provincial Policing Service Agreement (PPSA), and

WHEREAS the provincial government holds the contract with the federal government to engage the RCMP as New Brunswick's provincial police force; and

WHEREAS UMNB member communities continue to voice concerns about governance, quality, cost, and service levels under the PPSA; and

WHEREAS the delivery of an efficient and effective RCMP police service promotes confidence in the administration of justice, and

WHEREAS a provincial Contract Management Committee would provide a forum for the provincial government and representatives of municipal associations to work in partnership to improve the delivery of policing services in New Brunswick, in conjunction with the RCMP, and
WHEREAS the current contract policing agreement between New Brunswick and Canada will expire in 2032, and any changes to the provincial policing contract will have significant impacts on all local governments,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick advocate to the New Brunswick Department of Public Safety to create a Joint Provincial-Municipal Association RCMP Contract Management Committee co-chaired by the province and municipal associations.

U-25-08
Mover: UMNB Board of Directors
Subject: Advocacy for HST revenue sharing agreement with GNB

Whereas financing local governance is one of the four pillars outlined in the provincial government's plan to create vibrant and sustainable communities; and

Whereas Local Governments currently rely on revenue generated as a result of property assessment valuations (Tax Base) for approximately 85% of their annual budgets; and

Whereas Local Governments are facing significant infrastructure deficits estimated to total at least $2.5 billion in 2024, with upgrades needed due to the age of public assets and the increasing impacts of climate change; and

Whereas the Government of New Brunswick's 2025 property assessment freeze will worsen the infrastructure deficit by reducing local government revenues while costs continue to rise, and

Whereas the population served by Local Governments has increased 38% since the implementation of Local Governance Reform; and

Whereas recent changes to the *Community Funding Act* will begin to reverse decades of declining provincial grants; however, New Brunswick's local government sector remains significantly underfunded compared with its national peers, and

Whereas in Saskatchewan and Québec have implemented provincial-municipal agreements to share a portion of HST revenue, resulting in broader economic benefits as well as increased investment in local infrastructure and services, and

Whereas diversifying municipal revenues would help local governments reduce their dependency on residential property taxation, and

Whereas economic studies estimate that allocating 1% of the HST to local governments would boost the provincial GDP by $218m, support over 2,000 full time equivalent jobs, and result in an 18% increase in the GDP of the municipal sector,

Therefore, Be It Resolved That the Union of Municipalities continue to advocate to the Government of New Brunswick for the creation of a long-term revenue sharing agreement to transfer 1 point of 10 provincial points of the HST to Local Governments.

U-26-01
Mover: Grand-Sault - Grand Falls
Subject: Support for a Pan-Canadian Strategy on Mental Health, Addictions and Chronic Homelessness

Whereas homelessness has increased at an alarming rate in New Brunswick, having tripled over the past four years in the province's three largest cities, according to a report by the Human Development Council; and

Whereas homelessness, although primarily documented in the province's three largest urban centres, is now affecting smaller municipalities across New Brunswick, which often lack the human and financial resources, as well as the infrastructure, needed to respond effectively; and

Whereas this increase is partly attributable to a 34.7% rise in rental costs between 2020 and 2024, along with a 25% decline in the number of affordable housing units (renting for less than $750 per month) between 2016 and 2021; and

Whereas the current minimum wage in New Brunswick is $15.90 per hour, while the living wage required to meet basic needs has been estimated at $24.77 per hour, increasing financial insecurity for many households; and

Whereas food banks across the province recorded more than 50,000 visits per month in 2026, representing a 55% increase over 2025 and illustrating the growing severity of food insecurity and the need for a stronger social safety net; and

Whereas chronic homelessness is closely linked to mental health and addiction issues, and municipalities, despite being on the front lines, do not possess the resources or expertise required to address these challenges on their own; and

Whereas the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), at its June 2026 Annual Conference in Edmonton, adopted a resolution calling on the Government of Canada to work with all orders of government to develop and fund a coordinated Pan-Canadian Strategy on Mental Health, Addictions and Chronic Homelessness; and

Whereas a coordinated response among the federal, provincial, and municipal governments is essential to ensure the delivery of adequate, predictable, and sustainable mental health, addiction, and housing services;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Union of New Brunswick Municipalities (UMNB) support the objectives of the FCM's Pan-Canadian Resolution on Mental Health, Addictions and Chronic Homelessness and advocate to provincial and federal governments, as appropriate, to implement a coordinated and adequately funded strategy to effectively address these issues in New Brunswick.

U-26-02
Mover: Grand-Sault - Grand Falls
Subject: Modernization of the *Municipal Elections Act*

Whereas the *Municipal Elections Act*, Chapter M-21.01 of the Acts of New Brunswick 1979, has governed the conduct of municipal elections in the province for more than four decades;

Whereas subsection 18(1) of the Act provides that any person entitled to vote is qualified to be a candidate for the office of mayor or councillor, without any provision explicitly preventing the same person from filing nomination papers for both offices simultaneously in the same election;

Whereas this gap materialized during the 2026 general municipal elections, where individuals were able to run as candidates for both the office of mayor and the office of councillor within the same municipal council;

Whereas such a situation can lead to unintended consequences, including the need to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy left when a person is elected as mayor while also having been elected as councillor, thereby imposing additional costs on municipalities and potentially creating confusion among electors as to the validity and scope of their vote;

Whereas modernizing the legislative framework governing municipal elections is a recognized priority, both for Elections New Brunswick and for municipalities themselves, in order to ensure clarity, predictability, and integrity in the municipal electoral process;

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick request that the provincial government of New Brunswick amend the *Municipal Elections Act* to prohibit a person from being a candidate for more than one office in a municipality at the same election. Amend the Municipal Elections Act so that in any one election:

i. a person may not be accepted as a candidate for more than one office in a municipality in an election; and

ii. a person may continue to be permitted to run for one office in a municipality, while simultaneously running as a candidate in a district education council election or a regional health authority board election.

And Be It Further Resolved that UMNB request that this legislative amendment come into force prior to the next general municipal elections, in order to ensure clarity in the electoral process and to avoid any risk of elector confusion or duplication of election costs for municipalities.

U-26-03
Mover: Quispamsis
Subject: Action to Address Provincial Regulation For The Sale and Use of Consumer Fireworks

WHEREAS the regulation for the sale and use of consumer fireworks in New Brunswick is currently governed through a patchwork of municipal bylaws, resulting in inconsistent standards across the province; and

WHEREAS this lack of a standardized provincial framework creates enforcement challenges for local governments, particularly given the ease with which consumer fireworks can be purchased online from international vendors, or obtained in jurisdictions with less regulations; and

Whereas the private use of fireworks can create a significant public safety risk in light of climate change and the fire resiliency concerns municipalities face; and

WHEREAS a consistent, province-wide approach to the sale and use of consumer fireworks regulation would enhance public safety and support equitable enforcement for all communities throughout New Brunswick;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick calls on the Government of New Brunswick, through the Minister of Public Safety, to develop comprehensive and consistent regulations governing the sale, possession, and use of consumer fireworks that apply uniformly across all municipalities in New Brunswick.

U-26-05
Mover: Tantramar
Subject: Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILT) – Direct Remittance to Municipalities

Whereas municipalities incur direct costs associated with having federal government properties located within their boundaries;

Whereas federal government properties located within a municipality utilize local services rather than provincial services;

Whereas municipalities receive the majority of their annual revenue through property taxation and are limited in other sources of revenue in order to fund the municipal services to the residents;

Whereas the current New Brunswick tax system on payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) currently allocates the funds to both the Province and the municipality, rather than to only the municipality;

Whereas allocating PILT only to the municipality would provide 100% of the funds to the local governments that provide local services to the federal government properties;

Whereas in eight of ten provinces, PILT payments are 100% directed to the municipality with no funds being kept by the provincial government;

Be it resolved that UMNB lobby the Province of New Brunswick to amend the current PILT allocations so that 100% of the payment in lieu of taxes paid by the federal government for federal properties goes to the municipalities where the federal properties are located, with the Province keeping no allocation of the PILT funds.

U-26-06
Mover: Tantramar
Subject: Ensuring Accurate Property Assessments

Whereas municipalities rely on accurate property assessments to ensure fair and equitable taxation for each of their residents and property owners; and
Whereas residents and property owners require confidence that provincial assessments are being reviewed, verified, and applied consistently across all properties within a municipality

Whereas residents and property owners feel there is no consistent approach to how properties are assessed due to properties very similar in size, condition and use having very different assessed values;

Whereas transparent oversight of the assessment process is essential in the maintenance of public trust;

Whereas the Province of New Brunswick, through the Department of Service New Brunswick, is responsible for conducting assessments for all properties within the municipalities; and

Whereas municipalities have provincially owned properties within their municipal boundaries; and

Whereas municipalities might also have within their boundaries other properties that the provincial government pay property taxes on behalf of, such as universities; and

Whereas in many cases provincially owned properties do not appear to be accurately assessed; and

Whereas over the years the assessed values of provincially owned properties have not increased at the same rate as non-provincial owned properties;

Whereas lower assessments on provincially owned properties including but not limited to universities, schools, and hospitals, results in lower tax payable by the Province of New Brunswick,

Whereas the Province of New Brunswick, through the Department of Service New Brunswick, is responsible for determining assessed values on these provincially owned properties;

Be it resolved that UMNB lobby the Province to strengthen oversight and verification mechanisms for provincially owned properties and residential properties, which may include external assessment valuation being conducted to verify assessed values, with a goal to ensure all provincially owned, provincially paid for, and residential properties are assessed accurately and fairly without major discrepancies in assessed values for properties of similar size, condition and use.

U-26-08
Mover: Board of Directors
Establishing Programs Based on "Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)" Models

Whereas municipalities are increasingly called upon to address climate adaptation, energy affordability, housing affordability and community resilience while facing significant fiscal constraints;

Whereas many homeowners, businesses, farms and multi-unit residential property owners are unable to undertake energy efficiency, climate resilience and other eligible property improvements because of the high upfront capital costs;

Whereas Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)-style financing enables eligible property owners to finance improvements through a voluntary charge attached to the property, allowing repayment over time through the property tax system;

Whereas PACE-style financing has been successfully implemented in numerous Canadian jurisdictions, including Nova Scotia and Alberta, providing access to capital for projects that improve energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, strengthen climate resilience, lower operating costs and stimulate local economic activity;

Whereas PACE-style financing provides a voluntary property-based financing mechanism through which eligible improvements may be financed, with eligible improvements prescribed by regulation and updated over time to reflect evolving technologies, provincial priorities and community needs;

Whereas PACE-style financing is voluntary for both municipalities and participating property owners, with local governments determining whether to establish a program;

Whereas enabling legislation would provide municipalities with another tool to attract private investment into communities without requiring significant provincial expenditures;

Whereas expanding investment in property improvements supports provincial objectives related to housing, economic development, energy security, emissions reduction, skilled trades employment, climate adaptation and community resilience;

Therefore be it resolved that UMNB call upon the Government of New Brunswick to introduce enabling legislation that authorizes municipalities to establish voluntary "Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)" style financing programs, stackable with other municipal, provincial and federal granting programs, allowing participating property owners to finance eligible energy efficiency, renewable energy and climate resilience improvements through a local improvement charge or similar property-based repayment mechanism.

Be it further resolved that the Province work collaboratively with municipalities, utilities, financial institutions and industry stakeholders to develop a provincial framework that:

- establishes consistent program standards;
- protects municipalities from undue financial risk;
- encourages participation by lenders;
- allows flexibility for local implementation;
- and maximizes access to federal funding and private investment.

U-26-09
Mover: Board of Directors
Subject: Property Tax Reform Phase 2

WHEREAS local governments in New Brunswick depend on revenue from property taxation for, on average, 85% of their annual revenue; and

WHEREAS the municipal infrastructure deficit in New Brunswick was benchmarked at $2.5B in 2023 and continues to increase; and

WHEREAS New Brunswick's local governments have limited revenue sources in comparison with municipalities across Canada; and

WHEREAS reforms passed by the Government of New Brunswick in 2026 will not resolve the existing unfairness created by the Spike Protection Mechanism, the 0.4115 Rural Road Levy, the inability of local governments to set rates independently in each tax class, the transfer of tax room using a predictable and apolitical process, and the diversification of municipal revenue sources; and

WHEREAS the Stabilizer Mechanism created by the province in 2026 is a serious and unacceptable intrusion on the democratic autonomy of locally elected councils;

BIRT that the Union of Municipalities and its members call on the Government of New Brunswick to immediately initiate Phase 2 of property tax reform.

U-26-10
Mover: Board of Directors
Subject: Transparent Reporting and Allocation of Provincial Road Levy

WHEREAS the Government of New Brunswick's Rural Road Levy remains unchanged despite property tax changes brought forward in 2026;

WHEREAS this levy in the amount of 0.4115 cents per hundred applies only to owner-occupied homes in former local service districts, despite the fact that all property owners and residents rely on this transportation network; and

WHEREAS these roads remain the property and responsibility of the Government of New Brunswick, but no public reporting is available about how much revenue is collected annually from the levy;

WHEREAS the revenue collected from the Rural Road Levy is allocated to general provincial revenue with no obligation to be reinvested in road improvements; and

WHEREAS the Rural Road Levy will not be subject to the Stabilizer Mechanism created as part of 2026 property tax changes, resulting in larger increases for homeowners tied directly to the assessed value of their properties,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of Municipalities and its members call on the Government of New Brunswick to:

a. Provide transparent annual reporting on the collection of the Rural Road Levy in each Local Government and Rural District,
b. Consult with Local Government and Rural District representatives about local priorities for the improvements of the rural transportation network;
c. Reinvest the proceeds of the Road Levy on local transportation ;
d. Immediately initiate Phase 2 of Property Tax Reform to eliminate the unfairness of the current 0.4115 Road Levy and its applicability.

U-26-11
Mover: New Maryland
Subject: Determination of RCMP Shared Tier 1 and Tier 2 Policing Services Costs for Municipalities

WHEREAS 58 municipalities throughout New Brunswick rely on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) to provide essential shared Tier 1 (Detachment Policing) and Tier 2 (Specialized Policing) policing services;

AND WHEREAS the allocation of RCMP costs for these services is determined regionally by JPS, based on two factors including population and municipal tax base of municipalities within each region;

AND WHEREAS the formula used does not adequately reflect the actual demand for policing services in each municipality, resulting in inequitable cost burdens for municipalities with comparatively lower incident volumes;

AND WHEREAS municipalities experiencing fewer policing incidents bear a disproportionately higher cost per incident than those with greater service demands;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Union of Municipalities of New Brunswick (UMNB) advocate to the Government of New Brunswick to review and revise the methodology used to determine regional RCMP Shared Tier 1 and Tier 2 policing cost allocations taking into consideration additional factors including the number of policing incidents within each

municipality, alongside population and tax base, in order to establish a more fair, transparent, and equitable cost allocation model for all municipalities receiving RCMP policing services.

U-26-12
Mover: UMNB Board of Directors
Subject: Cost Recovery Levy Mechanism for Local Impacts Related to Mineral Development Projects

WHEREAS the provincial government of New Brunswick has announced their intention to increase mineral development in the province as part of their Comprehensive Minerals Strategy; and

WHEREAS the entirety of royalties from the mineral development will be collected by the province of New Brunswick; and

WHEREAS the impacts of mineral exploration will directly affect the local governments and the communities that surround mining sites; and

WHEREAS local governments require additional resources and revenue to adequately adapt to impacts and changes that come with mineral development; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that UMNB advocate to the provincial government of New Brunswick to implement a levy mechanism for cost recovery for municipalities who support, through their infrastructure and service delivery, mineral development projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that UMNB advocate that the provincial government of New Brunswick develop a comprehensive framework for Community Benefit Agreements to accompany the province's recent Critical Minerals Strategy and recent changes to the Mineral Resources Act.