



AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
 Monday, November 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Please be advised that the HUB Online Network will record and broadcast or live stream today's Council meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

"Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka'pamux people."

1. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, October 28, 2025 M/S <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, October 28, 2025, be adopted as presented.</i>	P. 1-6
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3. DELEGATIONS

3.1	Dawson Road Maintenance, Caroline Slade, Quality Manager – Meet and Greet New Quality Manager	P. 7
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4. PUBLIC INPUT

All questions and comments will be addressed through the Chair and answered likewise. Please state your name and address prior to asking a question or commenting, no more than 2 minutes per question.

5. BYLAWS/POLICIES

5.1	Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 879, 2025 – Adoption M/S <i>THAT, Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 879, 2025 be adopted.</i>	P. 8-30
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6. STAFF REPORTS

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	CFO Report: Transfer of Funds to MFA M/S	P. 31-32



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	<i>THAT, Council authorizes the CFO to transfer a substantial portion of the funds from the credit union to MFA.</i>	
FOR INFORMATION		
6.	FireSmart Coordinator: Year 1 to Date FireSmart Program	P. 33-34

7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	BC/Yukon Command of the Royal Canadian Legion – 21 st Anniversary of the Military Service Recognition Book – Request for support for an ad M/S	P. 35-38
FOR INFORMATION		
7.	Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs – Local Government Elections Regulation Amendment	P. 39-40
7.	IH – Interior Health calls young artists to join Beyond the Buzz 2.0: Youth Voices on Substance Use	P. 41
7.	UBCM – Provincial Response to 2024 Resolutions	P. 42-43
7.	EV Site Host Update – The Village will submit a photo for BC Hydro EV Newsletter consideration	P. 44-48
7.	TNRD News Release – TNRD Board Chair and Vice-Chair Acclaimed for Upcoming Year	P. 49
7.	CN Winter Driving Safety Message	P. 50
7.	UBCM Preliminary Findings – Proposed Changes to Heritage Conservation Act	P. 51-63
7.	UBCM Express Concern with Private Members Bill – Article	P. 64-66

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	P. 67
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1		
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	N/A	
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11. COUNCIL REPORTS



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11.1	Mayor Roden	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Lambert	

12. **RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING**

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1	N/A	
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13. **RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING**

13.1	N/A	
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14. **ADJOURNMENT**



MINUTES

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Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
 Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

PRESENT Mayor Barbara Roden
 Councillor, Jonah Anstett
 Councillor, Jessica Clement
 Councillor, Nadine Davenport
 Councillor, Cam Tedford

EXCUSED N/A

 Public – 1
 Media – 1

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roden called the Regular Meeting of Council for Tuesday, October 28, 2025 to order at 6:00 pm.

“Mayor and Council wish to acknowledge that the meeting today is held within the traditional territory of the Nlaka’pamux people.”

OATH OF OFFICE – COUNCILLOR-ELECT CAMERON TEDFORD

Mayor Roden asked CAO Daniela Dyck to proceed with administering the Oath of Office for Councillor Elect, Cam Tedford. Councillor Tedford affirmed his oath after which Mayor Roden welcomed Councillor Tedford and invited him to take his seat at the Council table.

1. ADDITIONS TO OR DELETIONS FROM THE AGENDA

There are three additions to the agenda:

1. Council Appointments – to be discussed under New Business
2. Street Safety Working Group – to be discussed under New Business
3. Bonaparte First Nation Invitation to Attend Aboriginal Remembrance Day Ceremony on November 8, 2025 – to be discussed under Information Correspondence

M/S Clement / Davenport

THAT, the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting on Tuesday October 28, 2025, be amended as presented. CARRIED. Unanimously. R-2025-152

2. MINUTES

2.1	Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, October 14, 2025 M/S Anstett / Tedford <i>THAT, the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council held Tuesday, October 14, 2025, be adopted as presented.</i>	CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-153
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3. DELEGATIONS

Regular Meeting of Council

Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street

Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

REQUEST FOR DECISION		
6.1	<p>EDT Report: Home Town Takeover Canada – Assessment of Community Participation</p> <p>Purpose: To provide Council with information on Home Town Takeover Canada, a new HGTV series focused on revitalizing small towns across the country, and to seek Council’s direction on whether the Village should consider submitting an application.</p> <p><i>Item for discussion and direction to Staff.</i></p> <p>Discussion: Council discussed the potential participation in the Home Town Makeover program. Concerns were raised regarding possible costs to the Village, businesses, or residents that may be selected for the makeover, and whether the projects chosen by the Home Town team would align with the community’s vision. It was noted that there would be limited local discretion in project selection and that the results may not fully represent the community as desired.</p> <p>Council suggested waiting to observe how the program is implemented in its first season in Canada and to reach out to a successful participating community to assess the outcomes and lessons learned. Members agreed that while the concept is positive and inspiring, more information is needed before committing. It was further suggested that the Village follow its usual best practice of being “shovel-ready” for such opportunities rather than pursuing them reactively.</p> <p>M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, the EDT Home-Town Takeover Canada report be received and filed.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-156</p>
FOR INFORMATION		
6.2	<p>CAO Report: 2025 By-Election Summary – Councillor Vacancy</p> <p>Purpose: To provide Council with an overview of the 2025 Village of Ashcroft by-election process and results. This report is for information only; no action is required.</p> <p>Mayor Roden thanked all the candidates for putting their names forward and running in the by-election.</p>	
6.3	<p>EDT Report: Filming in Ashcroft</p> <p>Purpose: To provide Council with a brief summary of the film activity that has taken place in Ashcroft and the immediate area since January 2025</p>	

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	<p>and our continued collaboration with the Thompson Nicola Film Commission (TNFC).</p> <p>It was noted that these types of productions often require a non-disclosure agreement, which can limit what information can be shared and may impact the community. Information on direct benefits to the business community may be available through Terri Hadwin, as the TNFC may have a more established method for tracking or reporting such statistics.</p>	
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7. CORRESPONDENCE

FOR ACTION		
7.1	<p>TNFC – Requesting Users Testimonials for a Grant Application & Letter of Support M/S Clement / Tedford</p> <p><i>THAT, Council provide a letter of support for the TNFC’s REDIP application to update the image library as requested.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-157</p>
FOR INFORMATION		
7.2	<p>Philip Perras, Pender Island, BC – A Call for Municipal Solidarity and Transparency on PFAS Contamination at YYJ and all BC Airports</p>	
7.3	<p>SD #74 – Board Bulletin for October 2025</p>	
7.4	<p>City of Kamloops Council – Invitation to the Diverse Voices: Rethinking Community Conference October 29-30, 2025</p>	
7.5	<p>BFN – Remembrance Day ceremony encouraged any Council member wishing to go to attend</p>	

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8.1	Task Manager	
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9. NEW BUSINESS

9.1	<p>Council Appointments 2023–2026 – update to assign Councillor Tedford M/S Anstett / Davenport</p> <p><i>THAT, Council approves Councillor Tedford be appointed to the portfolio as previously assigned to Councillor Lambert.</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-158</p>
	<p>Street Safety Working Group Two items were recommended for discussion by the Working Group</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parking issues in front of 605 & 611 Railway Ave. 	

	<p>Councillor Davenport recused herself at 6:40 as the business operator at 605 Railway Ave she deemed herself to be in a conflict of interest.</p> <p>Discussion: Concern raised that 601 and 611 Railway have not been included in the discussion General observations of vehicles parked in the 600 block of Railway discussed Mediation was determined to be the best course of action Direction to staff – discuss concerns with all affected properties and coordinate a meeting with owners of 603 Railway to see if a solution can be agreed on.</p> <p>2. Schedule Town Hall Meeting – M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, Council direct staff to schedule a Town Hall Meeting in November to discuss the OCP and Zoning Bylaw updates, Water Meter info update and Street Safety Working Group recommendations.</i> Meeting format to be a brief presentation for each subject item and then disperse to a “world café” format with subject matter experts at each station to provide information and answer questions. It was noted that RCMP (security) should be present in light of the last public meeting to discuss the water meter project.</p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-159</p>
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10. REPORTS/RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES, COTW, and COMMISSIONS

10.1	N/A	
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11. COUNCIL REPORTS

11.1	Mayor Roden	
11.2	Councillor Anstett	
11.3	Councillor Clement	
11.4	Councillor Davenport	
11.5	Councillor Tedford	

12. RESOLUTION TO ADJOURN TO CLOSED MEETING

Motion to move to a closed meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1

12.1	<p>M/S Roden / Clement <i>THAT, Council moves to a Closed Meeting to discuss an item under the Community Charter Section 90.1 (e) the acquisition, disposition or</i></p>	<p>CARRIED Unanimously R-2025-160</p>
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MINUTES

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Village of Ashcroft Council Chambers, 601 Bancroft Street
 Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm

	<i>expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.</i>	
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13. RESOLUTIONS RELEASED FROM CLOSED MEETING

13.1	N/A	
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14. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Roden adjourned the Regular Meeting of Council for Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 8:22 pm.

Certified to be a true and correct copy of
 the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of Council
 held Tuesday, October 28, 2025.

 Daniela Dyck,
 Chief Administrative Officer

 Barbara Roden,
 Mayor

INFORMATION FOR DELEGATIONS

In order to appear before Council as a delegation, please take the time to complete this form. It will help you in providing Council and staff with an overview of your presentation and the key points you wish to bring to their attention. We ask that you keep your presentation to a MAXIMUM of ten (10) minutes so that there will be a reasonable amount of time for Council to address any questions that may arise. Delegations are scheduled on an as needed basis; however, senior staff will limit delegations to no more than two per meeting.

1. Name of Organization or Group (if applicable): _____
2. Name(s) and title(s) of Person(s) making presentation: _____

3. The topic of your presentation: _____

4. What are you seeking from Council as a result of your delegation's presentation? (i.e. funding, a letter of support, a change in a bylaw or policy, to provide information only):

5. If you or your group are seeking some form of financial assistance, please explain why you feel that the Village should be funding your request:

6. If seeking financial assistance please attach a budget for your project and expected sources of revenue.
7. If you require a power-point projector or other presentation tool, please advise staff in advance. Paper copies of your presentation should be brought as back up in case of system failure.
8. If you have additional printed materials that you would like Council to read as support for your presentation, please have 7 copies delivered to the office NO LATER THAN the Thursday morning prior to your date of presentation. This will ensure that all Council members receive your materials prior to the meeting and can be better informed as to the background of your presentation.
9. Date requested to make presentation: _____
Alternate date (if necessary): _____
10. You should not expect a decision from Council the same night as your presentation unless it is a time sensitive item.

Thank you for taking the time to prepare yourself and Council members for your presentation. This form and attachments can be dropped off at the Village Office or emailed to ea@ashcroftbc.ca

**VILLAGE OF ASHCROFT
BYLAW NO. 879, 2025
GOOD NEIGHBOUR BYLAW**

A Bylaw to Promote Quality of Life, Civic Responsibility, and Respectful Neighbourhoods

WHEREAS the Council of the Village of Ashcroft is authorized pursuant to the *Community Charter*, S.B.C. 2003, c. 26 to regulate, prohibit, and impose requirements in relation to nuisances, property maintenance, noise, animals, and other matters;

AND WHEREAS Council deems it necessary to promote civic responsibility, protect the health and safety of the public, enhance the appearance of the community, and establish clear expectations for good neighbourly conduct;

NOW THEREFORE, the Council of the Village of Ashcroft, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

PART 1 – CITATION AND PURPOSE

1.1 This Bylaw shall be cited as the "**Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 879, 2025**".

1.2 The purpose of this Bylaw is to promote civic responsibility and good neighbourly relations by establishing clear rules for the use and maintenance of private and public property within the Village of Ashcroft.

1.3 This Bylaw repeals the following bylaws in their entirety:

- Unsightly Premises Bylaw No. 505, 1990
- Noise Control Bylaw No. 684, 1983
- Fireworks Bylaw No. 765, 2009

1.4 The following Schedules attached hereto are hereby made part of this Bylaw and adopted as the Good Neighbour Bylaw for the Village of Ashcroft:

- Schedule A (Good Neighbour Bylaw Text)
- Schedule B (Definitions)
- Schedule C (Noxious and Invasive Plants)
- Schedule D (Designated Contraventions and Penalties)
- Schedule E (Residence Compliance Checklist)

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	25 th	DAY OF	August	, 2025
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	25 th	DAY OF	August	, 2025
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	8 th	DAY OF	September	, 2025
RESCIND THIRD READING	14 th	DAY OF	October	, 2025
RE-READ A THIRD TIME	28 th	DAY OF	October	, 2025
ADOPTED THIS		DAY OF		, 2025

Barbara H. Roden, Mayor

Certified to be a true and correct copy
of Bylaw No.879 as adopted by Council.

Daniela Dyck, Chief Administrative Officer

SCHEDULE A

GOOD NEIGHBOUR BYLAW TEXT

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PART 2 – ADMINISTRATION, ENFORCEMENT & REMEDIAL ACTION

2.1 The provisions of this Bylaw shall be administered and enforced by Bylaw Enforcement Officers (BEOs) or other persons designated by the Village.

2.2 No person shall obstruct or interfere with a BEO or other Village representative in the lawful exercise of their duties.

2.3 A BEO or other designated official may enter onto any property at reasonable times to determine compliance with this Bylaw, subject to the requirements of the Community Charter.

2.4 Each day that an offence under this Bylaw continues constitutes a separate offence.

2.5 Ticketing Authority: Designated contraventions under this Bylaw may be enforced by a **Notice of Bylaw Violation** in accordance with the **Village of Ashcroft Notice of Enforcement Bylaw No. 845, 2023** and any amendments thereto.

2.6 Cost Recovery for Fire Department Responses: Where any contravention of this Bylaw results in a Fire Department response, the Village may recover all associated costs as outlined in **Schedule B** of this Bylaw.

2.7 Remedial Action Authority:

a) If a property owner or occupier fails to comply with an order, notice, or direction issued under this Bylaw within the time specified, the Village may, without further notice, enter onto the property and perform the work required, either using Village staff or contractors.

b) The cost of carrying out the work, including administration fees, may be recovered from the property owner as a debt owed to the Village.

c) Costs that remain unpaid at the end of the calendar year may be collected in the same manner and with the same priority as property taxes in accordance with **Sections 17 and 258 of the Community Charter**.

d) This section specifically applies, but is not limited, to:

- i. Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks and walkways abutting private property;
- ii. Removal of noxious weeds, overgrown vegetation, or accumulated debris;
- iii. Demolition or removal of unsafe structures;
- iv. Any other work deemed necessary by the Village to address an ongoing contravention.

2.8 Dispute Resolution:

a) Voluntary Compliance and Mediation - Where appropriate, the Village may encourage voluntary compliance or refer matters to mediation services before initiating enforcement proceedings.

PART 3 – PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

3.1 Unsightly Premises

a) Every owner or occupier of property must maintain their property in a clean, tidy, and sanitary condition. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following are prohibited:

- i. Accumulation of filth, discarded materials, rubbish, or debris.
- ii. Storage of unused or dilapidated items, including but not limited to broken furniture, appliances, tires, construction materials not associated with active work, crates, barrels, scrap metal, derelict or partially dismantled vehicles, and yard waste.
- iii. Construction or demolition waste, bulk fill material (such as soil, gravel, sand, or concrete), or other discarded substances not associated with active, permitted construction or landscaping work
- iv. Noxious, harmful, or offensive substances, or objects that may present a hazard to health or safety.
- v. Infestations of vermin, rodents, or other pests that may pose a health hazard to neighbouring properties or the public.
- vi. Unsightly conditions including, but not limited to:
 - visible graffiti (which must be removed within 14 days of notice by the Village)
 - unmaintained or overgrown landscaping,
 - deteriorating structures,
 - offensive odours, or
 - stored debris.

3.2 Boulevards

a) Owners or occupiers of property adjacent to a boulevard must maintain that boulevard to the same standard as their property. Grass and weeds must not exceed 15 cm in height. Boulevards must be kept clear of debris and any obstruction that could impede pedestrians or vehicles.

3.3 Fences, Buildings, and Accessory Structures

a) All fences, buildings, sheds, and other structures must be maintained in good repair. Dilapidated or unsafe structures must be repaired or removed.

b) All fences, buildings, sheds, and other structures must comply with the provisions of the Village of Ashcroft Zoning Bylaw No. 823, 2018, as amended from time to time.

3.3A Shared Fences

a) Where a fence is located on the property line and serves as a boundary between two properties (a “shared fence”), both adjoining property owners are equally responsible for the maintenance, repair, and replacement of the shared fence.

- b) If one owner intends to repair, replace, or significantly alter a shared fence, they must provide the adjoining owner with at least **14 days' written notice** of the proposed work, including an estimate of costs and description of materials.
- c) If a shared fence is damaged by the actions or negligence of one property owner, that owner is responsible for the full cost of repair or replacement.
- d) Shared fences must be constructed and maintained to a reasonable standard of safety and appearance consistent with the neighbourhood and must comply with any height or material restrictions set out in this Bylaw or other applicable regulations.
- e) If owners cannot agree on the maintenance, repair, or replacement of a shared fence, the Village may, at its discretion, enforce this section or refer the matter to the processes available under the **Fences and Trespass Act (BC)**.

3.3B Cargo Containers

- a) Only **one cargo container** is permitted on a residential lot unless otherwise approved by the Village.
- b) The cargo container must not exceed **15 square metres in floor area** and must comply with all applicable setbacks under the Zoning Bylaw.
- c) Cargo containers must be located in the rear or side yard and may not obstruct emergency access routes, driveways, or sightlines.
- d) A **building permit** is required before placing a cargo container on any property.
- e) Containers must be placed on a **concrete pad or other hard, level surface** approved by the Building Inspector.
- f) Containers must be properly ventilated and secured to prevent unauthorized access.
- g) No person shall use a cargo container for human habitation or for business use without Village approval.
- h) Cargo containers may not be used to store hazardous, flammable, or explosive materials in quantities greater than those permitted for household use, and all such materials must be stored in accordance with fire and safety regulations.
- i) Containers must be maintained in good repair, free from rust, graffiti, or structural defects, and screened from view of adjacent properties and streets to the extent possible.
- j) The Village may require property owners to provide an inventory of container contents if there are reasonable safety concerns for the neighbourhood or first responders.

3.4 Derelict and Uninsured Vehicles

a) No owner or occupier shall permit derelict, wrecked, inoperable, uninsured or unregistered vehicles to remain on their property in a manner that is visible from any street or neighbouring property, except where they are:

- i. stored inside a fully enclosed garage or accessory building; or
- ii. neatly stored at the rear of the property, with no more than one uninsured or unregistered vehicle permitted on lots 1,700 m² or smaller, and no more than two on larger lots.

b) Vehicles may not be parked or stored on boulevards, lanes, or other Village property without prior authorization.

c) For the purposes of this section, derelict vehicles that are visibly deteriorated, lack valid insurance or registration, or appear inoperable are considered discarded materials and may be deemed unsightly under this Bylaw.

3.5 Recreational Vehicles and Motorhomes

a) Recreational vehicles (RVs), campers, and motorhomes are not permitted to be used as permanent or semi-permanent dwellings on any property within the Village of Ashcroft. For the purposes of this Bylaw, an RV is defined as a self-propelled vehicle or trailer designed for temporary accommodation during travel or recreational use, including motor homes as defined under the Motor Vehicle Act.

b) RVs may not be parked, stored, or left standing on Village rights-of-way, boulevards, or other public property, except in accordance with the Village's Traffic Bylaw. Despite the Traffic Bylaw, the seasonal storage of RVs on boulevards, rights-of-way, or other public property is prohibited during the off-season, being the period from October 15 to April 15 each year.

c) Visitors staying with friends or family may occupy an RV for a maximum of seven (7) consecutive days, provided the vehicle is parked entirely on private property, does not obstruct sidewalks or traffic sightlines, does not create a tripping hazard, and does not impede access for emergency services. This exception is intended for occasional visits only and may not be used to facilitate frequent or recurring occupancy. Generally, use under this provision should not exceed one stay per calendar year per property.

d) Temporary RV occupancy is not permitted on boulevards, public rights-of-way, or other Village-owned lands unless expressly authorized in writing by the Village. For greater certainty, the preparation of an RV for travel (loading, unloading, or servicing) on a boulevard or right-of-way must not exceed forty-eight (48) hours.

e) RVs may be stored on private property only if they are not being used as dwellings, are maintained in good repair, and are parked in a driveway or side/rear yard without blocking sidewalks, road access, or visibility. No more than one RV may be stored on a residential lot unless otherwise permitted under the Zoning Bylaw.

3.5A Temporary Shelters

a) In addition, temporary shelters—such as tents or nylon/plastic coverings that are non-rigid and no larger than 10 square metres—are not permitted for long-term occupancy and must be located and maintained in a way that does not contribute to unsightly conditions or create safety concerns.

3.6 Firewood Storage

a) Firewood must be stacked neatly and stored in a manner that reduces fire hazards, consistent with FireSmart principles. Firewood shall not be stored against or under any structure, deck, or porch.

b) The preferred storage distance is at least ten (10) metres from all buildings. Where lot size does not allow, firewood may be stored no closer than three (3) metres from any structure.

c) Seasonal Storage: Firewood required for winter use may be temporarily stored near the home; however, all unused wood must be relocated by spring to a firewood shed or pile located at least ten (10) metres from all structures.

d) Firewood Sheds: Firewood sheds should be constructed of fire-resistant materials (e.g., metal siding, cement board, asphalt or metal roofing), placed on a non-combustible base extending 1.5 metres around the structure, and fitted with ember-resistant vents or screening. Sheds should be no larger than 10 ft × 10 ft and positioned with doors facing away from the dwelling.

e) Quantity: Residents may store only the amount of firewood reasonably required for household heating or recreational use for the season. Bulk or long-term stockpiling beyond seasonal needs is prohibited within the Village due to extreme wildfire risk.

f) Prohibited Storage: Chainsaws, jerry cans, fuel, or oils must not be stored with firewood.

g) Firewood piles or sheds must not obstruct access to buildings, property lines, or emergency routes, and must not be stored in a condition that creates a fire hazard for neighbouring properties. Firewood should be kept off the ground on racks or pallets where possible, and the surrounding area must be kept free of dry grass, leaves, bark, and other combustible debris.

3.7 Vegetation, Trees, and Hedges

a) Owners and occupiers are responsible for maintaining all trees, hedges, shrubs, and other vegetation on their property in a condition that is safe, tidy, and not unsightly. Vegetation must be kept trimmed to prevent obstruction of sidewalks, roadways, or public rights-of-way, must not encroach onto neighbouring properties, and must not block sightlines at intersections or driveways. Overgrown, unmanaged, or dead plantings must be regularly maintained or removed to preserve visibility and reduce fire risk.

b) Hazardous or Invasive Vegetation: Including noxious weeds as designated under the *Weed Control Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 487—must be promptly removed. Property owners are responsible for controlling the spread of such species and ensuring their removal does not result in regrowth.

c) Fruit Trees: Property owners must ensure that all fruit-bearing trees are regularly maintained to prevent the accumulation of fallen or rotting fruit. Ripe fruit should be picked in a timely manner to avoid attracting wild animals such as bears, raccoons, or deer, and to minimize the risk of vermin infestation. Any fallen fruit must be collected and properly disposed of. Failure to manage fruit trees in accordance with this section may result in enforcement action under this Bylaw.

d) Cedar Hedges: No person shall plant, establish, or replace a hedge consisting of cedar trees or shrubs on any property within the Village of Ashcroft.

e) Existing Cedar Hedges – Risk Reduction Requirements: Owners of existing cedar hedges must maintain them in a manner that reduces wildfire risk and nuisance conditions, including but not limited to:

- Regular trimming to reduce hedge density and remove dead or brown foliage.
- Maintaining a clearance of at least 30 centimetres (12 inches) from the ground to reduce ladder fuels.
- Removing accumulations of fallen debris and trimmings.

f) Cedar Hedge Phased Remediation: Property owners with existing cedar hedges are encouraged to phase in the removal, thinning, or replacement of hedges over time. The Village will continue to pursue FireSmart program funding to support private property remediation, including possible cost-sharing for trimming, removal, or chipping, subject to funding availability.

g) Redevelopment Requirement: Where redevelopment, substantial renovation, or major landscaping of a property occurs, any existing cedar hedge must be removed and replaced with FireSmart-appropriate vegetation or fencing.

h) Additional Risk Reduction Encouragement: Property owners are strongly encouraged to prioritize the removal or thinning of cedar hedges that directly abut dwellings, accessory buildings, or other structures, as these pose the highest wildfire and safety risks. This guidance is consistent with **FireSmart BC and FireSmart Canada principles**, which recommend reducing or eliminating flammable vegetation within the first 1.5 metres of any structure to protect homes and neighbouring properties.

i) Non-compliance with the basic FireSmart maintenance requirements of this section (such as removing dead or dry material) may result in enforcement action under Schedule B.

3.8 Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks

a) Every owner or occupier of real property whose property abuts a sidewalk or walkway must remove all snow and ice from the full width of the sidewalk or walkway:

- i. Following Overnight Events: No later than 10:00 a.m. on the day following any snowfall or freezing event occurring overnight.
- ii. During the Day: As soon as reasonably possible after the start of any snowfall or freezing event occurring during the day, and on an ongoing basis throughout the day as conditions require, to ensure the sidewalk remains clear and safe for use.

- iii. For clarity, snow and ice removal must be performed often enough to prevent the accumulation of hazardous conditions, including compacted snow or ice.
- iv. The use of coarse rock salt on concrete sidewalks is prohibited. Only eco-friendly de-icing materials or commercially available ice-melt products specifically formulated for use on concrete such as “Ice Blaster” or equivalent are permitted.

b) Snow removed from a sidewalk must not be placed on a roadway or on another sidewalk, boulevard, or lane where it may obstruct traffic or drainage.

c) If the owner or occupier fails to remove snow and ice as required, the Village may remove it in accordance with Section 2.7 (Remedial Action Authority) and invoice the property owner for all costs incurred.

3.9 Waste Management

a) All garbage, recycling, and compost materials must be stored in secure containers to prevent scattering, odour, or attraction of animals.

b) Waste containers must be maintained in a sanitary condition and kept out of sight from public streets where possible.

c) No person shall dump or deposit waste, garbage, or debris on public or private land other than in a lawful disposal site or container authorized for that purpose.

3.10 Commercial Vehicle Parking:

a) No person shall park or store a large commercial vehicle exceeding 5,000 kilograms gross vehicle weight in a residential zone, except for the purpose of temporary loading or unloading.

b) For the purposes of this section, vehicles exceeding 5,000 kg GVW include but are not limited to dump trucks, cube vans, buses, delivery trucks, and construction service vehicles. Pickup trucks and personal vans are not considered large commercial vehicles under this section.

3.11 Encroachments on Public Property:

a) No person shall place or maintain unauthorized structures, materials, landscaping, or equipment on Village sidewalks, boulevards, rights-of-way, or other public property.

3.12 Construction and Renovation Debris:

a) Owners and contractors must ensure that construction and renovation debris is contained on the property and does not spill onto adjacent lands, boulevards, or drainage systems.

3.13 Emergency Access:

a) No owner or occupier shall place or permit obstructions, including vehicles, landscaping, or structures, that impede emergency access to hydrants, rights-of-way, or easements.

PART 4 – NOISE CONTROL

4.1 No person shall make, cause, or permit noise that unreasonably disturbs others.

4.2 Without limiting section 4.1, the following are prohibited:

- i. Loud music or amplified sound that can be heard beyond the property line;
- ii. Persistent animal noise;
- iii. Construction or power tool use between 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.;
- iv. Vehicle engine idling in excess of 10 minutes, and vehicles must be parked in a manner that prevents exhaust fumes from entering any private residence.
- v. Operation of a motor vehicle with a defective or modified exhaust system that causes noise exceeding normal operating levels

4.3 This section does not apply to emergency services, Village operations, or authorized public events.

PART 5 – OUTDOOR BURNING

5.1 Outdoor Burning Compliance

All outdoor burning within the Village of Ashcroft must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Village of Ashcroft Outdoor Burning Bylaw No. 849*, as amended from time to time. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing:

- a) No person shall burn or cause to be burned any garbage, construction waste, plastics, rubber, painted or treated wood, domestic refuse, or other noxious materials in a wood stove, burning barrel, fire pit, outdoor fireplace, or any other device.
- b) Only clean, dry firewood or may be burned in an outdoor fire pit, wood stove, or other approved burning appliance.

5.3 Nuisance Smoke

No person shall operate an outdoor burning appliance in a manner that creates excessive smoke, odour, or air quality concerns for neighbouring properties.

5.4 Nuisance Odours

No owner or occupier shall cause or permit odours from compost, animal waste, or other materials to become a nuisance to neighbouring properties

5.5 Enforcement

Any contravention of this section may result in:

- i. Immediate extinguishment of the fire by the Fire Department or Bylaw Enforcement Officer, and;
 - ii. Penalties and cost recovery in accordance with **Schedule B** of this Bylaw.
-

PART 6 – FIREWORKS AND FIRECRACKERS

6.1 The sale, possession, and discharge of fireworks or firecrackers is prohibited unless expressly authorized by the Village.

6.2 Any person causing an incident involving fireworks or firecrackers is liable for the full cost of the Village's response, as outlined in **Schedule B**.

PART 7 – ANIMALS, HENS, BEES and HOMING BIRDS

7.1 No person shall keep livestock, poultry, or other animals not specifically permitted under this bylaw or any other Village of Ashcroft Bylaw.

7.2 Backyard Hens

No person shall keep hens (domestic chickens, *Gallus gallus domesticus*) except in accordance with the following regulations:

- i. The keeping of hens must be clearly incidental and secondary to the use of the dwelling for residential purposes and must be carried out by a resident of the parcel.
- ii. A maximum of four (4) hens may be kept per parcel for personal egg consumption only.
- iii. Roosters are prohibited within all residential zones.
- iv. Hen keeping is permitted only in the rear yard of a parcel, and the dwelling unit must be located between the hen enclosure and the front parcel line.
- v. Only one coop and one pen are permitted for hen keeping.
- vi. A coop must not exceed 6.0 m² in floor area or 2.0 m in height.
- vii. The coop and pen must be set back at least 2.5 metres from all parcel lines.
- viii. The rear yard must be fully enclosed by a fence to prevent predators from entering or hens from escaping. Food must be stored in an airtight container that is inaccessible to rodents and wildlife.
- ix. The coop and pen must be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, free from odours, pests, and accumulated manure.
- x. Hen manure must be composted or disposed of in a sanitary manner and must not be placed in the Village's curbside waste collection.
- xi. Hens must not be slaughtered on-site or for commercial purposes.

- xii. Hens showing signs of illness or disease must be removed promptly and handled in accordance with applicable provincial regulations.
- xiii. Hens must be provided with adequate food, water, shelter, and space in accordance with the BC SPCA Farm Animal Care Guidelines.

7.3 Beekeeping

No person shall keep bees except in accordance with the following regulations:

- i. Every person keeping bees must be a registered beekeeper under the BC Bee Regulation pursuant to the Animal Health Act.
- ii. Each beekeeper must ensure adequate water is provided on-site to prevent bees from seeking water from neighbouring properties or public areas.
- iii. Beekeepers must take reasonable measures to prevent swarming and aggressive behaviour.
- iv. If bees swarm or show signs of aggression, the colony must be re-queened immediately.
- v. No more than two (2) colonies of bees are permitted on parcels 1,100 m² or larger.
- vi. No more than one (1) colony of bees is permitted on parcels smaller than 1,100 m².
- vii. A beehive must not be located within 3.0 metres of any parcel line.
- viii. All beehives must be located in the rear yard of the parcel.
- ix. The rear yard must be fully enclosed by a fence or natural barrier sufficient to prevent wildlife intrusion and direct bee flight upward.
- x. All hives must be maintained in sound, weatherproof condition and managed in accordance with provincial best management practices.
- xi. Honey, wax, and related materials must be stored in a manner that does not attract wildlife or cause nuisance odours.
- xii. Beekeepers must ensure compliance with any provincial disease control or notification requirements under the Bee Regulation.

7.4 Pigeons and Bird Sporting Events

- i. The keeping of pigeons or other homing birds (*Columba livia domestica*) for any purpose, including as pets or for breeding, is not permitted within the Village of Ashcroft.
- ii. No person shall organize, permit, or participate in a Bird Sporting Event within the Village of Ashcroft.
- iii. No person shall release pigeons or other domesticated birds for the purpose of competition, racing, distance flying, or endurance events, including but not limited to pigeon racing, high flyer, tippler and pigeon gaming (Kabootar Bazi) events.
- iv. No person shall abandon pigeons within the Village. Domesticated pigeons left without care are deemed abandoned and subject to enforcement under this Bylaw.

PART 8 – OUTDOOR LIGHTING

8.1 Outdoor lighting must be directed downward and shielded to prevent light trespass onto neighbouring properties. Lighting must not create glare for drivers or interfere with traffic safety.

PART 9 – PUBLIC CONDUCT

9.1 Disorderly Behavior:

No person shall cause a nuisance in a public place by way of disorderly behaviour, public intoxication, loitering, or other actions that disturb the peace of the neighbourhood.

9.2 Disruptive Gatherings

No person shall host or permit a gathering that unreasonably disrupts neighbouring residents due to noise, traffic, or unsafe conditions.

PART 10 – ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

10.1 During periods of declared water restrictions, all property owners shall comply with watering schedules or limits established by the Village.

10.2 The controlled use of pesticides on private property is permitted. However, no unlicensed person shall apply pesticides with a chemical guarantee and registration number in an excessive or improper manner, or in a way that results in leaching into the soil and moving off-site or drifting through the air onto neighbouring private or public property.

SCHEDULE B – DEFINITIONS

1. General Clause

Unless otherwise defined in this Bylaw, all terms shall have the same meaning as set out in the Village of Ashcroft Zoning Bylaw No. 823, 2018, as amended or replaced from time to time.

2. Defined Terms

- **Accessory Building** means a building or structure subordinate to the principal building or use and located on the same parcel.
- **Bird Sporting Event** means any competition, contest, or activity involving the release of pigeons or other domesticated birds for distance, endurance, or time-based performance, including but not limited to pigeon racing, high flyer events, and tippler flying.
- **Boulevard** means the area between the curb and the adjacent property line that is not used as a sidewalk, including any landscaped or grassed area.
- **Bylaw Enforcement Officer (BEO)** means a person appointed by the Village to enforce one or more of its bylaws.
- **Cargo Container** means a prefabricated metal shipping container typically used for freight transport, repurposed for storage on a parcel of land.
- **Companion Animal** means a cat, rabbit, guinea pig, rodent, bird, or reptile (excluding dogs) kept as part of a household, but not including animals regulated under the *Wildlife Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 488.
- **Discarded Materials** includes, but is not limited to, broken, unusable, or unwanted household items, appliances, furniture, scrap metal, building materials, and yard waste that are not in active use or stored in a tidy and orderly fashion.
- **Derelict Vehicle** means a vehicle that is inoperable, unlicensed, partially dismantled, or in a visibly deteriorated condition such that it cannot be legally driven or used on a highway.
- **Dwelling Unit** means a self-contained unit providing sleeping, cooking, and sanitary facilities for residential use by one or more persons.
- **FireSmart Principles** means landscaping and property maintenance practices intended to reduce wildfire risk, as recommended by FireSmart Canada.
- **Hazardous Vegetation** means any tree, shrub, or other plant that poses a risk to safety, access, sightlines, or infrastructure, or increases the risk of fire.
- **Hen** means a domesticated chicken (*Gallus gallus domesticus*).
- **Invasive Plant** means a non-native plant that adversely affects habitats, ecosystems, or human activity, including species listed under Schedule A of this Bylaw.
- **Motor Vehicle** has the same meaning as in the *Motor Vehicle Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 318.
- **Noxious Weed** means a plant designated as such under the *Weed Control Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 487.
- **Occupier** has the same meaning as in the *Community Charter*, and includes a tenant, lessee, agent, or other person who has the right of access to and control over land or buildings.
- **Owner** has the same meaning as in the *Community Charter*, and includes a person registered in the Land Title Office as the fee simple owner of a property.
- **Pigeon** means a domesticated bird of the species “*Columba livia domestica*”, commonly kept for racing, sporting events, or as pets.
- **Pigeon Racing (Kabootar Bazi)** means a sport involving skilled trainers (called "Khalifas" or "Ustads") who train their pigeons to fly back to their loft using various cues and techniques.
- **Recreational Vehicle (RV)** means a self-propelled vehicle or trailer designed for temporary living quarters for recreational or travel use, including motor homes, camper vans, campers, and travel trailers.
- **Refuse** means garbage, debris, filth, or waste material of any kind that is discarded or abandoned.

- **Sightline** means the visual field required for safe navigation at intersections, driveways, and access points.
- **Temporary Shelter** means a non-rigid, portable structure used for temporary cover or accommodation, including tents, tarpaulins, or nylon/plastic coverings, not exceeding 10 square metres in floor area.
- **Unsightly** means a condition of property that is offensive to the community's aesthetic standards, including but not limited to graffiti, accumulation of discarded materials, unkempt vegetation, deteriorated buildings, or offensive odours.
- **Village** means the Village of Ashcroft.

SCHEDULE C – NOXIOUS AND INVASIVE PLANTS

The following plants and species are prohibited and must be removed from all properties when identified:

1. Noxious Weeds (as defined by the Weed Control Act)

- Babes Breath (*Gypsophila*)
- Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*)
- Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)
- Hoary Alyssum (*Berteroa incana*)
- Knapweed (all species)
- Leafy Spurge (*Euphorbia esula*)
- Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)
- Russian Thistle (*Salsola tragus*)
- Scotch Thistle (*Onopordum acanthium*)
- Spotted and Diffuse Knapweed (*Centaurea stoebe*, *Centaurea diffusa*)

2. Invasive Plants/Trees of Concern in Ashcroft

- Burdock (*Arctium spp.*)
- Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
- Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*)
- Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)
- Puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*)
- Russian Elm (*Ulmus laevis*)
- Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)
- Siberian Elm (*Ulmus pumila*)
- St. John's Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)

Note: Property owners are responsible for controlling these species on their property. When removal is ordered, all roots must be destroyed to prevent regrowth. The Village may enter a property and remove such plants if an owner fails to comply, with costs charged back to the property owner.

The species listed represent the most common noxious and invasive plants and trees found in Ashcroft. However, additional species designated under the *Weed Control Act*, RSBC 1996, c. 487 may also apply.

SCHEDULE D – DESIGNATED CONTRAVENTIONS AND PENALTIES

The following contraventions are designated as ticketable offences under **Bylaw No. 845**. Each day the offence continues constitutes a separate offence.

Contravention	Section	Penalty	Early Payment (within 5 days)	Late Payment (after 30 days)	2nd Offence	3rd+ Offences
Failure to keep property clean and free from debris	3.1(a)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Storage of dilapidated or discarded items	3.1(b)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Accumulation of construction/demolition or bulk materials	3.1(c)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Possession of noxious/harmful substances	3.1(d)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Failure to remove graffiti within 14 days	3.1(e)	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Failure to address vermin/pest infestation	3.1(f)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Failure to maintain boulevard	3.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Failure to maintain or repair a shared fence	3.3A	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Failure to comply with cargo container requirements	3.3B	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Construction/renovation debris not contained	3.12	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Obstructing emergency access	3.13	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Storing derelict/uninsured vehicles contrary to bylaw	3.4	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500

Improper firewood storage	3.6	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Grass/weeds exceeding 15 cm in height	3.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Failure to remove noxious weeds/invasive species	Sch. C	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Obstructing public rights-of-way with vegetation	3.7	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Planting or replacing cedar hedge	3.7	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Failure to maintain cedar hedge	3.7	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Failure to remove cedar hedge when required	3.7	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Failure to remove snow/ice from abutting sidewalks	3.8	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Waste management violations (improper storage or illegal dumping)	3.9	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Parking large commercial vehicle in residential area	3.10	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Unauthorized encroachment on public property	3.11	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Unauthorized use of RV as permanent/semi-permanent dwelling	3.5(a)	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Visitor RV use exceeding 7 days	3.5(b)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
RV parked/stored on boulevard or rights-of-way	3.5(c)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Excess number of RVs stored on lot	3.5(d)	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500

Unauthorized long-term occupancy of temporary shelter	3.5A	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Excessive noise (general prohibition)	4.1	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Construction/tool use during prohibited hours	4.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Operation of vehicle with defective/modified muffler	4.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Burning prohibited materials	5.1	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Burning unpermitted materials (contrary to s. 5.2)	5.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Nuisance smoke from burning	5.3	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Nuisance odours (compost, animal waste, etc.)	5.4	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Sale, possession, or discharge of fireworks without authorization	6.1 & 6.2	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Nuisance animals (general)	7.1	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Animal enclosures unsanitary or odourous	7.1	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Keeping roosters	7.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Exceeding permitted number of hens	7.2	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Beekeeping contrary to regulations (location/hive limits)	7.3	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Organizing or participating in Bird Sporting Event	7.4	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Abandonment of pigeons	7.4	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750

Trespass/drone nuisance related to Bird Sporting Events	7.4	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Light trespass or unsafe lighting	8.1	\$130	\$91	\$169	\$300	\$500
Disorderly behaviour/public intoxication/loitering	9.1	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Disruptive gathering disturbing neighbours	9.2	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Failure to comply with water restrictions	10.1	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750
Improper pesticide application	10.2	\$250	\$175	\$325	\$500	\$750


Footnote: If the Village clears snow/ice or otherwise performs remedial work under Section 2.7, the property owner will be invoiced for all associated costs. If unpaid by December 31 of that year, the costs will be added to the property taxes and collected in the same manner as property taxes.

Fire Department Response Cost Recovery: In addition to penalties above, where a contravention requires a Fire Department response, the Village may recover the following costs:

- **Manpower:** Minimum 2-hour call-out per firefighter at their assigned hourly rate; additional time billed at the same rate.
- **Vehicles (per hour):**
 - Engines: **\$500 active / \$250 standby**
 - Rescue Vehicle R1: **\$450 active / \$225 standby**
- **Equipment:** replacement cost.

SCHEDULE E – RESIDENCE COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST

This checklist is a non-binding guide for assessing compliance with the Village of Ashcroft Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 879, 2025. It is intended to help property owners and occupiers understand and voluntarily meet the standards outlined in the Bylaw.

No.	Compliance Item	
1	Yard is free of garbage, scrap, or debris	
2	Stored items are neat and not visible from the street	
3	No unlicensed or inoperable vehicles are visible	
4	Only one RV stored on the lot (if any)	
5	RVs used for visitors no more than 7 days/year	
6	No RVs or vehicles parked on sidewalks or boulevards	
7	Firewood is stacked neatly and away from structures	
8	Hedges and shrubs trimmed and not abutting structures	
9	Cedar hedges (if any) are maintained and free of dead material	
10	Trees/shrubs are not blocking sidewalks or road visibility	
11	No excessive noise, especially late at night	
12	Animal areas are clean and not causing odours or noise	

Please note: Resident Compliance Checklist is provided for informational purposes only to assist property owners and occupiers in voluntarily complying with the provisions of this Bylaw. It is not enforceable but may be used to support community education and interpretation of bylaw requirements.

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Yogi Bhalla, CFO
SUBJECT: Transfer of funds to MFA

MEETING DATE: November 7, 2025

RECOMMENDATION

THAT, Council authorizes the CFO to transfer a substantial portion of the funds from the credit union to MFA.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this request is to improve diversification and reduce risk of our portfolio reducing susceptibility to economic downturn

Respectfully Submitted by:

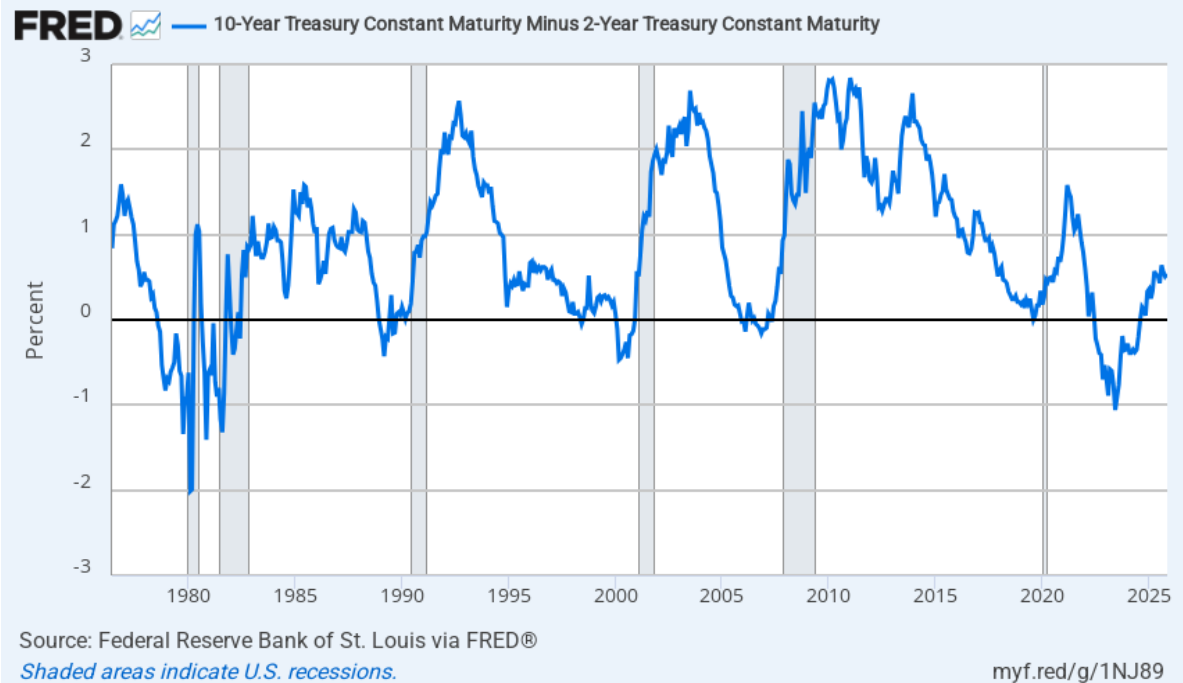


Yoginder Bhalla,
Chief Financial Officer

BACKGROUND

The current economic fundamentals have turned negative with rising unemployment, tariff shocks and a real estate sector in decline.

The consistent predictor of recessions, with accuracy dating back 50 years has been the yield curve, which is again pointing to a recession.



DISCUSSION

A majority of our portfolio is in the credit union. While CUDIC ensures these funds, the village as an institution would be prioritized after retail investors. Furthermore, the funds backing this insurance are inadequate to cover significant losses.

Our funds will be initially invested in money market securities i.e. Tbills and Government Bonds. Following the launch of MFA’s Target Maturity Fund some of these funds will be moved to it. The Target Maturity Fund is a fund that will invest in A graded bonds with higher returns and a time horizon of 4.5 to 5.5 years. This should enable us to improve our returns while retaining the benefits of diversification.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- Significant reduction in risk exposure

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- **Financial Stewardship:** Maximizes external funding opportunities to reduce reliance on local taxation.

STAFF REPORT TO COUNCIL – OPEN MEETING

DATE: November 6, 2025
FROM: Gwen Dost, FireSmart Coordinator
SUBJECT: Year 1 to Date FireSmart Program

RECOMMENDATION

For information only.


Purpose:

This purpose of this report is to provide council an overview of the Village of Ashcroft FireSmart program year 1 to date.

Prepared by:

Gwen Dost
Gwen Dost,
FireSmart Coordinator

Approved for submission to Council:


Daniela Dyck,
Chief Administrative Officer

Background

I was excited to accept the position of FireSmart coordinator in May 2025 which then kicked off the first year of the Village of Ashcroft FireSmart program.

Community Education

This first year focused on educating the public on FireSmart principles and planning for year 2 of the program. To date I have organized and attended 5 FireSmart community education events.

- FireSmart information table at the water meter public information open house
- FireSmart information table at the Canada Day celebration in Ashcroft
- FireSmart information BBQ at Interior Savings Insurance
- FireSmart information table at the Community BBQ at the Ashcroft pool park
- FireSmart information table pop-up outside the Ashcroft post office

All the events were well attended, with much of the interest in the community being around home assessments and what can be done about a few ‘problem’ properties in the village. Another common concern at each event came from the residents of Villa Fronterra regarding the cedar shrubs that surround the complex and what to do with them. This is something that I will look at with them in year 2 of the program.

Critical Infrastructure Assessments

As part of the first-year plan, I have completed 16 critical infrastructure assessments within the village. Critical infrastructure is the buildings, treatment plants, pump stations, etc. that are vital to the daily operations and health of our community. These assessments come with recommendations and will be looked at further next year while we are planning mitigation work around the village. There are 5 critical infrastructures that are not village operated, so those need permission to access and will be completed early next year.

Library Program

A library program has been set up in accordance with FireSmart BC recommendations. This includes children's books and activity sheets that the Ashcroft library is now in possession of and can use for educating children in fire resiliency. The books vary in age from very young to adolescent.

Accreditation Obtained

I have obtained the recommended accreditation to operate in the FireSmart coordinator role. To date, this includes:

- FireSmart 101 – completed May 2025
- Wildfire Risk Reduction – completed May 2025
- LFR Local FireSmart Representative – completed June 2025
- FireSmart Canada Ambassador Training – completed October 2025
- EOC training with the Village of Ashcroft - ongoing

Conclusion

Overall, it has been a successful first year with effective public engagement and education of residents. People are now recognising that there is a FireSmart program for the village and are excited to have home assessments done next year. I will continue to work with the residents of Ashcroft to build fire resiliency in our village.

As we prepare to close out the first year of the program ahead of the September 2026 deadline, some of the Year 1 funding will remain unspent due to restrictions on eligible expenditures and the limited timeframe available for implementation. Nonetheless, we are looking forward to the new funding allocation for Year 2. The Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan (CWRP) is anticipated to be completed early in the new year, and once approved by BC Wildfire, it will position the Village to apply for Round 2 funding and begin implementing the recommended wildfire mitigation projects.

From: Eric Lee <elee@campaign-office.com>

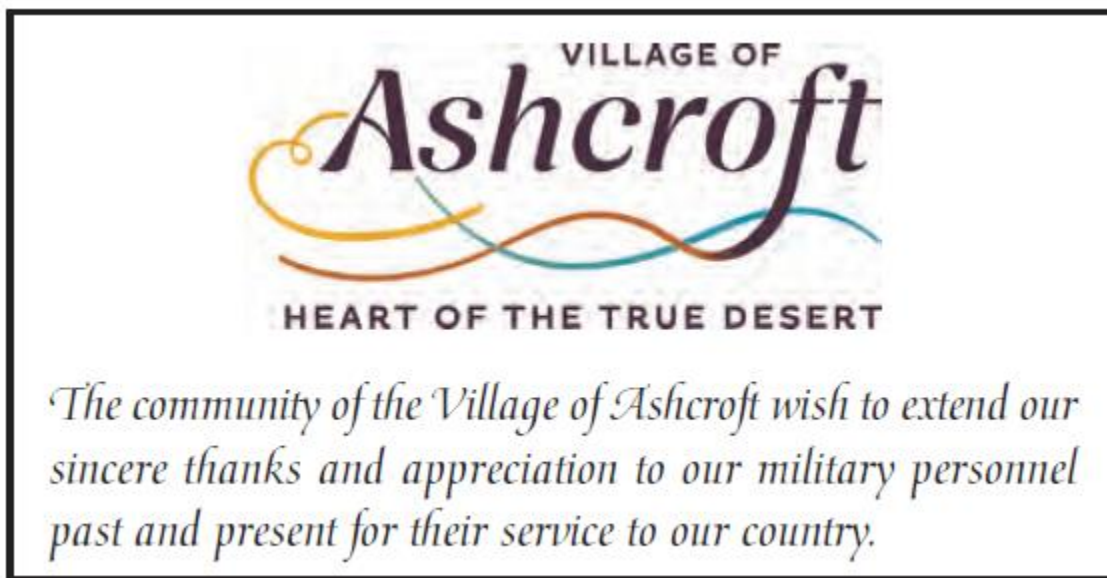
Sent: October 30, 2025 12:02 PM

To: Kris Hardy <ea@ashcroftbc.ca>

Subject: BC/YUKON COMMAND OF THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION- 21st Anniversary Edition of the Military Service Recognition Book

Thanks for all your support. We would love to have your kind support again this year it's our special milestone the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Legion, so we are asking everyone if they wanted to do something extra special this year;

I see you helped last year with the business card, we would love to upgrade you to a ¼ page ad? We could have our graphics team take the same ad you did last year and design something larger, potentially add a poppy at the bottom right for no extra cost.



Following our recent phone conversation, I am pleased to share with you the **Advertisement Letter** and **Rate Sheet** for the **British Columbia / Yukon Command of The Royal Canadian Legion's 21st Annual Edition** of the "**Military Service Recognition Book**." This special edition will be a digital publication available on our website: <https://www.legionbcyukon.ca/what-we-do/military-service-recognition-book>. This platform will allow everyone to view and download the publication, helping us continue to honor and recognize our Veterans.

This edition will feature biographies and photographs of both past and present-day Veterans. With contributions from Veterans, their families, and friends, we gather submissions through local legion branches. The next edition is set for release in **November 2026**, just ahead of our Annual Remembrance Day Ceremonies.

We would be grateful for your support and appreciation of our Veterans by considering an advertisement in this upcoming edition. Should you need more information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to reply to this email or call me at the toll-free number provided below. I will also follow up with you soon.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Eric Lee

Advertising Rep/ Military Service Recognition Book

BC/Yukon Command

Royal Canadian Legion Campaign Office

1-866-354-6277

Ad copy can be sent to: bccl@fenety.com





Legion

www.legionbcyukon.ca

British Columbia / Yukon Command The Royal Canadian Legion

“Military Service Recognition Book”

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for your interest in the **BC/Yukon Command / The Royal Canadian Legion**, representing **British Columbia** and the **Yukon’s Veterans**. Please accept this written request for your support, as per our recent telephone conversation.

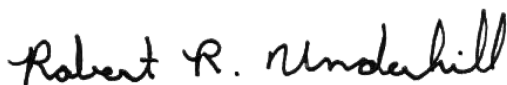
Our **BC/Yukon Command Legion** are very proud to be preparing their **21st Annual "Military Service Recognition Book"** that recognizes and honors our local veterans. This annual publication goes a long way to help the Legion in our job as the **“Keepers of Remembrance”**, so that none of us forget the selfless contributions made by our **Veterans**. Again, this will be a digital publication.

We would like to have your organization’s support for this Remembrance project by sponsoring an advertisement space in our **“Military Service Recognition Book** proceeds raised from this annual campaign also provide funding for the benefit of **Veterans and Military Service Personnel** including programs for trauma and post-traumatic stress injuries for the increased and complex needs of **British Columbia’s Modern veterans**. and will also help our Command to improve our services to **Veterans** and the more than 140 communities that we serve throughout British Columbia and the Yukon. The Legion is recognized as one of Canada’s largest **“Community Service”** organizations, and we are an integral part of the communities we serve. This project ensures the Legion’s continued success in providing these very worthwhile services.

Please find enclosed a rate sheet for your review, along with a detailed list of some of the many community activities in our **149 Branches and 80 Ladies Auxiliaries** in the **BC/Yukon Command**. Whatever you are able to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor would be greatly appreciated. For further information please contact **BC/Yukon Command Office** toll free at **1-866-354-6277**.

Thank you for your consideration and/or support.

Sincerely,



Robert Underhill

President of BC/Yukon Command of The Royal Canadian Legion



MSR Guide



Legion

www.legionbcyukon.ca

British Columbia / Yukon Command The Royal Canadian Legion

“Military Service Recognition Book”

Advertising Prices

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>GST</u>	<u>Total</u>
Full Colour Outside Back Cover	\$2,071.43	+ \$103.57	= \$2,175.00
Inside Front/Back Cover (Full Colour)	\$2019.05	+ \$100.95	= \$2120.00
Full Colour 2-Page Spread (COLOUR)	\$3,950.00	+ \$188.10	= \$3,950.00
Full Page (Full Colour) 7" X 9.735"	\$1,880.95	+ \$94.05	= \$1,975.00
Full Page B&W 7" X 9.735"	\$1,257.14	+ \$62.86	= \$1,320.00
½ Page (Full Colour) 7" X 4.735"	\$1,100.00	+ \$55.00	= \$1,155.00
½ Page B&W 7" X 4.735"	\$752.38	+ \$37.62	= \$790.00
¼ Page (Full Colour) 3.375" X 4.735"	\$680.95	+ \$34.05	= \$715.00
¼ Page B&W 3.375" X 4.735"	\$533.33	+ \$26.67	= \$560.00
1/10 Page (Business Card-Full Colour) 3.375" X 1.735"	\$366.67	+ \$18.33	= \$385.00
1/10 Page B&W (Business Card) 3.375" X 1.735"	\$ 314.29	+ \$15.71	= \$330.00

G.S.T. Registration # R10 793 3913

All typesetting and layout charges are included in the above prices.

A complimentary Certificate of Appreciation will be received by all advertisers purchasing space of 1/10 page and up, as a show of appreciation from the BC/Yukon Command.



PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:

BC/Yukon Command
The Royal Canadian Legion
(BC/Y RCL)
(Campaign Office)
P O Box 5555
Vancouver, BC V6B 4B5





November 4, 2025

CLIFF: 186662

To: All Local Government Chief Administrative Officers and Corporate Officers

Re: [Order-in-Council \(OIC\) 478/25](#)

As you may be aware, on October 27, 2025, OIC 478/25 was passed in the Legislature. This OIC amends the [Local Government Elections Regulation, B.C. Reg. 380/93](#), which sets out the classes of documents that may be accepted as evidence when an elector is registering to vote in local elections.

This amendment expands the list of acceptable identity documents to be more inclusive of Indigenous voters and adds certainty that the following documents can be used as forms of identification when registering to vote in local elections:

- a document, issued by the government of Canada, that certifies that the applicant is registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act* (Canada), such as a status card,
- a citizenship or membership card issued by a First Nation, and
- a citizenship card issued by Métis Nation British Columbia.

The use of these forms of identification, issued by a First Nation governing body or the Métis Nation British Columbia, in the local government voter registration process is for the purposes of verifying the identity of an applicant and/or the place of residence. It is important to note that election officials are not responsible for interpreting the validity of a citizenship or membership card.

While preparing for local elections, we encourage local governments to connect with neighbouring [First Nations](#) and [Métis Nation British Columbia](#). This can be helpful for familiarizing oneself with issued citizenship or membership cards and incorporating training for election officials.

If you have questions regarding this amendment, please contact our Governance and Structure Branch by phone at: 250-387-4020 or by email at: LGGovernance@gov.bc.ca.

Updated election resources, including guides for candidates and electors, will be available on our [website](#) closer to the 2026 general local elections.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tara Faganello". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tara" being more prominent.

Tara Faganello
Assistant Deputy Minister
Local Government Division
Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs

Interior Health calls young artists to join Beyond the Buzz 2.0: Youth Voices on Substance Use

October 30, 2025

Interior Health (IH) is asking young artists to share their thoughts and experience in its annual youth poster contest, [Beyond the Buzz 2.0: Youth Voices on Substance Use](#), for a chance to win a gift card of \$150 of their choice.

Young people are the experts when it comes to understanding why youth use tobacco and vape, and how it impacts them, their friends, family, school and community – it's critical to hear their voices. The poster contest is intended to engage schools, families, communities – and most importantly students – in meaningful conversations about substance use.

Contest details

Students from Grade 6 to 12 within the IH region are invited to submit original artwork in the form of a poster, illustration or infographic in one of the following themed categories:

Alcohol: Choices on Tap: Alcohol, Youth & Consequences

Tobacco: Tobacco impact: Commercial Tobacco's Environmental & Community Legacy*

Vape: Unmask the Vapour: Nicotine, Addiction & Hidden Dangers

Cannabis: Mind at Risk: Cannabis, Brain Development & Youth Well-Being

*Commercial tobacco is not reflective of traditional, ceremonial, sacred and medicinal uses of raw tobacco by Indigenous, and other cultures.

The contest, underway now with entries due by 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 15, 2025, is split into two age brackets: one contest for youth in Grades 6 to 8, and the other for youth in Grades 9 to 12. The contest themes will remain the same for both age groups.

A panel of teen judges from IH's YOUTHWISE Advisory Council will select a winning poster for each theme within each age bracket. The winners will receive a gift card of \$150 in value and have their artwork professionally printed and shared with their school district, shared throughout the IH region and displayed on IH's social media channels and website.

The winners will be announced during the week of Jan. 18, 2026 – National Non-Smoking Week.

For more information about the contest and how to enter, visit interiorhealth.ca/takeabreath.

October 22, 2025

Mayor Barbara Roden
Village of Ashcroft
Box 129
Ashcroft, BC V0K 1A0



Dear Mayor Roden:

Re: Provincial Response to 2024 Resolutions

UBCM has received the Province's response to your Council resolution(s) from 2024. Please find the enclosed resolution(s) and their provincial response(s).

All responses from the Province have been posted to the UBCM web site under Resolutions & Policy.

Please feel free to contact Jamee Justason, Resolutions and Policy Analyst, if you have any questions about this process.

Tel: 604.270.8226 ext. 100 Email: jjustason@ubcm.ca

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Cori Ramsay".

Councillor Cori Ramsay
UBCM President

Enclosure

Whereas operational costs for the provisions of rural transit services continue to escalate in this inflationary environment;

And whereas BC Transit budget projections for existing small rural transit services appear to have a higher percentage cost increase for community partners than the Province:

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM urge the provincial government to consider the unique challenges faced by small rural transit services and consider the diverse needs of these communities;

And be it further resolved that the provincial government through BC Transit adjust the funding formula for anticipated annual operational increases to a fair and equal cost-share formula between BC Transit and community partners.

Convention Decision: Endorsed

Provincial Response

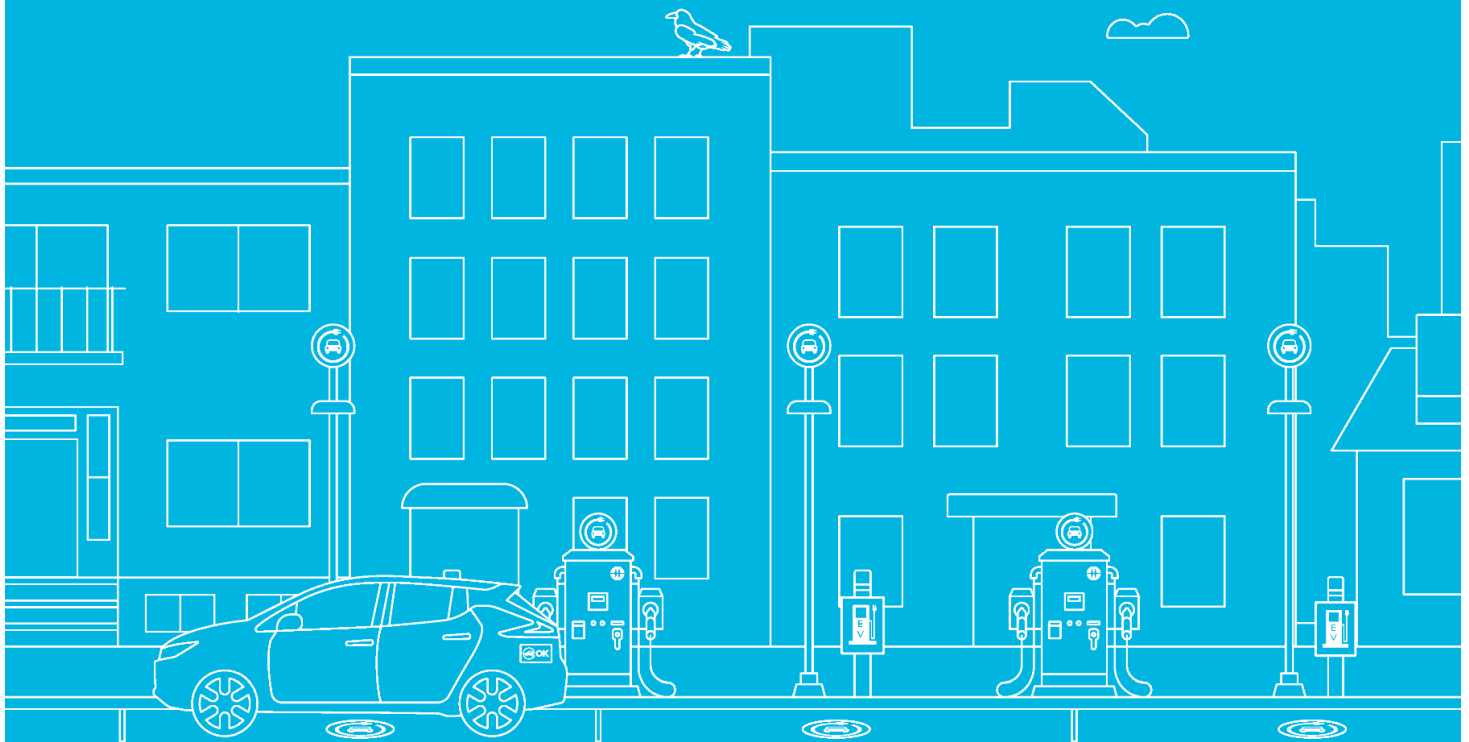
Ministry of Transportation and Transit

It is important for people to have safe, affordable and accessible travel choices. The Ministry of Transportation and Transit has been exploring passenger transportation in rural areas and between communities and recognizes the unique transportation challenges faced by rural communities. Public transit is one of many shared mobility options available to communities in BC, along with services offered by the private or non-profit sector, such as inter-city or community buses and shuttles, taxis and ride hail, car share, school transportation, and health transportation services.

Under the BC Transit model, local governments are responsible for requesting service from BC Transit that meets the needs of their community and that they are willing to cost-share. They are also responsible for setting fares and receiving the fare revenue to contribute to their share of costs. Lower density areas typically have lower ridership on all forms of passenger transportation, which impacts fare-recovery.

The Province cost-shares in all BC Transit services and since 2017 the Province has increased BC Transit's operating funding by more than 70 percent (from \$108 million in 2017/18 to \$184 million in 2025/26) with a further planned increase of four percent by 2027/28.

EV Site Host Update



Fall 2025

EV Site Host Update: Fall Edition

Welcome to the Fall 2025 edition of the BC Hydro EV Site Host Update. As we begin to wrap up the year, we're sharing key network updates, engagement opportunities, and how your partnership is helping power B.C.'s clean transportation future.

Site Host Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the June Site Host Survey. Your feedback is important to us and helps us improve our EV Site Host program. Here are some key takeaways:

100%

Satisfaction with BC Hydro
As an EV charging provider

Hosts satisfied or
very satisfied overall

93%

86%

Satisfaction with site host
support and communication

71%

Satisfaction with
technical support

85%

Of hosts felt construction met
expectations, though some
hosts noted issues with
scheduling and reseeding.

Additional insights highlighted barriers like **parking limitations, charger compatibility, more proactive updates on charger maintenance, lack of signage or tourism promotion.**

Some sample comments from you:

- "Better communication ahead of time for tree removal requirements."
- "Tourism ads could help show how affordable it is to travel BC with an EV."
- "We'd like more proactive updates when stations are down."
- "Parking lot operations sometimes conflict with charger access."
- "Dual-port chargers would help reduce wait times."



To better support our site hosts, BC Hydro is committing to the following:



Improve communication during construction and outages

We will work to develop a more proactive notification process with construction and operations teams. *I've contacted some of you already to discuss charger issues.*



Promote EV charging benefits

Initiate discussions with our corporate communications team to highlight EV travel affordability and accessibility, while also potentially exploring partnerships with BC-based tourism companies.



Clarify pricing and enhance signage

Ensure pricing and parking details are clear during planning and construction.



Improve app notifications and physical signage

We'll work with both our customer experience and app teams to improve digital and physical notifications for better user awareness.

If you'd like to discuss these topics or have other ideas to drive traffic to your sites, please let me know: scott.petrie@bchydro.com.

BC Hydro EV updates

Below are the upcoming new, expanded, and current sites under construction.

New:

- Langley events Centre (expanded site) – **18 ports**.
- Port Alberni Save-on Foods – **8 ports**.

Coming soon:

- Vernon Performing Arts Centre – **10 ports**
- BCIT Campus – **8 ports**
- Pitt Meadows Athletic Park – **12 ports**



Technology Upgrades

- 350 kW chargers now available at select sites (add up to 100 km of range in 5 mins)
- 400 kW chargers launching this fall (100 km of range in 3 minutes)
- NACS (Tesla) connector support added to new sites.



BC Hydro EV updates

We are also excited to announce our recent acquisition of 88 charging ports at 28 EV charging sites that were previously operated by the Ministry of Transportation. Many of these sites include a mix of fast chargers and Level 2 chargers and are located along major corridors and highways. These sites will now benefit from BC Hydro's regular maintenance, customer support, and reliability standards. **To date, we've successfully acquired and re-opened the following sites:**

- Mount Terry Fox rest area – **3 ports**
- Slim Creek Rest area – **3 ports**
- Cluculz rest area – **3 ports**
- Savory Rest area – **3 ports**
- Boulder Creek Rest area – **3 ports**
- Mount Robson Visitors Centre – **6 ports**
- Redhill Rest Area – **3 ports**



The remainder of the sites will be opened in the coming months.

Fall Readiness for your site

- Ensure charger areas are clear of leaves and debris/garbage
- Check lighting and visibility as daylight hours shorten
- Confirm signage is visible and up-to-date

BC Hydro network reliability

Our fast-charging network continues to deliver approximately 99% uptime, thanks to proactive maintenance and 24/7 technical support. If you or your customers encounter any issues, our EV support team is always available at:

evsupport@bchydro.com

1-866-338-3369



Feature your EV site – photo submissions wanted



We're launching a new feature in our monthly EV network member newsletter, and your site could be in the spotlight! All you need to do is share a photo of your EV charger(s) in action and a short testimonial about your experience as a BC Hydro site host.

Why participate?

- **Showcase your site** to over **60,000+** opted-in BC Hydro EV network members
- **Drive more traffic** to your location and highlight your support for clean transportation
- **Potential to be featured** on our social media channels and help promote EV adoption across BC.
- **We've made it super easy:** Just email me to let me know you're interested, and I'll share some tips and tricks for capturing the best photos:
scott.petrie@bchydro.com.

If you're selected, I'll reach out for a short testimonial about your experience as a BC Hydro site host. This is a great way to share your story, celebrate your community, and inspire others to join the movement.

Thanks again for being a valued partner. We can't wait to feature your site!





NEWS RELEASE

TNRD Board Chair and Vice-Chair Acclaimed for Upcoming Year

Kamloops, BC – November 6, 2025 – During the Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) inaugural Board of Directors Meeting on November 6, Village of Ashcroft Director Barbara Roden was acclaimed as Chair, and District of Logan Lake Director Robin Smith was acclaimed as Vice-Chair for the upcoming year.

Provincial legislation requires regional district boards to hold annual elections for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair at the inaugural meeting, which is the first Board of Directors meeting after November 1 each year. During a call for nominations, only one nomination was made for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair, resulting in the acclamation of these positions.

“It’s an honour to lead the TNRD Board of Directors into the fourth and final year of this term. We are facing challenges, but I know that the teamwork we have developed over the past three years will help us as we work to serve the people of this beautiful region,” said Chair Roden.

“I’m very happy to be working with Vice-Chair Robin Smith and my fellow Directors to carry out our strategic plan and make the TNRD an even better place to live, work, and thrive.”

Roden and Smith have served as the Board’s respective Chair and Vice-Chair since November 2022, which became the first time that a female Chair and Vice-Chair served during the same term since the TNRD’s inception in 1967. Roden has served on the TNRD Board since 2018, and Smith has served since 2013.

About the TNRD Board of Directors:

The Board of Directors is the governing body of the TNRD, and includes 27 elected officials:

- One Director from each of the 10 TNRD Electoral Areas;
- One Director from each of the 10 smaller TNRD Member Municipalities; and
- Seven Directors from the City of Kamloops.

For more information about the TNRD Board, visit: tnrd.ca/board-of-directors

Media Contact:

Colton Davies, Communications Manager
Thompson-Nicola Regional District
Tel.: 250 377-6299
Email: cdavies@tnrd.ca



Chief of Police – North America
Chef de la police – Amérique du Nord
CN
935 de La Gauchetière Street West/Ouest
Montréal, Québec, H3B 2M9
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T 514-399-6113

Corporate Headquarters
Siège Social Corporatif
935 de La Gauchetière St. W
3rd Floor/étage
Montreal, Quebec
H3B 2M9, Canada

Regional Headquarters
Siège Social Regional
17641 South Ashland Ave
2nd Floor/étage
Homewood, Illinois
60430, United States

DIVISIONS:

Pacific/Pacifique
11717 – 138th Street
Surrey, British Columbia
V3R 6T5, Canada

Mountain/Montagne
10229 – 127th Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5E 0B9, Canada

Prairie
821 Lagimodiere Blvd
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2J 0T8, Canada

Great Lakes/Grands Lacs
1 Administration Road
Vaughan, Ontario
L4K 1B9, Canada

Champlain
4500 Hickmore Street
Montreal, Quebec
H4T 1K2, Canada

North/Nord
700 Pershing Avenue
Pontiac, Michigan
48340, United States

Central/Centrale
15840 West Avenue
Harvey, Illinois
60426, United States

South/Sud
2921 Old Horn Lake Road
Memphis, Tennessee
38109, United States

CN Emergency Communication
Centre / Centre de
Communication D'urgence du CN

1-800-465-9239 (option 3)

October 31, 2025

Subject: CN Police want you to Stay Safe this Winter

No matter where you live, chances are you will face some challenging driving conditions in the months ahead. Freezing rain, snow, sleet and whiteouts can make winter driving downright dangerous.

In fact, according to the Transportation Safety Board data, railway crossing incidents increase during the winter months. This is due to many factors, including:

- Ice and snow making it harder for drivers to stop and maneuver their vehicles;
- Snow covered roadways that hide pavement markings.
- Blowing snow, fog, and sleet that reduce visibility.
- Snowbanks and snow in trees reducing sight lines;

Following these simple tips can help keep you and your family safe when you encounter train tracks this winter:

Winter driving presents serious challenges due to snow, ice, and reduced visibility. To stay safe, it is important to plan ahead by checking weather forecasts for both your current location and your destination. If conditions worsen while driving, stop at a safe location and wait until it is safe to continue.

Slow down in poor weather conditions, especially near railway crossings. Reduced speed gives you more time to react and avoid collisions. Stay focused and turn off distractions like radios and fans, roll down your window if visibility is poor, and listen carefully for approaching trains. Snow and fog can mask both visual and auditory cues.

Watch for railway warning signs, especially at night or when snow covers the tracks, making them appear like part of the roadway. Use winter tires, which offer better grip in cold conditions compared to all-season tires. Finally, never drive impaired, alcohol and drugs reduce your ability to react and make safe decisions.

Remember "**Any time is train time**". **Be rail-smart** this winter: **Look. Listen. Live.**

Sincerely,

Shawn Will
Chief Security Officer & Police Chief

Leading CN to be the safest and most secure railway in North America.

Faire du CN le chemin de fer le plus sûr et le plus sécuritaire en Amérique du Nord.

PRELIMINARY FINDINGS ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE *HERITAGE CONSERVATION ACT*

November 5, 2025

Note to the reader: This interim report will be combined with feedback received during webinars with UBCM members on November 7, 2025. A final report will be shared with the Province on November 14, 2025 and published on www.ubcm.ca.

Executive Summary

This report consolidates feedback from a survey and outreach strategy to CAOs – or their designated technical staff – of UBCM member local governments and First Nations. The survey asked senior and technical staff to consider 50+ changes to the *Heritage Conservation Act* (HCA) as proposed by the provincial Ministry of Forests. For each proposed change, respondents assessed its potential impacts on local government and First Nation administration and operations, as well as broader implications on infrastructure projects, housing and other development, residents and the business community.

Respondents expressed broad conceptual support for reconciliation, the involvement of Indigenous leadership in the development process and modernization of the *Act*.

Specifically, the results show strong support for:

- Faster and potentially simplified permitting process,
- Specific policies and flexibility in addressing disaster recovery situations,
- Stronger role for First Nations in heritage protection and enforcement, and
- Broadening the effort to protect heritage resources.

However, there is near unanimous concern that the proposed changes are rushed, policies are underdeveloped and future implementation processes potentially unfunded. Local governments expressed deep concerns about financial burdens, private and public project delays and the potential for negative public reactions regarding the impacts of the proposed changes on private property rights. They also identified risks of increased costs, administrative burdens, legal uncertainty and inconsistent regional implementation.

CAOs and technical staff overwhelmingly support a “pause” to allow for a broad based and meaningful planning process. This would make possible:

- Co-development of policies that takes into consideration the realities of operating local governments and First Nation governments side by side,
- Adequate resourcing from local and First Nation governments, and
- A strategy for a phased implementation.

It is important to note that First Nations members expressed deep concern that UBCM member engagement on proposed changes to the HCA could come across as broad opposition and derail progress towards modernizing the HCA.

In their comments on the survey, CAOs and technical staff suggested that the provincial government could take the following actions:

- Co-design reforms with First Nations, local governments and archaeology professionals,
- Fund and staff implementation at all levels, both within the provincial government and through the provision of funding to First Nations and local governments,
- Clarify legal and procedural questions before legislating, and
- Pilot new mechanisms – such as Heritage Management Plans and enforcement models – before full rollout.

Without these measures, respondents warn the reforms could increase confusion, delay projects and erode trust, undermining both reconciliation and effective heritage stewardship.

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Background

The *Heritage Conservation Act* was adopted in 1996. In 2019, the legislature unanimously adopted the *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (DRIPA, or the Declaration Act). This made BC the first jurisdiction in Canada to adopt the United Nations *Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples* (UN Declaration) as a framework for reconciliation. Section 3 of the Declaration Act in part mandates the Province to bring all provincial legislation into alignment with the principles of the UN Declaration.

First Nations, local governments and key stakeholder groups have raised concerns about the implementation of the HCA. In response, the Province undertook an [initiative](#) to update the HCA in 2021.

The first two phases of the Heritage Conservation Act Transformation Project (HCATP) involved engagement with local governments, First Nations and industry on areas of the HCA that needed improvement or change. Phase 1 took place in the summer and fall of 2022, and Phase 2 in fall 2023. Following Phases 1 and 2, the Province formed a Joint Working Group on First Nations Heritage Conservation, which included members appointed by the First Nations Leadership Council working alongside provincial staff. This group worked to identify potential changes to be incorporated in legislative amendments to the current HCA.

Initially, the Province shared a Primer on proposed changes to the HCA with local governments in August of 2025, offering a webinar for local governments on August 8, with a deadline of October 1, 2025 for final comments from local governments, industry and the public. UBCM understood that the intent was to obtain local government and other stakeholder feedback and then table legislation for adoption in spring 2026. In September 2025 during the UBCM Annual Convention, the Province extended the deadline to November 14 to allow for more comprehensive engagement with UBCM members.

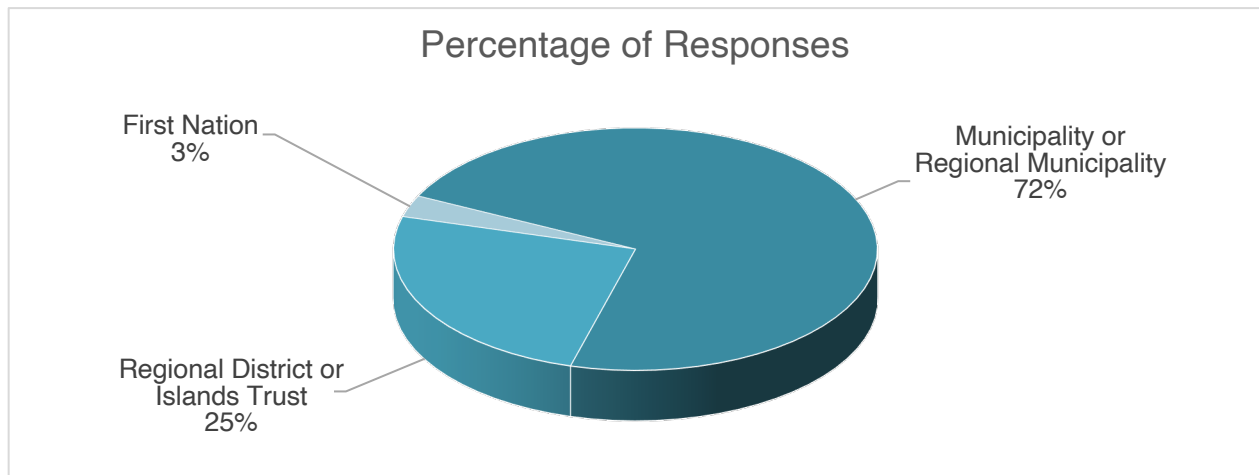
UBCM Member Engagement

The process to obtain more comprehensive input from UBCM members includes a confidential survey of CAOs of local governments and UBCM member First Nations; a webinar for elected officials from First Nations members; and a separate webinar for all UBCM members, both local government and First Nations. Consultant Randy Diehl conducted outreach to encourage CAOs to complete the survey and seek in-depth feedback via targeted interviews with CAOs.

UBCM will incorporate the feedback from all aspects of the member engagement process – survey responses, CAO interviews, webinar comments and discussion, and written submissions from members – into an official submission on November 14 to the Province on behalf of UBCM members.

UBCM is comprised of 189 local government members and 13 First Nation members. The survey received responses from 66 local governments (35%) and two First Nations (15%). The outreach program connected via email with 150 CAOs and conducted 15 in-depth interviews. The response rate as a percentage of total local governments and First Nations members reflects good regional and CAO representation.

Type of local government or First Nation as a percentage of responses



Current Legislative Framework

The Primer released by the Ministry of Forests, as well as comments from CAOs and technical staff responding to the survey, identifies a range of challenges with the current HCA legislative framework.

- The permitting process requires three permits from the Province, the process of which is time-consuming and costly for provincial staff and proponents.
- Not all local governments wait for permits under the HCA prior to issuing a building permit or approving a subdivision.
- There are no requirements for local government to prepare Heritage Conservation Plans which would proactively identify critical heritage values within the community.

- There is a lack of clarity on what constitutes a low impact site versus a high impact site. Consequently, there is wasted resources studying situations that have little or no value.
- There are no emergency provisions to override the HCA quickly and effectively for areas that have been severely impacted by catastrophic events.
- There is no clear direction on what constitutes a large versus a small project, and consequently, how to mitigate the site for heritage protection.
- Local governments have experienced significant costs and delays in the issuance of permits for infrastructure projects and housing.
- The Act governing the archaeology profession does not acknowledge or allow for less qualified junior and knowledgeable Indigenous members to work on smaller or less complicated sites.
- The process to identify and quantify intangible sites is ambiguous and requires clear direction.
- Fines for impacting heritage sites or disregarding permit conditions are minimal and lack deterrent value.
- First Nations have limited authority in managing and protecting heritage resources.
- Confusing due to unclear overlaps between local, provincial and Indigenous responsibilities.
- Inequitable, with smaller or rural municipalities bearing disproportionate burdens.
- Lack of communication from the Archaeology Branch.
- Poor data sharing and accountability among consultants.

Key Findings from Survey

1. General Support for Modernization and Reconciliation

Respondents widely agree that the current HCA is outdated and fails to reflect Indigenous values or provide consistent protection. The proposed reforms are seen as a positive opportunity to embed reconciliation, modern governance and proactive planning. Supportive feedback emphasizes:

- Recognition of First Nations' cultural authority and rights to protect heritage,
- Alignment of the HCA with UN Declaration and DRIPA principles, and
- The need for shared decision-making frameworks that respect Indigenous law.

However, even those supportive of reform stress that support is conditional on:

- Adequate funding and staff capacity for implementation,
- Clear legal definitions and consistent procedures, and
- Co-designed processes developed with both First Nations and local governments.

2. Intangible Heritage Values

The protection of Intangible Heritage Values is embodied in the general language of the current HCA, however, it is not widely understood or utilized. Proposed changes seek to elevate the importance of this heritage value but there is a lack of clarity regarding how this will be done. The proposed changes stipulate that recognition of intangible heritage values will not impact development projects, but there is no clear path on how this will be so. Many respondents advocate either that it be struck in its entirety or more clearly defined.

3. Competing Societal Values

Except in the case of disaster relief, other competing societal needs are not considered. Specifically, heritage values versus infrastructure maintenance, building affordable housing – or meeting provincially mandated housing targets. In many cases under the current HCA, local governments experienced significant and costly delays for sites that in the final determination did not contain heritage artifacts.

4. Unfair Application of Regulations

Federal and reserve lands are not subject to the same requirements under the HCA as provincial crown and privately held land. This is viewed as being unfair and not conducive to a goal of protecting heritage values on all lands in BC.

5. Concerns with the Provincial Consultation Process

Most submissions describe the provincial consultation process as vague, rushed and overly complex. They report being unable to give informed input due to:

- Limited information about specific legislative changes,
- Lack of plain-language explanations and real-world examples, and
- Over 50 proposed amendments presented without clear prioritization.

Respondents urge the Province to pause the legislative timeline, provide draft language for review and hold direct region by region engagement sessions with local governments, First Nations and industry before drafting new legislation.

6. Roles, Jurisdiction and Governance

Unclear Division of Responsibilities

The most consistent concern noted in the survey is ambiguity over roles between the Province, First Nations and local governments. Local government respondents emphasize:

- They have no constitutional authority to consult or accommodate under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act*,
- They must not be placed “in the middle” of Crown-First Nation relationships, and
- The province must remain the primary regulatory authority and fund consultation processes.

Shared Decision-Making and Indigenous Authority

Respondents are divided:

- Many support shared governance and Indigenous-led protection frameworks.
- Others worry that expanding First Nations’ authority, particularly over private or local government lands, could lead to jurisdictional conflict, legal challenges, or duplicated permitting.

Stakeholders recommend that shared decision-making should initially apply only to Crown lands, and evolve over time through co-developed agreements and pilot projects.

Overlapping Territorial Claims

There is no guidance on addressing overlapping territorial claims, which introduces the risk of regulatory fragmentation and uncertainty. Local governments, developers and private property owners should not be responsible for resolving jurisdictional differences between First Nations. The Act should set out conflict resolution protocols for overlapping claims.

7. Capacity, Resourcing and Staffing

All groups identify capacity constraints as a major barrier to successful reform.

- Provincial staff shortages within the Archaeology Branch have already caused severe backlogs.
- There are too few qualified archaeologists, which causes escalating costs and long delays of 9 months to 2 years.
- First Nations and local governments lack funding and expertise to manage new responsibilities.

Respondents call for dedicated provincial funding, training programs and shared data systems to support local and Indigenous participation. Without this, they warn that the new system will fail operationally and there will be an increase in costs and more processing delays.

8. Costs, Delays and Economic Impacts

Respondents stress that the current HCA system already causes major project delays and financial strain, particularly for housing, infrastructure and emergency repairs. They warn that reforms could worsen bottlenecks without major investment in staff and process streamlining. Key concerns include:

- Longer permitting times due to added consultation steps,
- Higher costs from mandatory archaeological studies, and
- Potential impacts on housing affordability and infrastructure delivery.

Many local government respondents propose target timelines for permit modifications (e.g., 30 days) and emergency exemptions to avoid project paralysis.

9. Heritage Management Tools

Remote Access Archaeological Data (RAAD)

RAAD mapping is not accurate and needs significant updating. Reliance on the mapping may negatively impact private property values and local government land even though there may not be any inherent heritage value on the land. The RAAD mapping system needs significant updating.

Heritage Management Plans (HMPs)

Respondents see value in HMPs as proactive, co-designed tools for protecting heritage and improving predictability. However, they caution that the proposal is conceptually sound, but its implementation is not clearly set out. Key concerns include:

- Undefined scope (project vs. area-based; Crown vs. private land),
- Unclear legal status (guidance vs. binding authority), and
- Cost and capacity impacts on smaller local governments and First Nations.

Respondents recommend pilot projects, provincial funding and integrated planning guidance to test the approach before mandating HMPs.

Heritage Management Zones

Support exists for integrating Indigenous cultural landscapes into planning, but respondents recommend that zones:

- Be co-developed, not imposed,
- Align with existing planning frameworks (e.g., Official Community Plans),
- Include clear criteria and funding to prevent duplication or conflict, and
- Include funding to update heritage mapping.

10. Compliance and Enforcement

First Nations' Role in Enforcement

There is general agreement that First Nations should have a stronger role in heritage monitoring, compliance and enforcement, recognizing their cultural authority and land-based presence. However, respondents wonder whether there could be legal and practical risks:

- Would there be a conflict of interest if First Nations enforce HCA requirements on their own cultural heritage sites?
- The proposed changes do not outline mechanisms to ensure neutrality and consistency across jurisdictions, and
- Unclear powers, such as entry rights or authority over private land.

Respondents support a model where the Province retains oversight and delegates enforcement selectively through formal agreements with trained First Nations that have developed compliance and enforcement capacity within their organizations.

Fines and Monetary Penalties

Respondents support higher penalties to deter violations as an alternative to the current court order process, but warn of:

- Inconsistency and potential bias if fines are locally administered and become a local revenue source, and
- Unclear collection and appeals processes.

Recommendations from respondents include a provincially managed penalty framework, standardized training and transparent appeals procedures.

11. Education, Communication and Transparency

Respondents emphasize the need for:

- Public education on heritage responsibilities,
- Training for local and Indigenous governments on new processes, and
- Accessible data and transparent permitting systems (e.g., integrated with LTSA or registry tools).

Better communication is seen as essential to reduce misunderstandings, improve compliance and support reconciliation.

Summary of Respondent Recommendations

Theme	Key Recommendations
Consultation & Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pause legislative drafting – Co-develop detailed materials – Provide draft text for review – Hold regional engagement sessions
Resourcing & Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fund provincial and local staff – Create Indigenous and municipal training programs – Expand archaeologist workforce – Address conflict of interest in contract awarding
Governance Clarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Retain provincial oversight – Define roles clearly – Formalize shared decision-making through agreements
Permitting & Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Streamline and digitize processes – Enforce target timelines – Enable emergency exemptions
Heritage Management Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Pilot co-developed plans – Integrate with land-use frameworks – Provide financial support – Update Heritage mapping
Compliance & Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish standardized procedures, appeals and training – Avoid financial conflicts – Maintain provincial consistency – Apply regulations to federal and reserve lands
Public Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Launch awareness campaigns – Publish plain-language resources – Improve data transparency
Integration & Alignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Align HCA with LGA, Emergency Management and Housing Acts – Clarify legal definitions and responsibilities – Consider trade-offs with other critical societal values (e.g., housing & infrastructure)

UBCM expresses concern with private members bill

Publishing Date

November 6, 2025

MLA George Anderson, Parliamentary Secretary for Transit, has brought forward a private member's bill that would apply a professional reliance model to local approvals. If passed, this legislation would require that, with limited exceptions, local governments accept submissions certified by registered professionals including engineers and architects as meeting permit or bylaw requirements. UBCM was not consulted on this legislation before its introduction and has significant concerns with the proposed approach that would erode local approval authorities.

Overview of Legislation

If approved, Bill M 216 – 2025 [Professional Reliance Act](#), would require that: “A local government must accept, as meeting permit or bylaw requirements, any submission certified by a PGA professional acting within their regulated scope of practice, unless

- (a) the submission is incomplete, or
- (b) a complaint in respect of the submission has been made to the superintendent.”

In this context, a “PGA professional” is a registrant in good standing of a regulatory body set out in Schedule 1 to the *Professional Governance Act*. This includes engineers and architects, as well as agrologists, applied science technologists and technicians, biologists and forest professionals. It does not include Registered Professional Planners. In addition, “the superintendent” refers to the superintendent appointed pursuant to section 4 of the *Professional Governance Act*.

In the case of a dispute between a PGA professional employed by a local government and a PGA professional retained by an applicant, the legislation would require that the matter be referred to the superintendent for resolution. The legislation also provides the Lieutenant Governor in Council with regulation-making authority to: designate a local body as a local government for the purposes of the Act, establish dispute resolution procedures, and notably, to set timelines for development application processing.

UBCM Position and Analysis

This is a private member's bill, brought forward by an individual MLA and not subject to the broader consultation and policy development processes as a government bill. Nonetheless, UBCM would expect a sitting member of the Legislature to consult local governments before proposing systemic changes to local approval processes.

UBCM views the proposed legislation as continuing a trend towards sweeping, centralized legislation that impacts local governments, developed without meaningful local government input. UBCM first became aware of this bill when monitoring the introduction of the legislation in the current legislative session. Local governments should be engaged before laws that impact areas of their jurisdiction are introduced. As has been clearly demonstrated in recent processes, fast-tracked approaches that skip over consultation are likely to lead to unintended consequences.

UBCM would pose the following questions to BC's legislators:

- What is the problem being solved by the proposed legislation? Why does this require a new law? Were other options considered? Who was engaged on the proposed approach?
- This law would apply to all local governments, including regional districts. Is this appropriate? UBCM supports local choice as opposed to one-size fits all approaches that ignore community size, geography and local circumstance.
- Is the private sector prepared to take on the proposed approach? How would local governments and the private sector manage a transition to the new approach? And is there clear evidence that shifting approvals from the public to the private sector would lower costs?
- Is the Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance adequately staffed to handle dispute resolution? And would shifting of dispute resolution on local matters from the local level to the Province be cost effective and best serve public interest?

UBCM would also note that the proposed legislation comes at a time when local governments are already tackling a sweeping overhaul of the planning framework brought about through several pieces of legislation over the past three years. These include:

- Setting housing targets under the *Housing Supply Act*,

- Implementing Bills 44 and 47 that address small-scale multi-unit housing and transit-oriented areas,
- A revised development finance framework under Bill 46,
- Adoption of Bill 15, the *Infrastructure Projects Act*, providing the Province with regulatory override powers for major capital projects, and
- Recently introduced legislation (“Bill 25”) to amend Bill 44, less than two years after Bill 44 was adopted.

The rapid pace of legislative change continues to risk overwhelming local governments’ ability to adapt and to respond to urgent priorities. Furthermore, because local governments are the order of government closest to citizens, they are uniquely suited to represent local interests. When powers are shifted away from local governments, it disempowers those who elected them.

UBCM would encourage members to review the legislation and consider how it may impact their approval processes. Comments may be submitted to [Josh van Loon](#), Senior Policy Analyst.

Tags

[Feedback & Input](#)

[UBCM News](#)

Actionable Motion and Task List Tracker 2025

OCTOBER

Motion No.	Motion	Staff Responsible	Comments	Other	Status
2025 MOTIONS					
R-2025-148	THAT, Council endorse the submission of a Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP) grant application for the development of a Downtown Revitalization Plan, and confirm its commitment to provide the required 20 % financial contribution (in cash or in-kind) toward the project.	CAO/Urban Systems	working together on this		completed
R-2025-149	THAT, staff continue to seek alternate grant opportunities to fund a Hotel Investment Attraction Study, and connect with Miles Bruns and AI Boldt to identify best practices for advancing hotel investment attraction.	CAO	CEDD - eligible funding source		in-progress
R-2025-150	THAT, Council supports the submission of a grant application to Northern Development Initiative Trust Business Improvement Façade Program for \$10,000 for the 2026 program year.	EDT	grant to be submitted before end of October 2025	grant submitted	completed
R-2025-154	THAT, Council receives this report for information and provide any final edits or comments to staff prior to reconsideration of third reading of the Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 879, 2025.	CAO	update bylaw with edits		completed
R-2025-156	THAT, Council reconsiders and approves third reading of the Good Neighbour Bylaw No. 879, 2025 as amended.	EA	update third reading on bylaw	prep for adoption	completed
R-2025-157	THAT, Council provide a letter of support for the TNFC's REDIP application to update the image library as requested.	CAO	send letter of support		completed
R-2025-158	THAT, Council approves Councillor Tedford be appointed to the portfolio as previously assigned to Councillor Lambert.	CAO	update 2023-2026 Council Appointments		completed
R-2025-159	THAT, Council direct staff to schedule a Town Hall Meeting in November to discuss the OCP and Zoning Bylaw updates, Water Meter info update and Street Safety Working Group recommendations.	CAO/EA	Schedule Town Hall meeting	Confirming date options with Urban Systems	in-progress