



STAFF REPORT

TO: CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
FROM: RONI-LEE ROACH, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
SUBJECT: 2025 UNION OF BC MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE
MEETING DATE: SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2025

Purpose

The Union of BC Municipalities conference is being held in Victoria, BC during the week of September 22nd through to 26th, 2025.

Background

Council directed that staff request meetings with appropriate Ministers and Provincial Staff on a number of matters affecting the municipality.

Consequently, the Town's requested ministerial level or provincial staff level meetings as follows:

1. Acquisition of old AB Greenwell School site for municipal uses and purposes;
2. Dedication of a 20-metre wide Right-of-Way for a new collector Road to be established within Town;
3. Upgrades required to Town's Sewer Treatment Plant and effluent discharged into Cowichan River;
4. Seeking to ensure health resources and services to the residents in our community;
5. Ban of all sunscreens that are not non-nano mineral by users of the Cowichan Lake and Cowichan River; and
6. Enforcement of Riparian Area Infractions.

As the requests for Ministry meetings were denied due to "High Volume of Requests", staff meetings were subsequently requested as follows:

- Acquisition of ABG School site – referred out from Ministry of Infrastructure under their portfolio.
- Sewer Lagoon Project – referred out from Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs under their portfolio.

At this time, we have not received confirmation of these meetings.

Two (2) meetings have been confirmed to date at UBCM, They are as follows:

- 1. September 25th at 11:20 am** Water, Land and Resource
Topics:
 - a. Dedication of 20-metre side strip Right of Way (RoW) for new collector Road to be established from Hammond Road to Edgewood Drive and connect to Boundary Road;
 - b. Ban of all sunscreens that are not non-nano mineral by users of the Cowichan Lake and Cowichan River;
 - c. Enforcement of Riparian Area Infractions

An invitation to Debra Toporowski, MLA has been extended. Council may wish to extend an invitation to neighbouring and partner local governments in case the topic scheduled for discussion are important to them as well.

- 2. September 25th at 4:00 pm** Rural Health, Parliamentary Secretary
Topic:
 - a. Ensure health resources and services to the residents in our community

The **City of Duncan** has extended an invitation to the Town of Lake Cowichan to participate in meetings confirmed by the Province.

- 1. September 23rd, 2025 at 8:00 am** Housing and Municipal Affairs
Topics:
 - a. Amend Homes for People Action Plan to include the Village model and corresponding funding commitment.
 - b. Support regional action plans to address homelessness in collaboration with local governments.
 - c. Good neighbour agreements with funding for peer support programs, security and bylaw enforcement.
- 2. September 24th, 2025 at 10:00 am** Transportation and Transit
Topic:
 - a. Regional Highway Safety Improvements in Valley

Cowichan Valley Regional District have confirmed their meetings as follows:

1. **September 23rd, 2025 at 9:00 am** Transportation and Transit
Topic:
 - a. update and implement the Trans Canada Highway Corridor Safety

2. **September 25th, 2025 at 10:20 am** Forests
Topic:
 - a. Private Forest Managed Forest Lands (PMFL) Infraction and Enforcement in the CVRD

3. **September 25th, 2025 at 10:00 am** Forest
Topic:
 - a. Regional Issues on Water and Water Licensing

Recommendation

THAT the Committee recommend that the staff report on the Union of BC Municipalities conference preparations be received and filed;

THAT the Committee recommend that the Town of Lake Cowichan accept the invitation to join the other member municipality meetings at the 2025 UBCM conference.

THAT the Committee recommend that the Town of Lake Cowichan extends reciprocal invitations to partner municipalities who may share an interest in the Town’s approved meeting topics.

Signed:

Roni-Lee Roach
Roni-Lee Roach
Executive Secretary

Concurrence:

John T
John Thomas
Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT 1

	Monday 22	Tuesday 23	Wednesday 24	Thursday 25
7 AM				
8 AM		UBCM w/Duncan Housing and Municipal Affairs Cedar - Room 241 Parliament Buildings, Level 2		
9 AM				
10 AM			UBCM w/Duncan Ministry of Transportation/Transit Hemlock (Room 116) Parliament Buildings, Level 1	
11 AM				UBCM Ministry Water, Land, Resources Rattenbury (Room 139) Parliament Buildings, Level 1
12 PM				
1 PM				
2 PM				
3 PM				
4 PM				UBCM Rural Health Parliamentary Secretary Room 356 Parliament Buildings, Level 3