

Joseph Fernandez

From: Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI) <registrations@civicinfo.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2022 12:17 PM
To: Joseph Fernandez
Subject: 2022 UBCM Convention - MUNI Minister's Meeting Request



**2022 UBCM Convention
Minister of Municipal Affairs
Meeting Request with Minister Nathan Cullen**

Thank you for your meeting request.

This is an automated response, detailing the information we have received from you. You do not need to reply to this e-mail.

Contact Katie Carrothers 236 478-0537 MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca	Community/Organization Information	
	Community/Organization:	Lake Cowichan (Town)
	Primary Contact Person:	JOSEPH FERNANDEZ
	Primary Contact Title:	Chief Administrative Officer
	Primary Phone #:	250-749-6615
	Secondary Phone #:	
	Email:	jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca
	Secondary Email:	jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca
	Primary Contact Person (at Convention):	Bob K Day
	Primary Contact Title (at Convention):	Mayor
	Primary Phone (at Convention):	250-710-0742
	Secondary Phone (at Convention):	250-749-6681
	Email (at Convention):	bobkday@lakecowichan.ca
	Secondary Email:	bobkday@live.ca
DETAILS OF YOUR REQUESTED MEETING		
List People From Your Organization Who Are Attending:	Mayor Bob K. Day, Councillor Carolyne Austin, Councillor Tim McGonigle, Councillor Kristine Sandhu and Councillor Lorna Vomacka	
Topic #1:	Lack of much-needed funding for required costly infrastructure improvements for small communities.	

Background #1:

The Town with its small staff and contracted professionals have been unsuccessful in getting the much-needed funding to upgrade its waste water treatment plant. Efforts have been costly but grant funding denials have been all too frequent. Our community is growing fast but our sewer lagoon's capacity to service the growing population is being tested. And at the same time we have to comply with the minimum requirements of the Municipal Wastewater Regulation and to meet the water quality objectives of the Cowichan River, a heritage waterway. In addition, we provide water and sewer services to our neighbors, the Lake Cowichan First Nation, which is experiencing unprecedented growth.

Request #1:

It is our hope that the Ministry will support the application earlier submitted under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program

Topic #2:

Provide additional funding under the annual Small Community Grant Fund.

Background #2:

Smaller municipalities have limited means of revenue generation " the main sources are taxation and fees and grants and as grants are not always assured, it seems appropriate that the Ministry top up the Small Community Grant with an infrastructure funding component to fund critical infrastructure projects such as for design and engineering. Further, the impact of climate change is real and is beyond the capacity of smaller communities to deal with " such as summer droughts and severe heat, and severe rains that could impact existing stormwater infrastructure.

Request #2:

Commitment by the Ministry to provide an additional funding component under the Small Community Grant to facilitate infrastructure improvements.

Topic #3:

Background #3:

Request #3:

MLA will be asked to attend:

NO

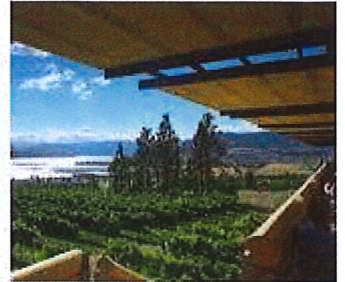
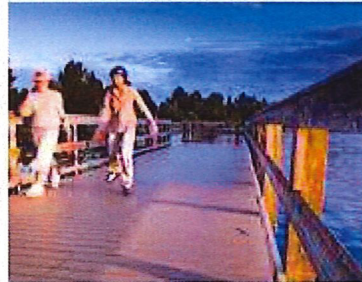
Your meeting request has been received by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs (MUNI).

For questions, please contact **Katie Carrothers** at 236 478-0537 or via email at MUNI.UBCM.MeetingRequests@gov.bc.ca.



Joseph Fernandez

From: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator <UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2022 2:55 PM
To: Joseph Fernandez; Joseph Fernandez
Subject: UBCM Meeting Request Received



2022 UBCM Convention

DATE: June 24, 2022
TO: Joseph Fernandez
Lake Cowichan, Town of
FROM: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator
RE: **UBCM Meeting Request Received**

Your request to meet with a **Provincial Cabinet Minister** at the 2022 UBCM Convention has been successfully submitted.

Please keep a copy of this email for your records. Information about the status of your meeting request will be sent out via email in late August. The details of your request are as follows:

Contact Information:

Meeting ID: [REDACTED] **Please use this number in all correspondence regarding your meeting request**

Municipality/Regional District: Lake Cowichan, Town of
Contact: Joseph Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer
Phone: 250-749-6615
Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca
Secondary Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca

Cabinet Minister:

Cabinet Minister: Environment and Climate Change Strategy
Preference: 1

Council Attendees:

Bob Day, Mayor;Carolyn Austin, Councillor; Kristine Sandhu, Councillor; Lorna Vomacka, Councillor; Tim McGonigle, Councillor

Topic #1:

Needs Minister's support to implement remaining upgrades to the Sewer Treatment Plant.

Background:

The Ministry has over the years threatened penalties to the Town for failure to implement wholesale remedial measures with respect to the quality and amount of the effluent discharge into the Cowichan River, and to provide increased treatment capacity to support growth and development in the Town as well as in the neighbouring Ts'uubaa-asatx First Nations Community. The planned upgraded facility is expected to provide secondary treatment and disinfection and it is expected that all established effluent parameters of potential concern will be then be met. Climate change can also negatively impact the sewer treatment plant and hence the quality of life for residents.

Request:

Support to secure the required funding under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure program.

Topic #2:

Funding assistance in combating climate change affecting power outages and storm systems.

Background:

BC Hydro currently provides one third of funding to place power lines underground. If another third is funded by the Province, the Town may well make application for BC Hydro funding that could also support a peace meal municipal beautification approach while working towards uninterrupted power to the residents. Storm systems could also be under siege and funding to improve those would be useful and the re-introduction of grants to encourage tree planting would be also prudent.

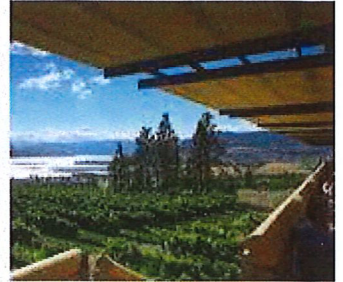
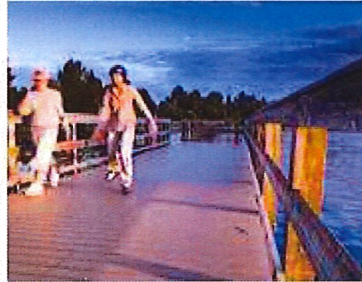
Request:

Establish a funding program to assist small municipalities to undertake a phased approach to placing hydro lines underground and improving or creating storm system infrastructure, where non exists.

For questions regarding meeting requests or UBCM inquiries please email: UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca. For urgent matters please call the UBCM Meetings line at 250-213-3856.

Joseph Fernandez

From: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator <UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2022 4:03 PM
To: Joseph Fernandez; Joseph Fernandez
Subject: UBCM Meeting Request Received



2022 UBCM Convention

DATE: June 24, 2022
TO: Joseph Fernandez
Lake Cowichan, Town of
FROM: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator
RE: **UBCM Meeting Request Received**

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Contact: Joseph Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer
Phone: 250-749-6615
Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca
Secondary Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca

Cabinet Minister:

Cabinet Minister: Land, Water and Resource Stewardship
Preference: 2

Council Attendees:

Bob Day, Mayor; Carlyne Austin, Councillor; Kristine Sandhu, Councillor; Lorna Vomacka, Councillor; Tim McGonigle, Councillor

Topic #1:

Needs to complete upgrades to the Sewer Treatment Plant.

Background:

The Town has been instructed by the Ministry of Environment at various times to promptly implement the necessary measures or modifications to correct the non-compliance issues under the Environmental Management Act if it is to avoid penalties. There has always been a requirement that the regional water quality objectives and parameters for the Cowichan River must be met, which include meeting standards established for phosphorous, ammonia and fecal coliform. The resulting algal growth has also been a growing concern for the Cowichan River. If the ecosystem and the Cowichan River are to be left pristine

Request:

The Minister's support for the application earlier submitted under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program is hoped for.

Topic #2:

Climate change and its impact on the Town is a matter of concern.

Background:

Smaller municipalities have limited means of revenue generation are the main sources are the taxation and fees. Grant funding from the Ministry to implement a "green " infrastructure would be helpful.

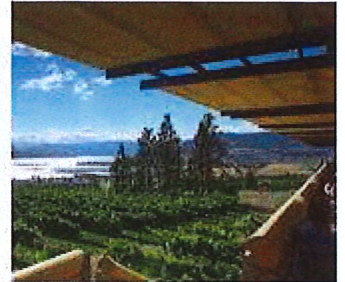
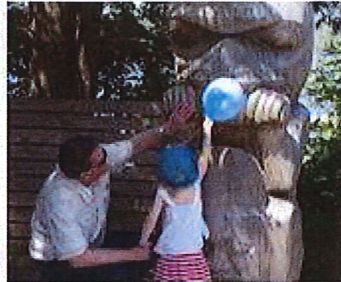
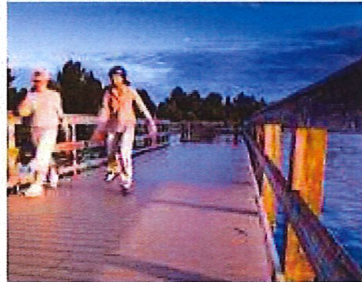
Request:

Implementation of a funding source to protect our land, air and water through the planting of trees would be useful.

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Joseph Fernandez

From: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator <UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 24, 2022 4:25 PM
To: Joseph Fernandez; Joseph Fernandez
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2022 UBCM Convention

DATE: June 24, 2022
TO: Joseph Fernandez
Lake Cowichan, Town of
FROM: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator
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Contact: Joseph Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer
Phone: 250-749-6615
Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca
Secondary Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca

Cabinet Minister:

Cabinet Minister: Forests
Preference: 3

Council Attendees:

Bob Day, Mayor; Carlyne Austin, Councillor; Kristine Sandhu, Councillor; Lorna Vomacka, Councillor; Tim McGonigle, Councillor

Topic #1:

Support for maintaining tabular rate structure for community forest agreements.

Background:

Any change in the current tabular stumpage policy will result in increased stumpage rates and additional administrative burdens for community forest tenures. It is incumbent on the Provincial Government to support community forest tenures by maintaining the current tabular rate structure so the latter can implement modernized forest policies, operate viable businesses and hence provide socio-economic benefits to the communities they operate in.

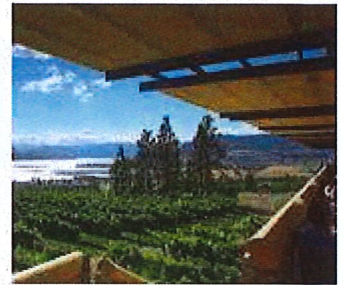
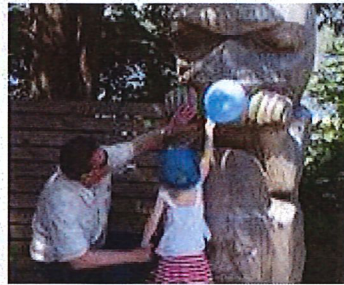
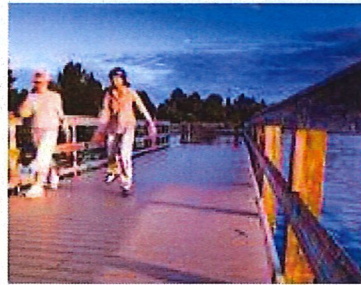
Request:

The intercession of the Minister in ensuring the maintenance of tabular rate structure for community forest agreements is requested.

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Joseph Fernandez

From: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator <UBCM.Meetings@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: June 23, 2022 5:06 PM
To: Joseph Fernandez; Joseph Fernandez
Subject: UBCM Meeting Request Received



2022 UBCM Convention

DATE: June 23, 2022
TO: Joseph Fernandez
Lake Cowichan, Town of
FROM: UBCM Meeting Request Coordinator
RE: UBCM Meeting Request Received

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Municipality/Regional District: Lake Cowichan, Town of
Contact: Joseph Fernandez, Chief Administrative Officer
Phone: 250-749-6615
Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca
Secondary Email: jfernandez@lakecowichan.ca

Cabinet Minister:

Cabinet Minister: Transportation and Infrastructure
Preference: 4

Council Attendees:

Bob Day, Mayor;Carolynne Austin, Councillor; Kristine Sandhu, Councillor; Lorna Vomacka, Councillor; Tim McGonigle, Councillor

Topic #1:

Continued safety concerns with regard to animal/ collisions within the corridor of Highway 18.

Background:

Elk and other wildfire have been increasing in numbers over the years and pose safety hazards to motorists on Highway 18. Wildlife continue to plague the travelling public causing untold damage to life and limb and vehicles requiring untold use of emergency resources.

Request:

The need is to make the highway safer for motorists so injury or worse can be eliminated for both humans and wildlife. The ministry give serious consideration to the installation of wildlife fencing along the route and the possible reduction of speed limits during non-daylight hours.

Topic #2:

Highway Bypass

Background:

A highway bypass route has long been shown in the Town's Official Community Plan. Discussions of such a route feasibility has occurred in the past with ministry staff but have not progressed beyond those initial discussions. It would be useful if a high level cost estimate can be produced that can inform further planning and budgetary work for the design and construction of the entire bypass alignment; this can also be broken down into components (i.e. the bridge crossing and perhaps sections of the bypass)

Request:

It be useful to know if the Ministry has given thought to the idea of a bypass highway and if so have timelines been identified to make that a reality.

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