

To: Mayor and Council **Date:** June 6, 2022
From: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer
Subject: **Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Minister/Ministry Meetings**

Recommendation(s)

That the City of Mission request the following meetings with Ministers at the 2022 UBCM Convention:

- a. ~~~
- b. ~~~
- c. ~~~

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council direction prior to requesting meetings with the applicable Ministers / Ministries during the week prior to the UBCM Convention from September 11-16, 2022.

Background

Each year as part of the annual UBCM Convention, the Province makes available opportunities for individual municipal councils to meet with Ministers and Provincial staff to address issues facing municipalities. Typically, municipalities are granted between three to six meetings with Ministers during the UBCM Convention. These meetings are short in duration, approximately 15 minutes, but they do provide a valuable opportunity to bring issues of importance to the municipality to the attention of the Provincial government.

Given time constraints and the limited number of meetings that are granted, staff generally ask Council to prioritize issues of importance to the District. Once the key topics have been identified, staff prepare briefing notes and submit them, along with the request for a meeting, to the Province.

Council can also request meetings with the various agencies that attend the Convention, such as BC Hydro, Translink, BC Transit, and the RCMP.

Additionally, there are opportunities to request/schedule more in-depth, staff-to-staff level meetings at the convention which can be highly beneficial.

With the relaxation of the COVID-19 protocols, the 2022 UBCM Convention and the Minister/Ministry meetings will once again be held in person in Whistler.

The City was granted meetings with the following Ministers in 2021:

- Minister of Municipal Affairs
- Minister of Education

- Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Minister of Mental Health and Addictions
- Attorney General and Minister Responsible for Housing
- Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
- Minister of Jobs, Economic Recovery and Innovation
- Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation

Discussion and Analysis

Staff have reviewed the various issues/topics raised by Council and staff over the past year for possible discussion at UBCM. Consideration was given both to the importance of the issues and also whether or not they are currently being addressed via other means (e.g. prior discussion with the Province/MLAs, resolutions, etc.).

The following potential topics have been submitted by Councilors and staff for Council's consideration. Council is requested to direct staff to attempt to set up meetings to discuss topics of Council's choice.

- a) Establishing a Foundry in Mission and mental health and addiction service needs – Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions
- b) Additional two provincial funded RCMP officers – Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- c) Regional health needs assessment, long term funding and plans for healthcare in Mission and Mission Memorial Hospital – Minister of Health
- d) Mission Waterfront Revitalization Initiative (Highway #11 design & construction) – Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure
- e) Mission Waterfront Revitalization Initiative (Mission dike rehabilitation) – Minister of Forests
- f) Cutting permit delays, old growth management and closure of Forest Services Roads – Minister of Forests

Council is being requested to identify which of the above issues it would like to meet with the respective Ministers on as well as any other topics that Council desires.

Staff have submitted a request to meet with BC Hydro staff about the management of the Stave Lake boat launch and traffic in the vicinity of Hayward Lake recreation area.

Council Goals/Objectives

The UBCM Ministers meetings provide Council with an opportunity to convey its goals and objectives with respect to local issues directly to the provincial Ministers.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Communication

Requests for meetings with the respective Ministers and Ministries will be forwarded to the Province along with briefing notes on each meeting topic.

Summary and Conclusion

The Union of British Columbia Municipalities is holding its annual conference from September 11-16, 2022. Council is requested to confirm which Ministries and Ministers it would like to request meetings with at the conference.

Report Prepared by: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer

Reviewed by: Barclay Pitkethly, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer

Approved for Inclusion: Mike Younie, Chief Administrative Officer