

June 19, 2020

File: 230-20/UBCM

Chair and Directors
Comox Valley Regional District Board

Re: Union of BC Municipalities Resolutions

I request your consideration of forwarding two resolutions to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities for consideration at their 2020 Convention being held September 21 -15, 2020. The two resolutions generally seek provincial action to enhance food security during emergencies and have been developed in collaboration with the Comox Valley Food Policy Council.

With the resolution deadline being June 30, 2020, the Board’s attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

As the Director for Electoral Area ‘B’, I respectfully request your consideration of the following:

THAT the following resolutions be forwarded to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities 2020 Annual General Meeting and Convention for consideration:

1. WHEREAS food security and food supply issues are essential to all emergency response and recovery efforts;

AND WHEREAS the status and consideration of food security and supply issues are not adequately addressed within the provincial emergency management system and structures:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province provide greater consideration of food security and supply, including localized knowledge, within the provincial emergency management structure and provide guidance and resources to local governments and their emergency operations centres for this purpose.

2. WHEREAS farmers’ markets are a key resource in addressing food security during an emergency by providing access to food quickly and efficiently;

AND WHEREAS farmers’ markets have not been consistently permitted to operate across the province during the COVID-19 pandemic:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province take the necessary steps to ensure farmers’ markets are identified as an essential service during all provincial and local states of emergency

Sincerely,

A. Hamir

Arzeena Hamir
Director