

SOUTHERN INTERIOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
Minutes of Executive Meeting – Wednesday June 10, 2020
Meeting held via teleconference

MEMBERS PRESENT

President	Councillor Lori Mindnich, Lumby
1 st Vice President	Director Karla Kozakevich, RDOS
2 nd Vice President	Mayor Toni Boot, Summerland
Past President	Councillor Shelley Sim, Clearwater
Directors	Councillor Bill Sarai, Kamloops
	Mayor Robin Smith, Logan Lake
	Councillor Akbal Mund, Vernon
	Debbie Cannon, Salmon Arm
	Councillor Louise Wallace Richmond, Salmon Arm
	Councillor Ruth Hoyte, Coldstream
	Councillor Judy Sentes, Penticton
	Executive Director Alison Slater

In Camera meeting call to order at 10:00 am

CALL TO ORDER

President Mindnich called the regular board meeting to order at 10:49 am.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA

Moved/Seconded THAT:

The agenda be accepted with the following addition.

Committee reports:
3. Newsletter

CARRIED

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved/Seconded THAT:

The draft minutes of the Executive Meeting held via teleconference on April 29, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

N/A

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

1. BC Hydro Covid 19 Relief Program – letter received from Minister of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources
 - Penticton and RDOS received similar letters

Moved/Seconded THAT:

The Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources letter dated June 8, 2020 be received for filing.

CARRIED

2. Speaker Series potential speakers

- Board members to give staff their top 3 choices; staff will collate and contact the speakers to find dates/times to start the series.
- a) Christina Benty - Strategic approach to budgeting as it relates to the Covid aftermath.
- b) Terry Lake - Opioid Crisis – meeting with ministers (AMA – Ask me Anything)
- c) Jessica Wood, ADM or alternate from the Ministry of Indigenous Affairs - UNDRIP
- d) Travel Penticton – Thom Tischik, Executive Director -What Travel Penticton is doing to drum up support for the community and local businesses, all within the current provincial health guidelines.
 - Staff to contact Destination BC as well
- e) BC Infrastructure Benefits - Explain what BCIB does and how it will economically help the SILGA region
- f) Guy Felicella - Is Safe Supply a viable option for the Opioid Crisis, especially in the Covid world?
- g) Interior Health – either Susan Brown or Silvina Mema, Medical Health Officer

NEW BUSINESS

1. CEA Awards

- all three winners – RDCO, Vernon and Revelstoke - have had the plaques presented to council

2. UBCM/Area Association meeting re: UBCM convention

- The 2020 Convention will be held virtually from September 22nd to 24th. (Tuesday-Thursday)
- 9 am to 4 pm with a break at noon
- UBCM has received 170 resolutions but only 3 hours have been set aside for debate – they understand that this is not enough time.
- There will be a keynote speaker along with provincial speakers.
- The AGMs for MIABC and MFABC will happen virtually as UBCM values the partnerships of these associations.
- Provincial minister meetings with local governments will go ahead, but to a reduced amount. They will most likely be held virtually the week before.

- There will be a registration cost to attend the convention – not sure if it will be individually based or local government based. UBCM wants delegates to understand there still is a cost of holding this convention, even though it is virtual.
- UBCM will contract with an A/V company to ensure things go right. The virtual platform will be able to handle registration, voting for both the UBCM board and resolutions and a virtual marketplace.
- Internet connectivity may be an issue for delegates in rural areas or those signing in from home. UBCM will be connecting with all regional districts and may suggest having the RD rural board members come to the RD offices for the three days of the convention.
- UBCM will allow Area Associations to piggyback on UBCM's technology. They anticipate allowing up to 2 hours to run the Area Associations' AGMs, including voting for boards, finances etc.
- A room in Victoria will be booked that will have a "professional setting, including flags" so that speakers and panels can present in a professional manner.
- UBCM received special compensation from BC Societies to waive some of their constitutional bylaws regarding voting and resolutions.

Impact on SILGA

- SILGA **does not** need to request special dispensation from BC Societies to change/waive the following:
 - i. That the SILGA AGM is supposed to be held in April or May.
 - ii. That the location needs to be changed to a virtual meeting.
 - iii. That late resolutions will not be accepted and all resolutions will go directly for debate to UBCM and will not be voted on at the SILGA AGM.

Notes:

1. There is no mention in the SILGA constitution of accepting nominations from the floor, therefore, SILGA does not need to deal with this. For 2020, that means the table officers can be acclaimed and there will only be a vote for the Directors at Large. As 1st Vice President Kozakevich, who is a regional district director, will be acclaimed, the 7 directors with the highest votes will be elected.
2. As long as an annual report is filed with 30 days of holding an AGM within the 2020 calendar year, SILGA will be in compliance with BC Societies Act. BC Societies does not care if the AGM is held in person or virtually.

Moved/Seconded THAT:

SILGA will send out letter to its membership confirming that the current slate of table officers have been acclaimed and to confirm that only the nominees in the 2020 SILGA Nomination Report will be allowed to stand as potential Directors at Large for the 2020-2021 SILGA board.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Finance Report

- As at May 31, 2020 SILGA had \$55,999 in the bank and \$113,367 in the MFA account with \$718 of interest to date.
- 2020 membership due invoices for \$51,855 have been sent out and to date SILGA has received \$48,252 with only 6 members not yet paying.
- 2019 Financial Statements have now been finalized.

Directors were in receipt of the General Ledger and MFA account reconciliation to April 30, 2020.

Moved/Seconded by Robin Smith/Toni Boot that:

The finance report be received.

CARRIED

2. Local Resolutions

a) Revelstoke – Funding for Provincial Police Resources along the TCH corridor

WHEREAS the Trans-Canada Highway 1, from the Alberta / British Columbia provincial border through Revelstoke has surpassed its capacity due to increasing tourism and commercial transportation, resulting in frequent collisions, and the transportation route closures impeding commerce in the area.

WHEREAS there has been little or no increase in Provincial Police resourcing for communities along the Trans-Canada Highway to effectively reduce speeds beyond posted limits and ultimately improve road safety by reducing collisions.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Province commit extra resourcing towards additional Provincial Police Officers posted to the affected municipalities and the deployment of safety control measures, such as photo radar, in the Trans Canada Highway transportation corridor.

***SILGA notes:** Spoke with Revelstoke CAO. Revelstoke council wants this resolution very specific to only the TCH to address those issues outlined in the resolution.*

Revelstoke Executive Summary:

The resolution requesting additional Provincial Policing resources for Revelstoke and area along the Trans-Canada Highway (TCH) was written to address the need to deploy increased human resources in policing and strategic traffic safety measures to maintain a safe and reliable transportation route. In order to continue to provide quality policing to the growing community and also maintain the policing presence and response to collisions and other rural incidents, the City of Revelstoke needs the assistance of the Province to fund additional Provincial Policing positions

within the Revelstoke General Duty Detachment to respond appropriately to issues and to provide a healthy and safe working environment for its contracted employees.

Background: Since the expansion of tourism and recreation in the area, the City of Revelstoke and outlying areas have experienced measurable growth in population – both permanent and temporary residents. Resort municipalities and censuses don't match if taken in May as May is the shoulder season for resort communities. This has created pressure on emergency services due to the increased calls for service within the city and in response to the increased volume of traffic and resulting enforcement and collisions on the Trans-Canada Highway.

Utilizing the 2016 Statistic Canada census figure of 7,547 persons, combined with the industry best practice ratio of 1 police officer for every 500 persons, the result is an appropriate deployment of 13.5 police officers. Revelstoke has an authorized Full Time Equivalent of 14 Regular Member police officers as of October 2019. When using the figure provided from the Telus Insight study <https://www.telus.com/en/business/blog/telus-insights-relooks-population-revelstoke-bc> – a suggested population of 14,750 persons is more accurate, almost double what the census data is, which is only a snapshot taken in May, a shoulder season for the community.

According to those figures a deployment of 29 municipal officers would be more realistic in dealing with actual traffic numbers.

Questions and responses from Revelstoke Staff Sergeant Grabinsky:

1. How many call outs to the TCH does the Revelstoke detachment get on a per week or per month basis.

- The Revelstoke RCMP are responsible for covering a vast area, which includes policing of the city of Revelstoke. The jurisdiction ranges from the Perry River Bridge 45 kilometers west of Revelstoke on the Trans-Canada Highway, 55 kilometers south on Highway 23 South, 200 kilometers North on Highway 23 North (to Hamber Provincial Park) and 75 kilometers east through Rogers Pass on the Trans-Canada Highway.
- The RCMP attends to all calls for service as well as conducting pro-active enforcement of Federal Acts, Provincial Legislation and Municipal/ Columbia Shuswap Regional District By-laws in the policing jurisdiction.

The following statistics can be provided for calls to the area outside of the City of Revelstoke:

YEAR	Calls on the Trans-Canada Highway	Percent of calls on the TCH	Municipal and Provincial calls	TOTAL CALLS
2018	452	10%	4164	4616
2019	843	19%	3562	4405
2020 (ytd.)	551	35%	1012	1563

-Calls on the Trans-Canada Highway vary from reports of Erratic Driving (speeding, passing unsafely, following too closely) to Fatal Motor Vehicle Collisions.

-In response to the question posed, the Revelstoke RCMP are requested to attend to calls on the Trans-Canada Highway on average twice per day or approximately 15 times per week.

2. Approximately how long does it take a member(s?) to respond to a call? I assume that if there is a fatality (how many/year?) this will impact the amount of time spent on a call?

- calls for service on the highway vary from 20 – 30 minutes to respond to an erratic driving and up to 10 hours for a fatality investigation. In addition to the roadside time

spent at location are the corresponding hours spent working on the administrative matters of these files.

-many issues impact the call time – weather, avalanche closures, driving conditions, triage of other calls, traffic volume, and location of the call or suspect vehicle.

-when a call is an intensive issues such as serious injury collision or fatality, this requires a multi-unit response, including the dispatching of Traffic Services officers and Collision Analysts.

3. How much time does the local detachment spend per month/year on dealing with calls outside the city limits?

-beyond just issues occurring on the Trans-Canada highway, 35% of all calls for service that the Revelstoke RCMP Detachment police officers attend to, are in the Provincial areas, ie. Outside of the municipality.

-policing a resort municipality and the demands of managing over 100 kilometers of the Trans-Canada Highway, makes using only traditional methods, police officer presence on the highway conducting enforcement, ineffective to reduce collisions and improve road safety.

-it is for all these reasons that the RCMP seek to obtain additional Provincial funding to address the capacity issue of the Trans-Canada Highway and the influx of tourism and related issues.

-the Revelstoke RCMP and City of Revelstoke seek to obtain Provincial support to implement new technologies to reduce a reliance on human resources and utilizes proven technologies which can reduce speed. The use of photo radar, along the British Columbia's portion of this national transportation corridor, or other speed reduction technologies will drastically improve the working and travelling conditions of those who reside on the Trans-Canada Highway.

SILGA Resolutions Committee Recommendations:

1. Ask City of Revelstoke to see if Golden, also a resort municipality on the TCH, to join on this resolution. If so, then get support from AKBLG.
2. Get support from CSRD who pays for a lot of the rural policing costs.
3. Send letter to BC Solicitor General outlining issues and recommendations.

b) Kamloops – Keep of Prisoner Program

WHEREAS the Kamloops RCMP Detachment continues to provide escort and custody services for Provincial Police Prisoners from outlying detachments and Intermittent Prisoners sentenced by the Provincial Court of BC under the Keep of Prisoner Program which does not fairly compensate the City of Kamloops;

AND WHEREAS upon surveying municipalities with a population of over 15,000 in the South East District of BC are also required to provide similar services to Provincial Police and Intermittent Prisoners and are also receiving unfair compensation for said services;

AND WHEREAS with no formal memorandum of agreement in place between the Province of BC, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the municipalities in the South East District of BC to provide services for Provincial Police Prisoners from outlying de-

tachments and Intermittent Prisoners, the continuation of providing said services are having a significant financial impact on all municipalities:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southern Interior Local Government Association strongly urge municipalities with a population of over 15,000 in the South East District of BC to support this resolution and will pass a similar resolution;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Southern Interior Local Government Association request fair compensation of services provided by said municipalities that are based upon actual costs and change the practice of the Provincial Court of BC sentencing Intermittent Prisoners to be held in municipal police lock-ups.

Notes from SILGA staff:

Spoke with Kamloops Mayor Ken Christian. The Big 5 municipalities (Kelowna, Kamloops, Penticton, Vernon, West Kelowna) all pay for prisoner keep and transfer. There have been up to 9 provincial resolutions that have gone nowhere on this same issue. Kamloops wants SILGA to work with the SE District of the RCMP to make changes. Every larger municipality in the province has the same issue, but Kamloops is hoping if pressure can be put on one RCMP District the others may be forced to follow.

Kamloops has gained support from Kelowna, Penticton, W. Kelowna and Vernon when the mayors met with Minister Mike Farnworth last year.

SILGA Resolutions Committee recommendation:

- Write letter to SE district Brad Haugli, Area E Commander for RCMP.

c) Kamloops - Re-evaluation of Outpatient Model

WHEREAS a significant proportion of the Province's homeless population have mental illnesses;

AND WHEREAS being homeless presents a threat to their well-being and safety;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southern Interior Local Government Association ask Interior Health Authority to re-evaluate the current outpatient model of mental health care.

Notes from SILGA staff:

Spoke with Mayor Ken Christian – he is the chair of the hospital board - he specifically worded this resolution to stay in the Southern Interior as Kamloops wants to start work on changing the process from the interior, not BC wide. He has already let IH boss, Susan Brown, know that Kamloops is bringing this issue to SILGA.

Mayor Christian's response June 3rd

Yes. Susan Brown would be a good guest speaker. The outpatient model is failing many patients that due to chronic mental illness, can not personally manage their condition outside of a clinical setting. They cause chaos on the streets, they move in and out of jail and most importantly they live a very compromised life. I would suggest mental health professionals, police, social workers, corrections officials and many, many business owners would agree. This is a very sensitive issue

but the discussion would be important to developing better public policy in this regard. A group of lower mainland Mayors are calling for a reopening of Riverview. I would not support something like Riverview but I would support a series of smaller specific treatment and housing centres that could specialize in chronic schizophrenia and bipolar disorder. These would be no different than dementia units that we readily accept for seniors. Medication compliance is difficult, if not impossible, for street affected individuals and their lives too often go off the rails and end prematurely. We can do better.

SILGA Resolution Committee Recommendations:

Resolution too vague as it stands– does Kamloops want institutionalization of mental patients? Is there a specific criterion to get mental health patients released? Patients shouldn't be released until there is a plan to physically care for themselves. Once they get released, who checks up on them? Should there be more of an onus on IH to follow up when a patient is released?

Issue is beyond mental illness = homeless. You can still have mental illness and not be homeless. Being homeless is not an IH issue.

Work with municipalities as they continue with ongoing healthy community teams- collaboration between IH and local government. If LGs don't know about all the resources available for mental health, how would a patient know?

Would smaller housing units work better, rather than large, institutional ones?

SILGA Board Recommendations:

- i. To rewrite the resolution to clarify its intent including additional information in the Whereas clauses, confirming with Kamloops afterwards.
 - ii. Send letters to Minister Robinson, Minister Darcy, BC Housing and Susan Brown with Interior Health
3. **Newsletter** – summer newsletter to include:
- o information on UBCM convention, on SILGA AGM at UBCM convention including elections and resolutions
 - o Speaker series
 - o Local resolutions
 - o Updates on community news in each of the executive's area
 - o CEA awards

Next meeting: July 8th at 10:00 am in Vernon or by zoom

Adjournment

Moved/Seconded THAT:

At 12:08 pm the SILGA Executive Meeting of June 10, 2020 be adjourned.

CARRIED