

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MONDAY JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2011

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR  
COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES  
COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN  
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT  
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON  
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN  
COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
CORPORATE OFFICER  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

L. Burch  
D. Heinrich  
C. Arnott

GALLERY

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CALL TO ORDER:

The Mayor called the Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2011, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.** CARRIED.

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MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.** CARRIED.

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MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2011, AND ALL RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.** CARRIED.

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**REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

None

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

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**REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (VERBAL)**

**Councillor Davies:**

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at the reception for the Branding of the Boundary on May 31<sup>st</sup> at Gallery 2
  - She reported on her attendance at a June 1<sup>st</sup> meeting at the Grand Forks Secondary School of the Community Health Committee and advised that it was well attended by the community and that excellent information was shared.
  - She reported that at the recent FCM Conference in Halifax, the FCM delegates supported municipalities debating medical marijuana at their tables and endorsed the City of Victoria's resolution to decentralize the Medical Marijuana Access Regulations (MMAR) program to the provinces. Her report that outlines the details of this resolution is attached to these minutes. (see attachment)
  - She reported that on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Grand Forks Compassion Society will be making a presentation at a public meeting located at the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Board Room at 6:00 PM, and that everyone is welcome to attend.
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**Councillor Thompson:**

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She began her report offering kudos to the Corporate Officer, Diane Heinrich who modified the Delegation Form on the City's Website into a fill out form. This will enable those wishing to be a delegation at a Council Meeting, to do so by using this on-line feature.
- She reported that 65 people attended a meeting at the Grand Forks Secondary School on May 31<sup>st</sup> regarding health care and other services for seniors in Grand Forks, and that this group endorsed a Steering Committee called "Concerned Citizens for Community Health Care". She reported that yesterday afternoon, the new steering committee met and advised that their purpose is to facilitate and conduct the necessary work to achieve their vision of a comprehensive, sustainable, and community based health services for the aging population of the Boundary. She further advised that anyone interested in volunteering their time to assist this committee is invited to a meeting with the Steering committee on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Seniors' Centre in City Park.
- Councillor Thompson advised that on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, the Boundary Museum Society had their grand opening.

- She reported her participation via a conference call from Vernon, at a meeting on Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> as a member of the Asset Management Committee. She advised that the committee discussed and agreed to the proposed Asset Management Policy that Council will be considering tonight.

**Councillor Robert:**

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He spoke with regard to the committee for the enhanced management of the Gilpin Grasslands and that he would like Council's endorsement to liaise with the committee.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCILLOR ROBERT BE APPOINTED AS THE CITY'S LIAISON TO THE GILPIN GRASSLAND ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE. CARRIED.**

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MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR WRITE A LETTER INVITING CHRISTY CLARKE, PREMIER; MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, TERRY LAKE; AND THE MINISTER OF FORESTS AND RANGE, STEVE THOMSON; TO COME TO GRAND FORKS, AND SEE FIRST HAND, THE STATE OF THE GILPIN GRASSLANDS. CARRIED.**

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- He spoke with regard to a News Release from the Auditor General on August 23, 2010 where it stated a government vision, but incomplete plans to conserve the ecological integrity in BC Parks. A detailed copy of the News Release as per Councillor Robert's report is attached to these minutes. (See attached)
- He spoke with regard to the recent FCM Convention in Halifax where Liberal Leader, Bob Rae advised that Canadian Municipalities can no longer afford to make big spending decisions without increased involvement from the Federal and Provincial governments.
- He reminded everyone to attend "Healthy Forests-Healthy Communities" Meeting on June 21 at Community Futures between 1:00 and 4:00 PM
- He advised that he is going to give a notice of two motions regarding forestry at the June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting:

Resolution Title: Public Commission on Forests

WHEREAS B.C. communities rely on their forests both as a primary economic driver, and for their ecological and social importance;

AND WHEREAS today there are a number of critical problems in B.C.'s forests which need to be addressed and resolved, including

- Evidence of declining forest health and expanding understocked forests;
- Tens of thousands of forest industry job losses, dozens of mill closures, and serious economic hardship in resource communities across B.C.;
- Widespread frustration among local governments about the lack of local involvement in decision making on the allocation and management of forest resources;
- After a decade of deep cutbacks, serious doubts about the ability of provincial agencies to effectively manage our forest resources and provide adequate public oversight in the woods;

- The continuing failure to generate maximum value for British Columbians from our forests, as evidenced by the ongoing over-reliance on commodity production, rapidly increasing raw log exports to Asia, and limited growth in the value-added wood products sector;

AND WHEREAS it has been more than two decades since the last significant independent inquiry into the state of B.C.'s forests;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities call for the Government of B.C. to establish a public commission of inquiry into B.C.'s forest sector, in order to:

- offer a considered, independent assessment of the state of B.C.'s forests and the effectiveness of our current laws and practices;
- provide a much-needed opportunity for significant public input into forest policy in B.C.; and
- make recommendations for changes that will ensure both the good stewardship of our forests and a vibrant, sustainable forest industry for coming generations.

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 Resolution Title: Reinvesting in Forest Stewardship

WHEREAS B.C. communities rely on forests to support their economic, social and environmental well-being;

AND WHEREAS there is widespread and growing public concern about the current and future health of B.C.'s forests;

AND WHEREAS over the past decade the provincial government has made deep cuts to the public agencies engaged in protecting, managing and enhancing B.C.'s forests, seriously eroding their capacity to effectively manage our publicly-owned forest resources and provide adequate public oversight in the woods:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to reinvest in forest stewardship, including

- Immediately increasing funding for forest inventories;
- Restoring the Ministry of Forest's research branch, and enhancing funding for forest research;
- Increasing funding to mitigate the risk of forest fires in B.C. communities;
- Making a significant, long term investment in expanded reforestation of public forest lands; and
- Increasing funding and restoring staffing levels in the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Resource Operations (formerly the Ministry of Forests and Range) to pre-2001 levels.

- He spoke with regard to the Integrated Sustainable Community Plan and advised that the plan will soon be making its final journey to the Council table
- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, he reported his participation in Solar Day, and due to the rain, advised that the event was allowed to use the arena where there were exhibits by Swiss Solar, Omenica Solar, Clean Air, Water Sub-Committee, Fortis and the Carbon Neutral Sub-Committee. He thanked Councillor Moslin and Paul Pinard for reaching out to the schools for participation in the Solar Car races.
- On June 9<sup>th</sup>, he reported his attendance to the many performances from the Granby Dance Studio's 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Dance Recital and spoke with regard to the amazing talent our community has.

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**Councillor Wyers:**

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance to the May 31st Boundary Branding Project Launch at Gallery 2.
- She reported on her attendance at the Concerned Citizens Committee for health meeting on May 31<sup>st</sup> at the GFSS, where she advised that Mr. Hereford of the BC Care Givers Association was a speaker. She spoke with regard to the upcoming meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> where all attendees

should be prepared to work and advised that this meeting is intended for volunteers and the steering committee.

- She reported on her attendance at the June 5 Boundary Museum Society Grand Opening and Strawberry Tea at the Fructova Heritage Site
- She reported that June 7<sup>th</sup> marked the day for the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual 841 Boundary Squadron Air Cadets Event and that David Mark was the candidate of the year.
- She reported her attendance at the June 8<sup>th</sup> Solar and Clear Air Day and of the annual Solar Car Races. She further advised that each of the Environment Committees' Subcommittees had set up venues for educational purposes.
- On June 12<sup>th</sup>, she reported her attendance at the Broadacres Open House and commented on the great facility that is available but regrets that this facility is not currently being used.

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**Councillor Moslin:**

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- He spoke with regard to the Habitat for Humanity and of the Development Cost Charges (DCC) that are over \$30,000. He advised that these DCC's will be put on hold until the strata is put in place which allows the project to continue forward. He spoke with regard to a recent sale of the Hardy View Lodge by a private purchaser. Councillor Moslin suggested that the proceeds of this sale to the Province could be used to fund Habitat for Humanity where the monies would remain within the community. He advised that Pacific Care Community out of Kelowna is the purchaser of the property.

MOTION: MOSLIN/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THAT COUNCIL INSTRUCT STAFF TO WRITE A LETTER TO MINISTER COLEMAN ENCOURAGING THAT THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF HARDY VIEW LODGE BE REINVESTED IN OUR COMMUNITY BY FORWARDING THE MONEY TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BOUNDARY. CARRIED.**

- .....
- He spoke with regard to the Deer Management Plan that is attached to the Council Reports and that the Deer Committee has worked hard to create a plan that is affordable and attainable.

MOTION: MOSLIN/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL ADOPT, IN PRINCIPLE, THE DEER MANAGEMENT PLAN AS DEVELOPED AND ENDORSED BY THE DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.**

**CARRIED.**

Councillors Robert, Davies and Wirischagin voted against the motion.

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- The Mayor advised that the Management Plan does involve some financial support that would be discussed as a budget item in the 2012-2016 Financial Plan.
  - Councillor Moslin reminded the public that the Grand Forks Community Trails Society Annual General Meeting is on June 21st at Selkirk College and asked if members of the community could bring any historical photos to be used as a photo montage, and, in addition, any artifacts from the train service that could be used for display purposes in the refurbished railway shed located across from the Kiosk.

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**Councillor Wirischagin:**

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- He reported on his attendance at the annual Relay for Life where \$26,150 was raised in the Region. He advised that one of the top fund raisers was Briana Burch, aged 10, who is the grandchild of the Chief Administrative Officer, Lynne Burch.

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**Mayor Taylor:**

The Mayor reported on the following items and advised that he will be including the RDKB report as well:

- He spoke with regard to Recycled Oil Issue and advised that Tom Kat Automotive appears to be the only facility in Grand Forks that is taking used oil. He further advised that he will be bringing this issue, again, to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Environmental Services Committee Meeting.
- He spoke with regard to the Environmental Services Committee Meeting and asked that before he presses the issue of the composting pilot project for the City of Grand Forks, if Council is still endorsing this project. Council advised that they are in agreement that this subject be broached, as suggested.

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MOTION: WYERS/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT ALL REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL INCLUDING THE MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY, GIVEN VERBALLY AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.**

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**REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY (VERBAL)**

- Please see the Mayor's report above

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**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:**

- a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Community First Agreement – Event Coordinator Position

Part of the Community First Agreement between the City of Grand Forks and the Province of BC included a proposal for an Event Coordinator Position.

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE STAFF REPORT DATED, JUNE 6, 2011, AND SUPPORTS, IN PRINCIPLE, THE PROPOSAL FOR THE EVENT COORDINATOR POSITION PILOT PROJECT, SUBJECT TO THE SUPPORT OF BOTH REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY DIRECTORS FROM ELECTORAL AREAS C AND D, AND THE SECURING OF PROGRAM FUNDING FROM GRANTS OR OTHER APPROVED REVENUE SOURCES.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS PROPOSAL BE SUBJECT TO COUNCIL'S CONSULTATION WITH ORGANIZING GROUPS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE GRAND FORKS INTERNATIONAL, THE GRAND FORKS FALL FAIR, THE FARMER'S MARKET, ETC. CARRIED.**

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b) Corporate Officer's Report – Application for a Development Variance Permit

Variance requested to the City's Zoning Bylaw Requirement under Sections 37(2) (g) & 37(2) (h) "Accessory Buildings" in order to construct a 1200 sq.ft. shop on the property known as 2 Morrissey Creek as proposed by property owners Gilbert & Jean Barry. The Mayor asked if any members of the public wished speak on this variance permit; no one came forward.

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT TO THE PROPERTY AT 2 MORRISSEY CREEK ROAD, LEGALLY KNOWN AS LOT 1, DL 653, SDYD, PLAN KAP91133, THEREBY VARYING SECTION 37(2)(g) TO VARY THE RATIO OF ACCESSORY BUILDING TO PRINCIPLE BUILDING, ALLOWING FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A SHOP TO BE GREATER THAN 50% OF THE PRINCIPLE RESIDENCE STRUCTURE; AND FURTHER RESOLVES TO VARY SECTION 37(2)(h) TO ALLOW THE ACCESSORY BUILDING TO BE LOCATED IN FRONT OF THE FRONT FACE OF THE PRINCIPLE BUILDING AS PROPOSED BY THE PROPERTY OWNERS, GILBERT & JEAN BARRY. CARRIED.**

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c) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Asset Management Policy

The Asset Management Committee as appointed by Council in April, 2011, is bringing forward a draft asset management policy.

MOTION: THOMPSON/WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL ADOPT THE ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY NO. 803 FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS TO BE IMPLEMENTED NO LATER THAN JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2011. CARRIED.**

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d) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – City of Grand Forks Actions for Economic Development Plan

Acceptance of the actions for the Economic Development Plan Developed by the Economic Development Task Force during the 2008-2011 Term.

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE REPORT TITLED, "CITY OF GRAND FORKS: ACTIONS FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT" AND THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE BE PUBLICLY RECOGNIZED AND THANKED ON BEHALF OF THE CITY. CARRIED.**

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**REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

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**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 10(a) TO 10(k)**

**BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED.**

**CARRIED.**

- a) From the Ministry of Environment- Response to Council's March 25<sup>th</sup> Letter Regarding a Deer Management Strategy and Terms of Reference Template. **Recommend to receive for information**
- b) Memo from Corporate Officer regarding reinstatement of a Business License - This business license was cancelled by resolution at the April 26<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting. **Recommend that Council reinstates the 2011 Business License of White Knight Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning.**
- c) Thank-you card from the Boundary Youth Soccer Association - For Grant-in-aid funds received. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- d) Memo from the Corporate Officer - Regarding Council's resolution for Staff to investigate costs and availability of using the IHA Bus to transport members of the community wishing to attend July 18<sup>th</sup> Council Meetings at the Boundary Museum. **Recommend to receive for discussion.**

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE AUTHORIZED TO HIRE THE SERVICES OF THE INTERIOR HEALTH ASSOCIATION TRANSIT BUS TO TRANSPORT MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WISHING TO ATTEND THE REGULAR AND PRIMARY COMMITTEE COUNCIL MEETINGS WHICH WILL BE HELD AT THE BOUNDARY MUSEUM SITE ON JULY 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2011, WITH THE TRANSIT BUS LEAVING AT CITY HALL AT 4:30 PM AND RETURNING TO CITY HALL AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETINGS. CARRIED.**



- e) Public Meeting on BC Forests – Location – Community Futures Boundary on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> from 1-4 pm. **Recommend to receive for information – open invitation for anyone to attend this meeting.**
- f) From Canada Post - Information regarding the Postal Strike. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- g) BC Sustainable Energy Association - “Watt’s Happening” – Information Paper. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- h) From the Heart & Stroke Foundation Announcing You Tube Video launched on June 2<sup>nd</sup> - Information regarding the 5 warning signs of Stroke and their awareness campaign. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- i) Municipal Advisory from the Passenger Transportation Board - New Rates for Taxis and Passenger Directed Vehicles. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- j) UBCM-In The House - Provincial Legislation 2011. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- k) May 30<sup>th</sup> Task List – List of Completed and In-Progress Items. **Recommend to file.**

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**BYLAWS:**

None

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**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 8:17 P.M. CARRIED.**

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR

  
CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH

My Council report, June 13, 2011

1. Attended the reception for the Branding of the boundary on May 31.
2. On June 1 I attended the meeting at GFSS for the community health committee. It was well attended by the community and excellent information shared. I am delighted to see this group form and look forward to the work they will be doing.
3. CFM delegates supports municipalities debating medical marijuana at their tables and endorses the City of Victoria's resolution to decentralize the MMAR program to the provinces.

Strong Cities, Strong Communities, Strong Canada

2011 Conference

City of Victoria resolution on decentralizing medical marijuana to the provinces

#### **CSCP11.2.02**

#### **ADMINISTRATION AND OVERSIGHT OF MEDICAL CANNABIS**

**WHEREAS** The federal medical cannabis program administered through Health Canada's Marihuana Medical Access Division does not satisfy the constitutional rights of critically and chronically ill patients to access marihuana for medicinal use; and

**WHEREAS** The use of cannabis by legitimate cannabis patients is a health issue, and as such should be under the legislative purview of Provincial governments; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED** That FCM lobby the federal government to decentralize the administration and oversight of legitimate medical cannabis use and production from federal authority to Provincial health ministries as part of their public and personal health mandate.

*City of Victoria, British Columbia*

#### **Background Research and Assessment:**

##### Background

Administered by Health Canada, the Marihuana Medical Access Regulations (MMAR) permit access to marihuana for medical use for Canadians needing such medical treatment. Once approved under the MMAR, individuals have three options for obtaining marihuana:

1. They can apply under the MMAR to access Health Canada's supply of marihuana;
2. They can apply for a personal use production licence under which they can cultivate and process marihuana for their own use; or
3. They can designate someone with a designated-person production licence to cultivate and process marihuana on their behalf.

##### Issue

The sponsor of the resolution proposes that the use of marihuana for medical reasons is a health issue and that it should therefore be under the legislative purview of provincial governments.

##### Current Status

Health Canada has publicly acknowledged having a backlog of applications and experiencing delay in approving for the Medical Marihuana Access Program.

##### Analysis

The sponsor offers two rationale in support of its resolution: **Page 14 of 134 2011 POLICY DEVELOPMENT GUIDE** Federation of Canadian Municipalities

1. The Medical Marihuana Access Program does not satisfy the constitutional rights of critically and chronically ill patients to access marihuana for medicinal use; and
2. Medical marihuana is a health issue and should therefore be controlled by provincial governments.

Although the use of medical marijuana is certainly a health issue, it is also an issue of criminal justice, since right now marijuana is a controlled substance under federal legislation. To legislatively enable the medical use of marijuana, the federal government must be involved at least initially, although there is clearly space for provincial/territorial governments to stipulate how medical marijuana is used. This appears to be an issue of shared rather than sole jurisdiction. The sponsor has not made any link between this issue and a municipal interest or responsibility.

Assessment and Recommendation(s)  
The grounds presented by the sponsor to support the resolution do not link this issue with an indirect or direct municipal interest or responsibility.

**2011 MARCH BOARD RECOMMENDATION:** This resolution be referred to the Annual Conference with a Category —B□; issue not within municipal jurisdiction.

**2011 ANNUAL CONFERENCE DECISION:**

**November 1**

*Portion of  
Councillor Robert's  
Report*

## **4) NEWS RELEASE**

5) For Immediate Release

6) August 23, 2010

### **7) THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT**

- 8) **GOVERNMENT HAS VISION, BUT INCOMPLETE PLANS, TO CONSERVE ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY IN B.C. PARKS**
- 9) VICTORIA – Government has a clear vision to conserve ecological integrity in the province's parks and protected areas, but not the plans to achieve this, says Auditor General John Doyle in his latest report.
- 10) "British Columbia's parks and protected areas – about 1,000 in all – are integral to the quality of life in this province," said Doyle. "Despite its declared intentions and clear vision to conserve the ecological integrity in these areas, the Ministry of Environment is not meeting this goal."
- 11) The audit assessed whether the ministry is meeting the current BC Parks Program Plan goal of being recognized for leadership in the stewardship of ecological and cultural integrity. Conserving ecological integrity contributes to protecting biodiversity, preserving wilderness, and maintaining ecosystem services, such as water purification and erosion control.
- 12) Key findings included: while the ministry had a clear goal, its plans were incomplete or dated; conservation policies are not being consistently upheld; and little action has been taken to ensure conservation. As well, the ministry is not reporting publicly on its progress.
- 13) "I was deeply impressed by the commitment of ministry staff to their program, and look forward to receiving updates on their plans and actions," said Doyle. "While achieving the goal of conserving ecological integrity will be challenging, taking action now will ensure that our province's parks and protected areas are available for future generations to enjoy."
- 14) **THE AUDITOR GENERAL RECOMMENDATION ON THE STATE OF OUR PARKS IS-**
- 15) **the ministry update its BC Parks Program Plan so that it includes clarification of ecological**
- 16) **integrity and performance targets that adequately address the ministry's goal of proactive**
- 17) **stewardship of ecological integrity.**

- 18) the ministry complete the strategic direction and procedural guidelines for its Conservation
- 19) Management Program and ensure that the Conservation Program policies are consistently upheld.
- 20) government develop a plan to address current gaps in the parks and protected areas system.
- 21) the ministry obtain the information it needs in order to determine management actions for
- 22) the conservation of ecological integrity and ensure that its policy of developing a five-year
- 23)
- 24) conservation management activities plan (research, inventory and monitoring) is met.
- 25) the ministry review and update its Master Plans Policy to clarify what type of management
- 26) plan is required for each park and protected area, how ecological integrity in each area will
- 27) be conserved and when each plan should be reviewed and updated.
- 28) the ministry conduct annual planning for each park and protected area to determine
- 29) what actions are needed to address conservation objectives, threats and stressors,
- 30) determine priorities from this plan, and monitor and evaluate action items against
- 31) conservation objectives.
- 32) the ministry report periodically to the Legislative Assembly and public on how it is
- 33) conserving ecological integrity in the province's parks and protected areas system.