



## TOWN OF GIBSONS

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### Town of Gibsons' Resolutions to Go Forward to UBCM Convention

*June 8, 2021* – Two resolutions drafted by the Town of Gibsons will go forward to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Convention this September, after being adopted at the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Convention on May 28, 2021.

If adopted at the UBCM Convention, the first resolution would require the Ministry of Transportation to conduct meaningful consultation with local governments and residents of municipalities located on provincial highways. This would include Highway 101, which runs along the Sunshine Coast from Langdale, BC to Lund, BC.

*“Our local communities experience very direct economic, ecological and logistical impacts when the Ministry of Transportation conducts work on Highway 101,”* said Mayor Bill Beamish. *“So we think it is appropriate that we are consulted before that work takes place.”*

The second resolution would require the Province of BC to include a referral to local governments when considering projects that involve industrial activity that could have a negative impact on downstream communities. The resolution also asks that the Province undertake risk assessments to identify and assess any potential threats to the natural assets that communities rely on to provide essential services such as drinking water and flood mitigation.

*“Rainwater that falls in our local watershed and then flows to the Gibsons Aquifer is subject to the land-use policies of six different permitting agencies,”* said Mayor Beamish. *“This resolution positions us to better protect the Aquifer by promoting increased communication between the Town and those agencies, and by requiring that the full impact of any project, including those that might occur outside of a project’s physical boundaries, be assessed.”*

This year’s UBCM Convention is scheduled for September 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> and will be held virtually for the second year in a row.

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

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*“Nature is our most valuable asset”*