

## **Association of Yukon Communities 2016 Resolutions carried and amended**

### **1) Changes to the *ATIPP Act***

**WHEREAS** the planned review of the Yukon *Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act* may result in Yukon municipalities being included under this legislation; and

**WHEREAS** in the event of such changes, all municipalities will face significant costs with respect to staffing and administration that will be required under this legislation;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Association of Yukon Communities engage with the Yukon Government to ensure that, if municipalities are included under the revised *ATIPP Act*, funds will be available to Yukon municipalities to assist with the costs of implementing the *ATIPP Act*.

### **2) Infrastructure Funding to Reflect Municipal Priorities**

**WHEREAS** changes to federal infrastructure funding programs may impact the availability of funds and the priorities of all levels of government; and

**WHEREAS** it is imperative that the needs of the municipalities be considered with respect to the allocation of infrastructure funding;

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT:** The Association of Yukon Communities request the Yukon Government to annually seek municipal infrastructure priorities and ensure that budget timelines are reflected in the finalization of the Yukon Infrastructure Plan; and  
**THAT** the Yukon Government be requested to continue to report on the progress back to the Association of Yukon Communities and all Yukon municipalities on the progress of the development of the Yukon Infrastructure Plan; and

**THAT** the Yukon Government request the Federal Government ensure that federal project approvals reflect municipal budget timelines and building seasons unique to the north.

### **3) Municipal Matching Rental Construction Program Extension**

**WHEREAS** rental housing is as critical issue in many Yukon communities; and

**WHEREAS** each municipality is in the best position to understand and articulate the rental housing needs of that community; and

**WHEREAS** the Yukon Housing Corporation announced the Municipal Matching Rental Construction Program in April 2015 that allocates \$3.5 million over two years; and

**WHEREAS** several Yukon municipalities have recently adopted Development Incentive Programs and feel that programs like this one are valuable to address rental housing inventory needs; and

**WHEREAS** it will take some time for developers to access the program; and

**WHEREAS** the Association of Yukon Communities sees the lack of rental housing as an urgent issue affecting all our communities.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the Association of Yukon Communities encourages the Yukon Government to continue the Municipal Matching Rental Construction Program and make it part of their annual budget.

#### **4) Ambulance Response Times**

**WHEREAS:** It is commonplace to set policy for a service standard for provision of emergency medical services, specifically including ambulance response times.

**WHEREAS:** Yukon's diverse geography, challenging logistics, and utilization of both paid professional paramedics and volunteer ambulance attendants presents a unique situation for the provision of emergency medical services.

**WHEREAS:** All Yukoners are deserving of quality, prompt and reliable emergency medical services.

**THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Association of Yukon Communities strongly urges the Yukon Government and Yukon Emergency Medical Services to develop policy that defines a service standard, including ambulance coverage.

#### **5) Enhancing Tax Incentives for Emergency Services Volunteers**

**WHEREAS:** active community volunteer involvement is essential for municipal emergency program delivery in the Yukon; Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance services are competing in an often limited pool for volunteer resources.

**WHEREAS:** The Federal Government currently offers tax incentives to encourage volunteers to participate in Emergency Services delivery, specifically Fire, Ambulance, and Search and Rescue services.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That AYC lobby (through FCM) the Federal Government to enhance the existing tax credit, and lobby the Yukon Territorial Government to establish (a matching) tax incentive for Emergency Services Volunteers.

#### **6) Update Legislation for Nuisance Dogs**

**WHEREAS:** Nuisance and dangerous dogs continue to be a problem in unincorporated communities throughout Yukon; and

**WHEREAS:** Current legislation was passed in 1969 and is outdated and no longer meets the needs of the unincorporated communities;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That AYC request Yukon Government to review and update legislation that will allow for the management of domestic animals in unincorporated Yukon communities;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That Local Advisory Councils be consulted as part of the legislative review.

#### **7) Presumptive Legislation Regarding Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder**

**WHEREAS:** Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a severe anxiety disorder that can result from exposure to any event that results in psychological trauma. It can result from a single episode or as a result of the cumulative effects of continual exposure. The result can range from mild to nearly totally debilitating.

**WHEREAS:** Research shows that first responders (Police, Fire, and EMS) are at least twice as likely as the general public to suffer from PTSD, and that PTSD results in more suicide attempts than all other anxiety disorders.

**WHEREAS:** The current process and framework under the Yukon Workers' compensation Health and Safety Board (YWCHSB) requires an inordinate amount of proof by the claimant in order for a case to be resolved in favour of the claimant. Criteria proving PTSD should be considered that are similar to the type of proof required for presumptive cancer legislation.

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**THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Association of Yukon Communities support the Association of Yukon Fire Chiefs in their petitioning of the Government of Yukon to enact new legislation to streamline the process for Yukon's first responders to receive YWCHSB coverage for PTSD, a presumptive illness, within realistic criteria.

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