

23-AT-01

COMPREHENSIVE JOINT REVIEW OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT

WHEREAS:

The Yukon's Municipal Act has not been comprehensively reviewed in over ten years;

WHEREAS:

The Act is a vital piece of legislation for the proper functioning of Yukon Municipal governments;

WHEREAS:

The legislation needs to be regularly reviewed to meet the evolving needs of Yukon municipalities and the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS:

The current legislation should be comprehensively reviewed jointly by the Yukon Government and municipalities and updated to better reflect and serve the needs of Yukon municipal governments.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities call upon the Government of Yukon to undertake a comprehensive joint review of the Municipal Act with municipalities.

It was duly moved by Councillor Kirk Cameron and seconded THAT Resolution **23-AT-01** be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

23-AF-03

FUND

INCREASE TO YUKON'S SHARE OF THE CANADA COMMUNITY-BUILDING

WHEREAS:

Municipalities across Canada are struggling to address their infrastructure deficits;

WHEREAS:

Yukon communities are working to address infrastructure deficits and face unique challenges in the North, including the pronounced effects of climate change and impacts on infrastructure; and

WHEREAS:

Yukon communities require significantly increased funding in order to make long-term decisions regarding infrastructure investments and replace aging infrastructure; and

WHEREAS:

Current levels of funding and property tax increases to cover infrastructure costs are not adequate or sustainable.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Association of Yukon Communities urge the federal government to triple the Yukon's share of funding distributed through the Canada Community Building Fund

It was duly moved by Councillor Mellisa Murray and seconded
THAT Resolution **23-AF-03** be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

WHEREAS:

The Yukon has been subject to a number of natural disasters in recent years; and

WHEREAS:

Natural disasters have resulted in urgent financial needs for the Yukon municipalities; and

WHEREAS:

Yukon municipalities often do not possess the financial resources to adequately respond to a natural disaster; and

WHEREAS:

The effects of natural disasters on municipal infrastructure would benefit from long-term mitigation projects;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Yukon Government create a territorial “disaster financial assistance program” to help municipalities respond to natural disasters.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT the Yukon Government better support municipalities with long-term mitigation projects to address the impacts of natural disasters and climate change on infrastructure.

It was duly moved by Councillor Kirk Cameron and seconded THAT Resolution 23-AT-04 be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

23-AT-05 YUKON GOVERNMENT TO UNDERTAKE MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION WITH MUNICIPALITIES.

WHEREAS:

Yukon municipalities have in recent years at times not been consulted in regard to significant policy and program decisions affecting their communities; and

WHEREAS:

Decisions for Yukon communities are most effective when meaningful consultation and consideration occurs; and

WHEREAS:

Proper consultation recognizes the unique challenges that each Yukon municipality faces and respects all involved governments and decision makers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Yukon Government ensure meaningful and respectful consultation and advance notification on territorial decisions that may impact municipalities.

It was duly moved by 2nd VP Doris Hansen and seconded THAT Resolution **23-AT-05** be accepted as presented.

Carried Unanimously

WHEREAS:

Municipalities that are served by EMS are at times without any coverage; and

WHEREAS:

The communities are not kept informed when there are lapses in service; and

WHEREAS:

Municipalities are frequently called upon to assist EMS personnel when they are short staffed; and

WHEREAS:

The Yukon Government is failing to compensate municipalities when they are called upon to assist.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Yukon Government ensure one hundred percent coverage in municipalities that are served by EMS and, if that is not possible, consider privatization or other models.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities requests that if municipalities are called upon to assist EMS personnel, they are fully and promptly compensated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Yukon Government review the current EMS volunteer model as it's been in place for some time, look to increase honoraria and standby pay, and fully pay for training.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Yukon Government development and implement a communication protocol for communicating with communities about lapses in EMS service.

It was duly moved by Mayor William Kendrick and seconded THAT Resolution **23-AT-06** be accepted as amended.

Carried Unanimously

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Yukon Government ensure one hundred percent coverage in municipalities that are served by EMS and, if that is not possible, consider private enterprise or other models.

It was duly moved by Mayor Christopher Irvin and seconded THAT Resolution **23-AT-06** be accepted as further amended to change "*privatization*" to "*private enterprise or other models.*"

Carried Unanimously

WHEREAS:

On November 15, 2022, the Yukon Legislature passed the *Animal Protection and Control Act* that improved animal welfare standards in the Yukon; and

WHEREAS:

The Humane Society Yukon, through the operation of the Mae Bachur animal shelter, provides an invaluable, affordable, and humane service for the Yukon; and

WHEREAS:

The Humane Society Yukon's funding model is no longer suitable for the demands of its service; and

WHEREAS:

Municipalities cannot assume the responsibility and cost of the service; and

WHEREAS:

A new sustainable funding model requires long-term commitment from the Yukon Government;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities requests that the Yukon Government provide long-term sustainable funding to the Humane Society Yukon.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities be included in the assessment and development of a financially sustainable model.

It was duly moved by Immediate Past President Gord Curran and seconded THAT Resolution 23-AT-07 be accepted as amended.

Carried Unanimously

WHEREAS:

Yukon taxes on properties just outside of municipalities are very low in comparison to municipal taxes, in large part due to low mill rates that have been unchanged for many years, while Yukon municipal mill rates and property taxes have had to increase substantially due to increasing costs of delivering municipal programs and services; and

WHEREAS:

Significant disparity between property mill rates, assessments, and resulting property taxes discourage development within Yukon communities; and

WHEREAS:

This tax disparity also discourages municipal boundary expansions and their approvals; and

WHEREAS:

In response to a similar 2018 AYC resolution on the issue, the Yukon Government agreed to monitor the issue; and

WHEREAS:

Property owners outside of municipal boundaries continue to benefit from various services and infrastructure within municipalities, such as cleared roads, water and sewer at their places of work, and recreation facilities, without shouldering an appropriate share of the costs;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT AYC lobby the Yukon Government to review current property taxes in areas peripheral to Yukon municipalities, and increase those property taxes appropriately.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT AYC lobby the Yukon Government to provide an update of 2018 resolution, review current property taxes in areas peripheral to Yukon municipalities, and increase those property taxes appropriately.

It was duly moved by Mayor William Kendrick and seconded THAT Resolution **23-AT-08** be accepted as amended.

Carried Unanimously

23-AT-02

REVIEW OF THE MUNICIPAL ACT TO ALLOW PERMANENT RESIDENTS TO VOTE IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

WHEREAS:

Permanent residents pay taxes in the municipalities they live in;

WHEREAS:

Permanent residents contribute to the economies and vibrancy of Yukon communities; and

WHEREAS:

Permanent residents have the knowledge, experience, perspective and commitment to help elect decision makers in our communities and be reflected in the decisions made that affect them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities call upon the Government of Yukon to review the Municipal Act for the purpose of allowing permanent residents to vote in municipal elections.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT the Association of Yukon Communities call upon the Government of Yukon to review the Municipal Act for the purpose of allowing permanent residents to vote and run in municipal elections.

It was duly moved by Councillor Kirk Cameron and seconded THAT Resolution **23-AT-02** be accepted as amended.

Carried