



UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES RESOLUTION REGARDING BC HYDRO PROJECTS – ESTABLISHMENT OF FUNDING FOR CLIMATE ACTION ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

WHEREAS the *BC Hydro and Power Authority Act* and associated statutes references other Acts within its scope, including the *Climate Change Accountability Act* and *Environmental Management Act*. Various communities have experienced that their operations do not fully comply with these Acts or the Provincial Government's Nature-Based 2030 Climate Change targets to protect land, preserve nature, and reverse diversity loss. Moreover, the Authority does not allocate a budget for adequate eco-restoration in areas where its activities have harmfully impacted biodiversity. Financial support is crucial to the success of hydro projects and the realization of provincial climate change targets;

AND WHEREAS to prepare the Province for the impacts of climate change, it is essential that BC Hydro collaborates with local governments, stakeholders, and landowners. The *BC Hydro Power and Authority Act* must also prioritize ecosystem retention in its mandate to provide affordable power while minimizing environmental impact, restoring biodiversity and in the process support local governments' Climate Action Plans;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities recommend the Provincial Government mandate an amendment to the *BC Hydro and Power Authority Act* to incorporate a budget for Climate Change Ecosystem Restoration as well as technologies that support tree retention and/or re-planting in all its projects, thus demonstrating the Provincial Government's commitment to its Nature-Based 2030 Climate Change targets.