

March 1, 2025

Board Members
Peace River Regional District
Box 810
Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8



Dear Board Members,

I am pleased to invite Peace River Regional District to renew its annual membership in the Union of B.C. Municipalities (UBCM).

UBCM was founded in 1905 because local government leaders at the time recognized a need for a common voice when working with other levels of government. The same mission drives UBCM today. Our advocacy is rooted in the voices of our members to ensure your priorities and concerns are heard.

One of the overarching challenges facing local governments today is the cost of service delivery and the growing pressure on property taxes. In many the communities, the financial challenges we face are exacerbated by gaps in provincial and federal responsibilities.

During the fall provincial election, UBCM highlighted the impact of provincial funding gaps on local governments, specifically in housing and homelessness, infrastructure, climate action and emergency management. Our campaign, *Stretched to the Limit*, was launched prior to our annual convention, and provided a frame for media coverage leading into the election.

Last year, UBCM successfully challenged the government to hold back on implementing Bill 45, which would have limited the ability of local governments to seek court-ordered decampments. Had the province not pulled back the cost implications for local governments would have been considerable.

UBCM also continued our advocacy during the past year for better guidelines to support the province's decriminalization trial. Local governments quickly recognized that the exemption granted by Health Canada went too far in permitting the consumption of illicit drugs in public places. UBCM advocated to prohibit use in more public spaces, and we were glad to see the change made to the Health Canada exemption last spring.

We also know the cost pressures facing communities as you manage growth and replace aging infrastructure. A key achievement in the past year was completing negotiations with the federal and provincial governments to renew the Canada Community-Building Fund for another 10 years. This program will deliver over \$3.7 billion to B.C. communities over the next decade to provide predictable, flexible funding for infrastructure needs.

The new Emergency and Disaster Management Act (EDMA), introduced in fall 2023 with the aim of strengthening emergency management across the province, also added considerable responsibilities for local governments. During the past year UBCM initiated a joint advisory committee to inform the development of EDMA regulations, emphasizing the need for less prescriptive regulations that will minimize the burden on local governments and account for local circumstances.

Responsible conduct is a priority for local government, and UBCM continues to work with the Local Government Management Association and Provincial staff to support it. Over the past year, UBCM joined with LGMA to release a discussion paper that explores options for additional code of conduct legislation. The province is drawing on this paper as it undertakes policy development as it explores legislative options. We expect to hear more from the province on these options in the coming months.

Reconciliation is a long-term matter of importance to our members. We were pleased to co-host a province-wide community-to-community forum in September with the First Nations Leadership Council. The full day event brought together dozens of First Nations and local governments for a day of dialogue around building relations, advancing reconciliation, and exploring ways to work together. We will continue to support local governments and First Nations to work together for the benefit of their communities, collaborating on areas of mutual interest, and setting an example for organizational reconciliation.

As we prepare this letter, we find ourselves on the eve of the 2025 provincial budget and the threat of tariffs targeting Canada's economy. The coming year will be a time of uncertainty and dramatic adaptation to new circumstances. As local governments navigate these changes, UBCM will redouble our efforts to represent your interests with the provincial government.

Our effectiveness as an organization is directly tied to the support and participation of our members. I sincerely thank you for Peace River Regional District's renewal of its membership last year and look forward to continuing our work on your behalf with the rest of the UBCM Executive.

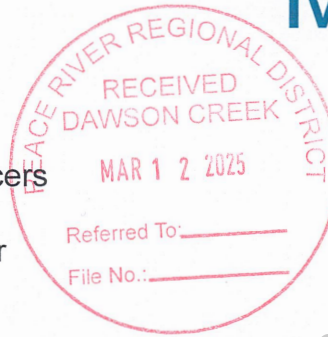
If you have any questions or feedback about our work, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,
Councillor Trish Mandewo
UBCM President



March 1, 2025

TO: Local Government Chief Financial Officers
FROM: Hervinder Bains, Chief Financial Officer
RE: **UBCM 2025 MEMBERSHIP DUES**



UBCM President Trish Mandewo has written to all local councils and regional boards requesting them to consider renewing their membership for 2025 (enclosed).

UBCM membership dues are based on Executive Policies 2.1–2.3.
Rates for 2025 are:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Rate</u>
First 5,000	0.7636
Next 10,000	0.5546
Next 15,000	0.3490
Balance	0.0714

Membership dues are calculated on your population, and the population estimates used are those prepared by BC STATS, Ministry of Jobs, Trade & Technology, Province of BC (December 2024).

We also enclose for your attention our 2025 dues invoice.

UBCM is transitioning to only accepting direct deposit for payment of invoices; enclosed is the information required to pay your annual dues through direct deposit. Please feel free to contact our office (aferguson@ubcm.ca) if you have any questions.

Encls.



UNION OF B.C. MUNICIPALITIES

Suite 60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way
Richmond, British Columbia
Canada, V6X 2W9

Phone: (604) 270-8226 E-mail: ubcm@ubcm.ca



INVOICE

TO: Peace River Regional District
Box 810
Dawson Creek, BC V1G 4H8

Invoice Date: Mar 1, 2025

Invoice No: [REDACTED]

Due: Upon Receipt

Reference: 2025 UBCM Annual Dues

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
<p>Population: 20,470</p> <p><i>Your UBCM dues have been calculated using population estimates (Dec 2024 release) provided by BC STATS, the central statistical agency of the Province of British Columbia.</i></p>	
Annual Dues:	
First 5,000 population at 0.7636	\$3,818.00
Next 10,000 at 0.5546	\$5,546.00
Next 15,000 at 0.3490	\$1,909.03
Balance at 0.0714	\$0.00
Subtotal:	\$11,273.03
5% GST: [REDACTED]	\$563.65
Total:	\$11,836.68

01-27000-3050-100
GST



UNION OF B.C. MUNICIPALITIES

Suite 60 – 10551 Shellbridge Way, Richmond, B.C. V6X 2W9

REMITTANCE PORTION

Peace River Regional District

2025 Annual UBCM Dues

Date: Mar 1, 2025

Invoice # [REDACTED]

TOTAL DUE: \$11,836.68

AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

Please return this portion of invoice with payment. Please do not combine payment of this invoice with any other billing you may receive from UBCM. Thank you.