

COMM-1



CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
Public Access and Council Services

VanRIMS No.: 08-2000-20

MEMORANDUM

March 9, 2009

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Tarja Tuominen, Meeting Coordinator
SUBJECT: 2009 LMLGA Resolutions

The attached resolutions have been received from the Vancouver Public Library and Engineering Services for Council's consideration on March 24, 2009. The resolutions, if approved by Council, will be submitted to the LMLGA by March 27, 2009, for consideration at its AGM and Convention to be held May 6 to 8, 2009.

SUBJECT	SUBMITTED BY
Legislative Review of the Library Act	City Librarian, Vancouver Public Library
Internet Access in Public Libraries	City Librarian, Vancouver Public Library
British Columbia and Canada, Recycling Capacity	General Manager, Engineering Services

WHEREAS public library services are crucial in fostering life long learning for all, are especially important in difficult economic times, and the Minister of Education has announced a legislative review of the Act which is intended to “encourage the extension and use of public library service throughout British Columbia”;

AND WHEREAS the Act mandates free resident access to most public library services with a citizen governance board for municipal libraries while also providing for appropriate City Council influence and control;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UBCM urge the Minister to maintain the core principles of free access to public library service and citizen governance for municipal public libraries as mandated in the Library Act.

INTERNET ACCESS IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES

City of Vancouver

WHEREAS public library services are crucial in fostering life long learning for all, are especially important in difficult economic times, and the Minister of Education has announced a legislative review of the Act which is intended to “encourage the extension and use of public library service throughout British Columbia”;

AND WHEREAS the provision of free access to the Internet in public libraries is essential to ensure equity of access for all to this important source of information and access to government services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the UBCM recommend that free resident access to the Internet through public libraries be mandated in the Library Act.

WHEREAS a large proportion of recyclable materials are exported from Canada to the United States, Southeast Asia and other offshore countries to be processed back into basic manufacturing feedstock;

AND WHEREAS this export of valuable materials results in an increased environmental impact from transportation, a lack of local control of the end markets for our recyclables and a reduced number of Canadian jobs;

AND WHEREAS the recent economic downturn and collapse of the world commodity markets has highlighted BC's and Canada's dependence on foreign markets for recyclable materials, which has had a large impact on financial returns, employment and our ability to maintain our recycling programs;

AND WHEREAS a number of Provinces are considering large new stewardship programs to cover more packaging which will increase the amount of materials that need to be recycled;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT UBCM urge both the Federal and Provincial governments to implement policies and programs that will lead to the creation of increased industrial capacity in British Columbia and in Canada to process recyclable materials. Mandatory recycled content legislation that exists in some US states should be implemented in BC as one policy to increase the demand for old materials. A grant and/or loan guarantee program for recycling plant infrastructure development should also be implemented.