

North Central Local Government Association

Accessibility Resolutions – 2010

B35: ACCESSIBILITY DESIGNATION

Sponsor: Cariboo Regional District

WHEREAS many members of our society are affected by accessibility limitations;

AND WHEREAS communities who strive to make accessibility a priority are often unrecognized and unknown to those who might utilize them;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA and UBCM lobby the Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport to implement a Provincial Accessibility Capital designation similar to the Forest Capital of British Columbia designation administered by the Association of BC Forest Professionals, and to award that designation to a community or region within British Columbia on a two-year basis.

UBCM comments:

The UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution requesting that the provincial government create a Provincial Accessibility Capital designation, similar to the Forest Capital of British Columbia designation by the Association of BC Forest Professionals.

For the Forest Capital program, the Association of BC Forest Professionals selects one community to be the Forest Capital of BC, in an effort to celebrate the economic, cultural, natural and historic contributions forests make to community life and the health of the province. The winning community carries the title for a full year.

UBCM is not aware of existing provincial accessibility awards in BC, however some local governments, such as Coquitlam, have offered their own accessibility awards to highlight local business and community initiatives aimed at improving accessibility.

B1: DEVELOPMENT OF A LIVABLE-INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES STRATEGY

Sponsor: North Central Local Government Association Executive

WHEREAS the Measuring Up The North Initiative (Phase 1) has been successful in helping BC communities assess and improve how livable, age-friendly, disability-friendly, universally designed and inclusive they are for all residents and visitors;

AND WHEREAS many time-limited initiatives such as MUTN Phase 1 and others in the Province have started the momentum but there is still a great deal more to do;

AND WHEREAS MUTN has developed tools and processes and learned lessons that could contribute to a provincial-wide initiative:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the NCLGA requests that UBCM work with the Province of BC to enact a Provincial Livable-Inclusive Communities Strategy that will include provincial funding and support as well as Provincial Awards that recognize business, community, local governments and individuals in their efforts.

UBCM Comments

The UBCM membership has not previously considered a resolution calling for the Province to enact a Livable-Inclusive Communities Strategy be developed.

Measuring Up The North (NCLGA); Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport; Smart Growth BC, UBCM, and 2010 Legacies Now and other organizations recently collaborated to produce a resource for local governments that provides guidelines for making Official Community Plans more age-friendly and disability-friendly.

Clarification from the sponsor is requested as to the goal(s) of a Livable-Inclusive Communities Strategy and the organizations and / or activities that would be part of such a strategy.