

**DISTRICT OF 100 MILE HOUSE****FOR INFORMATION CORRESPONDENCE – February 20th, 2026**

- Minutes – South Cariboo Joint Committee – January 12th, 2026
- FireSmart Program Update – January 30th, 2026
- FireSmart Program Update – February 18th, 2026
- ESS Update – 2025 A Year In Review
- Age Friendly Community Grants 2026 – Grant Information Summary / Detail
- Correspondence from the City of Kamloops
 - RE: SILGA Resolution – Heritage Conservation Act
- Correspondence from the Township of Spallumcheen
 - RE: SILGA Resolution – BC Building Code Amendments
- Correspondence from the BC Association of Farmers Markets
 - RE: BC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Correspondence from the BC Community Forest Association
 - RE: BC Community Forest Association



CARIBOO REGIONAL DISTRICT
SOUTH CARIBOO JOINT COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 12, 2026

12:00 p.m.

District of 100 Mile House Council Chambers

385 Birch Avenue

100 Mile House, BC

PRESENT: Co-Chair M. Wagner, Director A. Richmond, Director E. de Vries, Co-Chair M. Pinkney, Councillor J. Guimond, Councillor D. Barnett, Councillor D. Mingo, Councillor M. Norgren

STAFF: D. Campbell, Manager of Community Services, Cariboo Regional District, T. Boulanger, CAO, District of 100 Mile House, J. Dickerson, Manager of Recreation Services, District of 100 Mile House, T. Conway, Director of Community Services, District of 100 Mile House

1. CALL TO ORDER - By Co-Chair M. Pinkney

1.1 Adoption of Agenda

SCJ.2026-01-01

That the agenda be adopted as presented with the addition of discussion regarding moving the March 9, 2026 South Cariboo Joint Committee date and discussion of the South Cariboo Community Enhancement Foundation 2025 information.

Carried

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of the South Cariboo Joint Committee Meeting - November 10, 2025

SCJ.2026-01-02

That the minutes of the South Cariboo Joint Committee meeting, held November 10, 2025, be adopted.

Carried

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS

3.2 South Cariboo Recreation Centre - Outdoor Rink

SCJ.2026-01-03

That up to \$30,000 from the South Cariboo Recreation budget be made available to the 100 Mile Outdoor Rink Society to procure detailed electrical and mechanical engineering designs for the outdoor rink project.

Carried

3.4 March 9, 2026 South Cariboo Joint Committee Meeting Date

SCJ.2026-01-04

That the South Cariboo Joint Committee meeting scheduled for March 9, 2026 be moved to March 2, 2026.

Carried

3.5 South Cariboo Community Enhancement Foundation 2025 Information

SCJ.2026-01-05

That the South Cariboo Community Enhancement Foundation 2025 information package be received.

Carried

4. ADJOURNMENT

SCJ.2026-01-06

That the meeting of the South Cariboo Joint Committee be adjourned at 1:25 p.m., January 12, 2026.

Carried

Co-Chair

January 30, 2026

District of 100 Mile House FireSmart Program Monthly Report

January 2026 was primarily a scaffolding month for the FireSmart Program, with administrative work being completed in order to set the Program up for success.

This month marked the beginning of Phase Two of the FireSmart Program for the District of 100 Mile House which allows for an increase in funding and more projects to be initiated and completed. Further, with Phase One fully completed, many lessons were learned during the reporting process which can be used to streamline record keeping and enhance feedback to Program funders. Making changes using lessons from Phase One and laying solid groundwork for Phase Two were the major goals of this month.

The priority, and largest amount of time spent, was researching and planning potential projects for future delivery from the eligible options, including contacting external contacts who have run successful activities. A tangible outcome is the creation of a document with a shortlist of potential projects with a budget projection and pros and cons for each. The FireSmart Coordinator also spent time analyzing, editing, or creating tracking tools for the Program.

The next step in choosing future projects will be further narrowing of the shortlist, and seeking feedback from stakeholders, including members of the Community FireSmart and Resilience Committee. A final list of projects considered for implementation is expected to be completed by the end of February 2026, and a report will be prepared for District Council members to keep them apprised of FireSmart activities.

On January 28th, significant changes to the UBCM funding model for FireSmart funding were announced. This necessitated a close reading of the newly published material to confirm that

status of the Program. At this time, the updates do not appear to have a major impact on the activities planned by the FireSmart Coordinator in Phase Two. A clarifying webinar is scheduled for early February.

Some key activities undertaken by the FireSmart Coordinator in January:

- Researching potential eligible programs and creating shortlist for selection of programs to deliver over the course of Phase Two
- Budget planning
- Collaborating with other stakeholders, and update meetings with other FireSmart Coordinators
- Completion of online training course "Structure Triage Considerations for Wildland Urban Interface Firefighting"
- Resuming FireSmart Program social media posts on District of 100 Mile House Facebook
- Registering for 2026 Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit (April)
- Preparing delivery of professional development day presentation for School District 27 staff (February)
- Initiated FireSmart Library Program with 100 Mile House Library (May events)
- Updating statistics tracking based on previous year's reporting to better reflect required categories

Prepared by Ryan Dugaro

FireSmart Coordinator



February 18, 2026

I am writing to update Mayor and Council on the status of the FireSmart Program in 100 Mile House. The FireSmart Program was renewed for two years via funding from the Community Resiliency Funding from the Union of BC Municipalities for 2026 and 2027.

With Phase One completed last year, there are more activities that the District is eligible to enact, in addition to the ongoing, required activities from Phase One that all communities must provide for the duration of the funding.

The new Phase Two activities will account for approximately half of the approved UBCM budget.

The chart below describes the continuing projects, as well as the Planned Projects for 2026. These planned activities have been chosen through consultation with a number of professional stakeholders and align with the recommendations of the Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan that was completed during Phase One.

This list may not be exhaustive, as there may be budget remaining for other projects to be completed. There are also other considerations that could impact completion of activities (for example, weather may not be conducive to a training burn during appropriate seasonal windows). However, these are the best projections at this time for eligible activities that will positively impact the District of 100 Mile House.

Work towards completion of the new FireSmart projects will be commenced immediately, with timelines dependent on individual factors for each activity.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Best Regards,

Ryan Dugaro

FireSmart Coordinator for the District of 100 Mile House

Required (Continuing) Projects
<i>Description</i>
FireSmart Position
<i>Applicants are required to have a FireSmart position in their community.</i>
Public Education
<i>Public education and outreach play a critical role in helping communities prepare for wildfire by promoting a sense of empowerment and shared responsibility.</i>
Interagency Co-operation
<i>Interagency cooperation may include local fire departments, First Nation and/or local government staff and elected officials, and other stakeholders.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coordinate a Community FireSmart and Resiliency Collaborative (CFRC) as the lead agency.</i> • <i>Attend the Wildfire Resiliency and Training Summit.</i>
Planned Projects (New for 2026)
<i>Description</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pros
School District Program
<i>This includes promotional materials for contests, banners, and targeted education events at schools to promote the education program curriculum.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple to administer • Large audience for information • Community engagement • Low cost to FS Program • Recommended by CWRP
Library Program
<i>This program includes Wildfire Resiliency Literacy Kits, Ember Activity Packages, Colouring Contest materials, and access to Storytime Videos with Ember.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simple to administer • Large audience for information • Community engagement

- Low cost to FS Program
- Recommended by CWRP

FireSmart Training

Wildfire Mitigation Program – Wildfire Mitigation Specialist (WMS) training for FireSmart Coordinator

- Required to allow FireSmart Coordinator to conduct home assessments for the public
- Completed assessments required for other activities (Seniors Program, etc.)
- Recommended by CWRP

FireSmart Activities for Homes and Properties

Conduct FireSmart HIZ Assessments for homes and properties to demonstrate wildfire prevention principles and best practices.

- Property owners are educated on FireSmart best-practices
- Property owners can use completed assessments to conduct FireSmart activities on their properties
- Public safety is enhanced
- FireSmart Coordinator is visible to the public
- Property owners can use completed assessments and FireSmart activities to access benefits for their properties (insurance reductions, etc.)
- Recommended by CWRP

Wildland Live Fire Training

Fire Department will work with BCWS zone staff for live fire training burns.

- Increases efficiency between emergency services to enhance emergency response
- Projects can be chosen to reduce unburned fuels in WUI areas
- Work completed while training reduces need for external contractors
- Visible activities (community can see work being completed)
- Provisional plans with BCWS and 100 Mile House Fire Rescue developed in 2025
- Could be combined with other FireSmart goals

Mitigation for Seniors and Vulnerable People

Completion of recommended mitigation activities for homes and properties owned by seniors (65 years of age or older), elders, people with limited mobility or vulnerable populations who cannot undertake mitigation activities themselves.

- Highest requested service from community members to FSC

- Encourages FireSmarting on private properties
- Highest demographic of residents in the District
- Can create jobs by hiring workers to do mitigation work
- Recommended by CWRP



2025 A YEAR IN REVIEW

February 12, 2026

100 Mile House & District Emergency Support Services 2025 Year in Review

Our ESS team has been very busy this past year, with training, outreach events, public education, callouts to register house fire evacuees, and mutual aid with the Williams Lake team to support the people displaced in the Chilcotin and Bella Coola region.

We started 2025 with 28 volunteers, and two new volunteers joined, bringing our membership to 30. Members contributed a total of 1968.28 hours* between January 1 and December 31, 2025.

*The ESS phone is monitored 24/7. On-call volunteer hours are not reflected in the total.



Team photo at NESST Conference in Prince George 2025

Training & Workshops



Training webinars

- Recognizing scams
- How to interview people with hearing challenges
- Recognizing challenges for new immigrants and how emergencies affect them differently
- Psychological First Aid, through PHSA
- Wellness Exchange- 5 weeks series

Conferences

- 13 members attended the NESST Conference in Prince George
- ESSD attended the Volunteer BC conference in Richmond on “Volunteer Retention and Engagement”, and “Positivity of Inclusiveness in Volunteer Teams”
- **In-Person Trainings**
- First Aid training
- Meet and Greet training by the Salvation Army
- Registration & Referrals



Mock Reception Centre

- Volunteers completed a full mock setup of the Curling rink for a Reception Centre



Multi Team Trainings

- 100 Mile ESSD Volunteers travelled to Williams Lake
- We hosted members from Clinton



ERA Training

- We continued with ongoing ERA training and included
 - Real-time training with Williams Lake
 - In-class instruction with instructors from the Justice Institute

Regular Meetings

- Volunteers continue to attend monthly meetings

Public Education & Outreach



Fire Department Open Houses & Fire Smart Events

- 100 Mile House
- Interlakes
- 108 Mile Ranch Community

Emergency Preparedness Week

- 100 Mile Farmers' Market
- 100 Mile District Hospital

Shakeout BC

- Earthquake Preparedness at the 100 Mile Farmers Market

Other Outreach Events

- Emergency Day in the Park
- 108 Mile Ranch Canada Day Celebrations
- Pride Day in the Park

Community Groups

- Preparedness & Grab n Go Bag presentation to 100 Mile ESL group

Community Engagement & Fun



**Outhouse Races, Community Easter Party
& 100 Mile House Santa Claus Parade.**

New in 2025

In 2025, we took on a new project to support the Salvation Army's Christmas Kettle Campaign. Volunteers manned the kettles at Donex Pharmacy, FRESHCO and Save On Foods.

We felt this was a good fit as the Salvation Army supports ESS teams across the province with free training for Emergency Support Services-Meet and Greet positions.

This was our first year volunteering, and it was well-received by the community and businesses. The funds collected remain in the Cariboo region, providing support during evacuations and disasters.

We raised a total of \$ 3,359.41 and have received requests to continue in 2026.



Volunteers on shift with the Salvation Army Christmas Kettle

Recognition

We finished the year with a volunteer recognition dinner provided by the CRD.



2026 Initiatives & Objectives

Leadership plans to focus on expanding volunteer recruitment, onboarding and recognition initiatives. The team will continue with monthly meetings and the following activities.

Community Outreach & Engagement

- Fire Department Open Houses & Fire Smart Events
- Emergency Preparedness Week information tables and sessions
- Canada Day Celebrations
- Shakeout BC
- Connecting with Daycares and White Cane Club
- Salvation Army Christmas Kettle Campaign

Planned Conferences and Training

- Send a delegation to the 2026 NESST Conference
- Send members to assist other communities' ESS teams during evacuations
- Partnering with other ESS teams on training and knowledge sharing
- 2SLGBTQ education for Reception Centres
- ERA
- Indigenous training



250-644-0146

ESS@100milehouse.com

Age Friendly Communities Grants 2026

Application Deadline: March 12th 2026

Stream 1 : up to \$25,000

To carry out an age friendly assessment and create an age-friendly action plan.

Stream 2: up to \$15,000

Age Friendly projects that were identified in the assessment and action plan.

Stream 2 cannot be applied to unless an age friendly assessment and action plan has been completed in the last 10 years.

Project Start: July 2026

Project Completion: June 2027

To apply a budget and workplan need to be submitted with resolution of letter of support from CAO by March 12th, 2026.



AFC Grants

APPLICATION GUIDE
2026



This is a step-by-step guide for completing your grant application for an Age-friendly Communities Grant. There are two grant streams: 1. Planning; and 2. Projects.

Please note: This is not the application form. The following information is a guide only, containing background information, grant criteria and application details.

Please find a link to the online application at:
<https://bchealthycommunities.ca/index.php/afc-grants-application-guide/>

Overview

1.1 Program Goal

The Age-friendly Communities (AFC) Program is funded by the BC Ministry of Health and run in partnership with BC Healthy Communities (BCHC).

In an age-friendly community, older adults have the support they need to live active, social, and independent lives in their home community. Since 2007, the Province of BC has supported this approach through the Age-friendly Communities Program. Working with partners, this program helps communities prepare for an aging population so that older adults can stay active and involved where they live.

The AFC grants are one part of the larger Age-friendly Communities Program. This program helps local and Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities work toward the goal of creating age-friendly places to live. The AFC Program has three main parts:

1. AFC grants include:
 - a. funding to support planning and projects, and
 - b. customized training and guidance to help communities start and carry out their age-friendly plans.
2. Tools and resources created and collected to support age-friendly planning; and,
3. An AFC recognition program that encourages communities to apply to be officially recognized for their age-friendly achievements and join a global network of age-friendly cities and communities.

The AFC grants offered include two funding streams:

- Stream 1: Planning; and
- Stream 2: Projects.

Local and Indigenous governments are welcome to apply for either stream.

1.2 Applicant Eligibility

Before applying, make sure you represent a local or Indigenous government, organization, or community, that you've read this guide, and that your proposed activities qualify for support.

The following local and Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities are eligible to apply:

- First Nations Bands
- First Nations Tribal Councils
- Métis Chartered Communities
- Municipalities
- Regional Districts
- Self-Governing First Nations

Applications must be complete and include:

- a high-level budget showing how your spending fits your plan or project,
- a simple work plan, and
- proof of formal approval from your local or Indigenous government, organization, or community supporting your project.

Formal approval can be shown through a council or board resolution, a band council resolution, or a letter from the chief administrative officer (CAO) or an equivalent leader.

A letter of support from your regional health authority (RHA) or the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) is encouraged but not required. Projects with partners from different sectors are more likely to get funding, and letters of support show those partnerships.

If you have any questions or would like to set up a call, please contact grants@bchealthycommunities.ca.

1.3 Grant Streams Summary

	STREAM 1 PLANNING	STREAM 2 PROJECTS
OBJECTIVE	To carry out an age-friendly assessment and create an age-friendly action plan.	To put age-friendly actions or projects into place that were identified in the community's assessment and action plan.
MAXIMUM AMOUNT PER GRANT	Up to \$25,000	Up to \$15,000
APPLICATION DUE DATE	March 12, 2026	
ADJUDICATION PERIOD	All applicants will be notified in June 2026	
PLANS/PROJECTS START	July 2026	
FINAL REPORTS DUE	June 2027	
LATEST PROJECT END	June 2027	



Background & Context

What is an Age-friendly Community?

Age-friendly communities help older adults live healthy, safe, and connected lives in their own community. They recognize that people have different abilities and resources, and work to meet those needs by removing physical and social barriers. These communities benefit everyone because safer, more inclusive planning and infrastructure improve life for all ages. In B.C., age-friendly community work builds on global research from the World Health Organization's [Global Age-friendly Cities Guide](#) and Canada's [Age-friendly Rural and Remote Communities Guide](#).

2.1 Age-friendly Community Health & Well-being

People in British Columbia are among the healthiest in the world, but not everyone has the same chance to be healthy¹. It's not enough to simply encourage healthy choices if people's surroundings don't make those choices possible.

Research shows that 60 to 75 percent of what affects our health happens outside the healthcare system². Things like transportation, recreation opportunities, social support, community design, and access to healthy food all play a big role in our overall well-being. These factors exist in the places where we live, work, learn, and play.



Application Tip

Connect with us to talk about your project

We encourage you to get in touch if you have questions about the application process or your project before the deadline.

Email us at grants@bchealthycommunities.ca to ask questions or book a call.

2.2 How Can Local and Indigenous Governments, Organizations, and Communities Create Age-friendly Communities?

The benefits of creating age-friendly communities go beyond helping older adults – they make life better for everyone. These benefits can include community members being more physically active, having improved mental health, eating healthier, having stronger community connections, and more. Local and Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities can take action through the following areas:

Planning

Adopt planning practices that promote health and well-being by designing age-friendly spaces, engaging the community, and improving decision-making.

Policy

Apply an age-friendly lens when setting goals, strategies and actions in community plans. Examples include Official Community Plans (OCPs), comprehensive community plans, regional health and wellness plans, emergency or climate mitigation plans, growth strategies, municipal plans, and zoning bylaws.

Programs

Supporting and encouraging neighbourhood-level programs linked to a broader strategy for creating age-friendly communities.

Partnerships

Work with health authorities, schools, universities, community organizations, and groups representing diverse people to create joint strategies that improve how age-friendly and inclusive a community is.

¹ [Canadian Medical Association. Health Equity and the Social Determinants of Health: A Role for the Medical Profession. 2013.](#)

² [Provincial Health Services Authority. Healthy Equity. 2025.](#)

Program Streams

3.1 Stream 1: Planning (Up to: \$25,000)

The Planning Stream gives local and Indigenous governments, organizations, and communities a chance to apply an age-friendly focus to every part of their planning process. This helps build a strong foundation for future Stream 2: Projects grants.

Eligible planning work includes:

1. Creating a local age-friendly assessment and action plan; and/or
2. Adding an age-friendly and equity lens to existing plans or policies, such as:
 - Comprehensive Community Plans, Official Community Plans, or neighborhood plans
 - Reconciliation plans, frameworks, or agreements
 - Zoning and other bylaws (for example, subdivision, snow removal, or parking)
 - Development permit requirements or community health and wellness plans
 - Emergency response, evacuation, or emergency social services plans
 - Design guidelines, active transportation, or food security and food systems planning
 - Community planning related to the social factors that affect health (like affordable housing)

[Click here] to see examples of past age-friendly assessments and action plans.

3.2 Stream 2: Projects (Up to: \$15,000)

The Projects Stream provides funding to complete one or more actions identified during the planning phase. **To be eligible for Stream 2: Projects funding, applicants must have finished an age-friendly assessment and action plan within the past 10 years.**

This can be done through a Stream 1: Planning grant or another current age-friendly plan developed by a local or Indigenous government, organization, or community.

[Click here] to see examples of age-friendly projects.



Application Tip

Talk with us about adding an equity lens to your project.

Equity means making sure opportunities, power, and resources are shared fairly, so that everyone's needs are met – no matter their age, ability, gender, or background². Age-friendly communities aim to reduce the barriers that older adults face. Older adults are a diverse group, and their experiences differ based on factors like culture, income, and health. That's why policies, programs, and services should be developed together with the people most affected by unfair systems³.

Using an equity lens means asking:

- Who will benefit from this policy, program, or service?
- Who might be left out – and why⁴?

² City for All Women Initiative, 'Advancing Equity and Inclusion: A Guide for Municipalities.'

³ BCHC, 'Applying an Equity Lens in Age-friendly Communities Planning.'

⁴ PlanH Supporting Equity in Planning and Policy Action Guide,

Application Details

Application Deadline	Funding Decision Notification	Project Start/End Timelines
Applications will be accepted until 11:59pm Pacific Time on March 12, 2026.	All applicants will receive notification by June 2026.	Projects will start and finish between June 2026 - June 2027.
March 12, 2026	June 2026	June 2026 - June 2027

4.1 How to Apply

Please note: this is not the application form.

The online application and workplan/budget template can be found at: xxxxxxxxx

<https://bchealthycommunities.ca/index.php/afc-grants-application-guide/>

4.2 Application Review

Proposals will be reviewed based on the applicant's eligibility, how proposed expenses are used, and how the project activities connect to the goals outlined in this guide.

In the application section where you describe your plan or project, you'll be asked about key principles that are important in Age-friendly Communities (AFC) planning and projects, including: → Being community driven (i.e., based on previous work in your community/based on what is important to people within your community);

- Community-driven: based on past work or priorities identified by people in your community.
- Sustainable: able to continue or create lasting change beyond the funding period.
- Collaborative: showing partnerships across different sectors (see Background & Context).
- Equitable: applying an equity lens to ensure fairness and inclusion (see Program Streams).
- Inclusive: involving older adults in every stage of planning and implementation (a key part of equity).

Your proposal should:

- Focus on one or more of BC's [eight features of an age-friendly community](#) (see pages 9-10 of

this guide); and

- Explain how you will measure success and track progress.

For example:

You could describe how you'll collect feedback from community members who attend an event; or

- You might include an evaluation plan for your project that you can share with us.

Be sure to apply an equity lens to your evaluation plan to make sure all voices are included.

To help distribute funding fairly across the province, the review process will also consider the health authority region of each proposal. Priority will be given to communities that:

- Have not received AFC funding before, and
- Are small or rural.

If you'd like to learn more about how the grant process works or how applications are reviewed, please contact grants@bchealthycommunities.ca to ask questions or set up a consultation call.

4.3 Project Learning & Reflection Process

Onboarding

We'll schedule an onboarding call with all grant recipients to meet your team and learn how we can best support your work.

Final Reports

All grant recipients must complete a final report when their project ends. The questions will be similar to those in the application form and will be available in Spring 2027.

Our team is committed to using culturally safe practices in our evaluation process. We'll work with communities to co-create learning and reflection tools that are meaningful and respectful whenever possible.

4.4 Application Requirements

→ All Stream 1 and Stream 2 applications must show a focus on one or more of B.C.'s [eight features of an age-friendly community](#). These features are based on the [World Health Organization's Global Age-friendly Cities Guide](#) and [Canada's Age-friendly Rural and Remote Communities Guide](#). Please note that the BC wording below has been updated to be more inclusive.

1. Outdoor spaces and buildings
2. Transportation (including road safety)
3. Housing
4. Social well-being and participation
5. Respect, social inclusion and cultural safety
6. Community engagement and employment
7. Communications and information
8. Community support and health and wellness services

Your application must include the following:

- A budget that shows how your proposed expenses align with your project or initiative. (See Section 4.5: Budget and Workplan for more details and Section 5.0 for samples.)
- A workplan that outlines key milestones and identifies project leads. (See Section 4.5: Budget and Workplan for more details and Section 5.0 for samples.)
- Formal approval from your local or Indigenous government, organization, or community.

This can include a council or board resolution, a band council resolution, or a letter from the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) or another equivalent leader.

Applications must be submitted through BC Healthy Communities' online platform. If you have any trouble submitting online, please contact us at grants@bchealthycommunities.ca for help.

Incomplete applications may receive a lower score and are less likely to be approved. All applications are reviewed by an Adjudication Committee, which uses a weighted point system to score each one. Applications must reach a minimum score to be approved.

Be sure to answer all questions, unless the application form clearly marks them as optional.

Past Age-friendly Grant Recipients:

Below are examples of communities that received AFC grants in 2024, organized by grant stream. For the full list of 2024 AFC grant recipients, visit this [web page](#).

STREAM 1: PLANNING

“What About Us?”: Sumas First Nation

This project is meant to involve our community’s seniors as the main voices in creating a Sumas First Nation (SFN) age-friendly assessment. It will also develop an action plan for SFN Chief and Council to approve and put into place through something like a Declaration or Band Council Resolution.

Generations Together: Age-Friendly and Equitable Planning Initiative: Katzie First Nation

The goal of the project, which includes an age-friendly assessment and an action plan, is to help build a community that is easy to get around in, welcoming, and supportive for people of all ages.

Yekooche First Nation

Yekooche First Nation is doing an age-friendly assessment and creating an action plan, with support from the BC Healthy Communities Age-Friendly Communities grant. This work will help make the community more welcoming and supportive for elders.

Regional Mobility Working Group: Regional District Central Kootenays

The Regional Mobility Working Group wants to make transportation fair and accessible for everyone. They pay special attention to the needs of seniors, youth, and other groups who may face more barriers.

Older Persons Strategic Action Plan: City of Vancouver

This project will help create a Strategic Action Plan by bringing people together to share their ideas. It will make sure older adults, community groups, and other partners have a real say in shaping the plan.

STREAM 2: PROJECTS

Transit Training for Older Adults and Youth: City of Prince George

People from the Prince George Council of Seniors will take part in planning the transit training project. They will help with consultations, organizing details, and making decisions about how the training program is designed and carried out.

Lilwat Nation Age-Friendly Action Plan – Intergenerational Activities & Events: Lilwat Nation

This project follows our vision for supporting Elders in the Lilwat 2030 Strategic Plan – Theme 2: People and Families, Caring for our Elders. The plan encourages us to improve Elders’ well-being and help them live longer, healthier lives by supporting social time, active participation, and strong community connections. Because the project brings different generations together, it will support Elders, youth, and the whole community. It will create chances for people to learn from one another, build relationships, and share knowledge and culture.

Heat & Emergency Preparedness Outreach Project for Vulnerable Seniors in Abbotsford: City of Abbotsford

The goal of the project is to help our target group learn about the resources and services available to them in the community, as well as how to be prepared for emergencies.

Age Friendly Food Security Development Project: Village of Lumby

The goal is to talk with seniors in the community about how to make it easier for them to get affordable, healthy food. This includes looking at transportation, local places to buy produce, food sharing, and access to complete meals.

Dementia Friendly Community – Enhancing Community Safety, Awareness, Education and Stigma Reduction: City of Maple Ridge

The City of Maple Ridge wants to expand its work on becoming a Dementia-Friendly Community by creating a local system that can quickly alert people when someone with dementia goes missing. This will act like a small, local version of a Silver Alert program.

4.5 Budget & Workplan

A budget and workplan template is available with the application. Please save your file as: "**COMMUNITY NAME_AFC_WorkplanBudget_2026.**"

See Section 5 for examples of how to complete these documents. Your project workplan should provide a high-level overview of key milestones, responsibilities, and any support you expect from BC Healthy Communities (BCHC). (See Section 4.6 for a list of possible BCHC staff supports). We understand that project steps may not always follow a straight line, but this overview helps our team better understand your proposal.

Eligible costs:

The following costs can be included in your budget:

- **Project staff** – such as coordination, facilitation, partnership development, or student-led research.
- **Communications** – including promotional materials, printing, and design.
- **Local and Indigenous government, organization, and community expenses** – such as venue rental, travel mileage, food, accommodation, and childcare for attending partnership meetings or events.
- **Data collection** – including activities like asset mapping or environmental audits.
- **Honoraria** – to help reduce barriers for volunteers.
- **(Stream 2 only)** – Capital costs that directly support programs or activities for older adults may be included. These must not exceed 40% of the total Stream 2 grant (for example, a \$15,000 grant could include up to \$6,000 for capital expenses).

Ineligible costs:

The following costs cannot be included in your budget:

- Activities that have **already taken place**.
- **Existing community programs**, unless you are expanding them to increase proven impact.
- **Entertainment or personal expenses**.
- **Feasibility studies, business cases, or design drawings** (such as architectural or engineering plans) for building or renovating facilities that serve older adults, including housing or care facilities.
- **Fundraising activities**.
- **Infrastructure projects**, such as sidewalk, path, or trail construction or improvements.
- **One-time events** that are not part of a larger healthy community strategy (for example, community dinners, festivals, or community gardens).
- **Furniture, equipment, or other capital costs** that exceed 40% of the total project budget.

Additionally, any community that has received an AFC grant in the past must have completed and submitted all required reports for those grants before applying again.

4.6 BCHC Staff Supports

In addition to funding, BC Healthy Communities (BCHC) provides hands-on support to help communities succeed in developing and implementing age-friendly initiatives.

The Age-friendly Communities Program offers both a cash grant and in-kind support from BCHC staff. Support may include consultations by phone, email, or video conference—and in some cases, in-person collaboration within your community.

BCHC helps build community capacity in many ways, including (but not limited to):

- Offering input on goal setting and policy recommendations.
- Providing guidance on reflective planning practices.
- Supporting monitoring and evaluation by helping develop indicators, data collection methods, and evaluation frameworks.
- Conducting research on a variety of topics—such as partnership development, housing, food systems, and transportation planning.
- Assisting with community engagement, including planning and design for both in-person and online sessions.
- Connecting local and Indigenous governments with organizations, other governments, and regional health authorities (for example, through introductions or meetings).
- Reviewing documents and advising on best practices.
- Serving on advisory committees.
- Sharing helpful resources developed by BCHC and other partners.
- Creating and leading online training and webinars tailored to your needs.

4.7 Grant Management and Applicant Responsibilities

When your community is awarded funding, you'll receive a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and an Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) form to sign. These forms allow BCHC to transfer funds to your organization.

Once BCHC receives the signed forms:

- 80% of the grant funding will be sent to your community.
- The remaining 20% will be sent after you submit your final report in June 2027

Final report forms will be provided to all grant recipients in Spring 2027.

If you need to make changes to your plan or request an extension, these will be reviewed case by case. BCHC aims to be flexible and supportive—our goal is to help you succeed!



Sample Workplan & Budget

If you have questions about how to create your own budget or workplan for the application, please contact us at grants@bchealthycommunities.ca. We'd be happy to answer your questions or set up a call to help you get started.

Sample Workplan for Age-friendly Assessment and Action Plan (Stream 1: Planning)

PROJECT MILESTONE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	DATE OF COMPLETION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	BCHC SUPPORT ANTICIPATED
PROJECT INITIATION AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING	Connect with project partners to confirm the project plan and agree on how we'll work together.	November	Kai Cabot	Connecting with Regional Health Authority
ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING	Develop goals, strategies, and communication plans for community engagement.	January	Amina Merjem	Review the engagement plan and communication materials to make sure they are clear, inclusive, and ready to share.
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	Host four virtual and two in-person engagement sessions with partners and stakeholders	May	Angela Lee	Facilitation design / technical support
SHARE-BACK AND BEST PRACTICE RESEARCH	Summarize and report back on engagement session info. Research best/wise options.	July	Esma Davud	None
ACTION PLANNING	Co-develop proposed Action Plan with key partners, prepare final report and action plan.	September	Ahmed Adin	Participate as member of review committee

Sample Budget for Age-friendly Assessment and Action Plan (Stream 1: Planning)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES CONTRIBUTION	OTHER SOURCES (CASH, IN-KIND)
PLAN or PROJECT COORDINATION (PART-TIME)	Part-time role, reporting to steering committee	\$17,500	\$17,500	\$0
MULTI-SECTORAL STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS	Quarterly meeting (venue, refreshments)	\$1,000	\$0	\$1000
HONORARIA FOR PARTICIPANTS	To support travel, internet, or other costs (\$50 x 60 participants)	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
COMMUNICATIONS & OUTREACH	Online and radio ads, etc.	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0
DATA COLLECTION	Design, printing, distribution, analysis (two surveys)	\$3,500	\$3,500	\$0
TOTAL		\$26,000	\$25,000	\$1000
EXPECTED SUPPORT FROM AFC AND OTHER SOURCES	CASH OR IN-KIND?	PROJECTED AMOUNT		
AFC Grant	Cash	\$25,000		
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE	In-kind	\$1000		

Sample Workplan for Project (Stream 2: Projects)

PROJECT MILESTONE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	DATE OF COMPLETION	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	BCHC SUPPORT ANTICIPATED
PROJECT INITIATION AND RELATIONSHIP BUILDING	Reach out to and coordinate with project partners to confirm project plan and outline how we will work together	September	Kai Cabot	Connecting with other BC communities that have completed similar projects
ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING	Develop engagement objectives to meet with impacted group(s), strategies and communications tactics	October	Amina Merjem	Review of engagement plan and communications materials
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	Host two virtual and two in-person engagement sessions with impacted community members to determine routes/locations for bench installation during the Summer and winter snow removal	First two weeks of November	Angeia Lee	Facilitation design / technical support
SHARE-BACK	Summarize and report back on engagement session info.	Last two weeks of November	Ahmed Adin	None
IMPLEMENTATION PART 1 (SNOW REMOVAL)	Determine snow removal companies/volunteers. Snow removal implementation (Schedule for locations and snow clearers).	December – March	Esmā Davud	None
PART 2 (BENCH PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION)	Research bench installation companies (March). Source (April), purchase (May), receive benches (June) and install (July – August).	March – August	Jo Martin	None
REPORTING	Create report	September	Stephen Wong	None

Sample Workplan for Project (Stream 2: Projects)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PROJECTED COST	AFC CONTRIBUTION	OTHER SOURCES (CASH, IN-KIND)
GENERAL COSTS				
Project Coordinator	Part-time role reporting to steering committee	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$0
Multi-sectoral steering committee meetings	Venue and refreshments for quarterly meetings	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Participant honoraria	Support travel, internet and other costs. \$50 x 40 participants	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$0
Data collection	Design, printing, distribution and analysis (two surveys)	\$2,500	\$2,000	\$500
Snow clearing	Snow clearing company fees	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
General Costs Subtotal		\$18,500	\$14,000	\$4,500
CAPITAL COSTS				
Benches and installation	Purchase and install benches	\$10,000	\$1,000	\$9,000
Capital Costs Subtotal		\$10,000	\$1,000	\$9,000
Total Expenses		\$28,500	\$15,000	\$13,500
EXPECTED SUPPORT FROM AFC AND OTHER SOURCES	CASH OR IN-KIND?	PROJECTED AMOUNT		
AGE FRIENDLY GRANT	Cash	\$15,000		
REGIONAL DISTRICT	In-kind	\$12,500		
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE	In-kind	\$1,000		



Our team is available to support you during the application process through answering any questions you may have about the grant application process, the decision criteria, or anything else about the process.

Questions? Please feel free to contact our team and/or to set up a consultation regarding the application process: grants@bchealthycommunities.ca.

Tammy Boulanger

From: EA Council <eacouncil@kamloops.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 10:27 AM
To: COUNCIL-Councillors; Byron McCorkell
Cc: Sarah Candido; Crystal Gelineau; Maria Mazzotta; Southern Interior Local Government Association
Subject: Resolution for Consideration Ahead of Local Association Deadlines
Attachments: Certified Resolution_Heritage Conservation Act_SILGA.pdf

Good morning Municipalities of British Columbia,

I hope this message finds you well. We have attached a certified resolution from the City of Kamloops that has been sent to the Southern Interior Local Governance Association (SILGA). These important issues hold significant relevance and impact within your area of government.

We strongly encourage you to utilize this resolution as a template and present it before your local governance association prior to your resolution deadline. This can help you address similar issues effectively and align with the objectives we all strive to achieve. Collectively, all five local governance associations bring a strong unified front of advocacy in Victoria.

Should you require any further clarification or additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out. We are here to support you in any way we can.

Warm regards,

Chrissy Cossentine

Executive Assistant to City Council | City of Kamloops

eacouncil@kamloops.ca

P: 250-828-3494 | Kamloops.ca | LetsTalk.Kamloops.ca



**MAKING
KAMLOOPS
SHINE**

If you receive this in error, please contact the sender by return email and delete all copies of this email and any attachments. Please be aware that City of Kamloops records, including emails, may be requested and released in accordance with the British Columbia Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you receive this in error, please contact the sender by return email and delete all copies of this email and any attachments.

CITY OF KAMLOOPS

RESOLUTION FROM THE MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KAMLOOPS, HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 7 VICTORIA STREET WEST, KAMLOOPS, BC

WHEREAS local governments in British Columbia are responsible for land-use planning, infrastructure, permitting, and development approvals, all of which are directly affected by provincial reconciliation policy, archaeology requirements, and the *Heritage Conservation Act* and Regulations;

AND WHEREAS the Province of British Columbia is implementing the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act (DRIPA) and also undertaking reviews of reconciliation, archaeology, and heritage policy frameworks;

AND WHEREAS local governments are not consistently included as formal partners in provincial policy development related to DRIPA implementation, archaeology processes, and heritage legislation, despite being responsible for implementation at the community level and for public infrastructure projects that are significantly impacted by these policies;

AND WHEREAS the current *Heritage Conservation Act* is outdated, and existing archaeology processes create uncertainty, delays, and cost impacts for local governments, Indigenous communities, and the public, which further contribute to challenges in delivering affordable development and housing in British Columbia;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Southern Interior Local Government Association, Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities, North Central Local Government Association, Lower Mainland Local Government Association, and Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments, urging the Province of British Columbia to ensure that senior representatives of all local government associations in British Columbia are formally included in discussions and decision-making related to the review, reform, and implementation of DRIPA, reconciliation policy, archaeology processes, and any replacement or reform of the *Heritage Conservation Act*.

CARRIED.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this is a true copy of a resolution from the minutes of a meeting of the Kamloops City Council held on the 3rd day of February, 2026.

Dated at Kamloops, BC, this 3rd day of February, 2026.



M. Mazzotta
Corporate Officer

Tammy Boulanger

From: Staff <mail@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 9:44 AM
To: Lisa Gyorkos
Subject: Township of Spallumcheen SILGA Resolution
Attachments: 2026-02-18-ltr-SILGA-resolution - background information.pdf; 2026-02-18-ltr-SILGA-resolution.pdf

Good morning,

Please see attached the information submitted to SILGA from the Township of Spallumcheen Council regarding a resolution requesting a BC Building Code amendment to ensure that natural gas remains a viable energy option now and in the future.

Lisa Gyorkos

Manager of Strategic Priorities, Township of Spallumcheen
4144 Spallumcheen Way | Spallumcheen, BC V4Y 0N1
Phone: (250) 546-3013 | Fax: (250) 546-8878 | Website: www.spallumcheentwp.bc.ca

Sign up on our website for the Township's Newsletters and get updates & notices sent directly to your email.

The information contained in this transmission may contain privileged and confidential information of the Township of Spallumcheen. It is intended for review only by the person(s) named above. Dissemination, distribution or duplication of this communication is strictly prohibited by all recipients unless expressly authorized otherwise. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply email and destroy all copies of the original message.

**THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN**

4144 Spallumcheen Way, Spallumcheen, BC V4Y 0N1

Phone 250-546-3013 | Toll Free 1-866-546-3013

Email: mail@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca | Website: www.spallumcheentwp.bc.ca



February 18, 2026

Southern Interior Local Government Association

Via Email: info@silga.ca

Re: Township of Spallumcheen Resolution

Please find attached to this letter the resolution for consideration and the background information to support this resolution.

A similar resolution was submitted in 2025 which was supported by SILGA at the 2025 convention and forwarded to UBCM. At the 2025 UBCM convention, the resolution did not make the floor for open debate and was not supported by the committee after the fact. The Township followed up and received the following feedback:

2025-NR68, BC Building Code Amendment to Include Natural Gas - discussion noted that the resolution does not sufficiently address other relevant codes that influence the building step code. It was also noted that the intention of the resolution runs counter to established UBCM policy that supports buildings sector emissions reductions and more equitable building code implementation support for small, rural and northern communities.

Township Council still strongly believes in the 2025 resolution. We have therefore made amendments to address the concerns raised by the UBCM resolution committee and resubmit the amended resolution for consideration of support in 2026.

Respectfully,

Lisa Gyorkos
Manager of Strategic Priorities

enclosures

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN

4144 Spallumcheen Way, Spallumcheen, BC V4Y 0N1

Phone 250-546-3013 | Toll Free 1-866-546-3013

Email: mail@spallumcheentwp.bc.ca | Website: www.spallumcheentwp.bc.ca



File No 0230-02

TOWNSHIP OF SPALLUMCHEEN

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION

Moved by Councillor Casson/seconded by Councillor York:

"...THAT the Township of Spallumcheen Council direct staff to submit the following resolution to the Southern Interior Local Government Association (SILGA) for consideration of endorsement to proceed to the 2026 UBCM Conference as follows:

WHEREAS the BC Building Code has incorporated the BC Energy Step Code, which sets increasingly stringent energy efficiency and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction requirements for new buildings and major renovations, effectively limiting the current uses and eliminating the future uses of natural gas as a fuel in areas of BC that use the BC Building Code;

AND WHEREAS many municipalities, including those with significant agricultural, industrial, and rural residential needs, require flexibility and ongoing energy investment to ensure affordable, reliable, and diverse energy options for residents, businesses, and farms;

AND WHEREAS limiting or eliminating natural gas as an energy option could increase energy and construction costs, reduce economic competitiveness, and limit the ability of municipalities to attract and retain families, businesses, and agricultural entities that rely on natural gas for their operations;

AND WHEREAS there have also been recent changes to implementation strategies in the CleanBC legislation by the Province of BC government, in coordination with the Federal government, that should also be considered in context with the BC Energy Step Code and BC Building Code;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Spallumcheen asks the members of SILGA to request the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the BC Building Code to ensure that natural gas remains a viable energy option now and in the future, allowing residents, businesses and municipalities the flexibility to determine the most appropriate energy solutions for their unique economic, geographic, and community needs, while still supporting reasonable and achievable energy efficiency goals, and that any such amendment consider applicable provincial building and energy regulations, and be implemented in a manner that expands rather than restricts local autonomy and opportunity, and is flexible and practical for all British Columbia Municipalities."

CARRIED

I hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Township of Spallumcheen at their Regular Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Dated: February 18, 2026

Lisa Gyorkos

Manager of Strategic Priorities/Deputy Corporate Officer

Township of Spallumcheen - Resolution Background Information

In 2018, the Province of BC adopted the CleanBC plan. This plan was used to amend the BC Building Code BC through the Energy Step Code, which establishes progressively stringent energy efficiency and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction requirements for new construction and major renovations. In practical terms, this framework is moving toward the effective elimination of natural gas as an energy option in many areas of British Columbia.

Recent developments underscore the real-world consequences of this trajectory. In December 2023, the BC Utilities Commission denied approval of FortisBC Energy Inc.'s proposed \$327 million Okanagan Capacity Upgrade project, citing uncertainty in future natural gas demand influenced by CleanBC policies and Step Code impacts. This decision highlights how current regulatory direction is already affecting long-term infrastructure planning and private investment in our province.

For communities like the Township—and for many rural, agricultural, and industrial municipalities—natural gas remains a clean-burning, comparatively low-emission, reliable, and cost-effective energy source. It supports essential operations such as greenhouse heating, industrial process heat, and dependable residential heating. In many areas outside the Lower Mainland, electrification alone may not provide the reliability or affordability required, particularly during peak demand or extreme weather events.

This resolution is not about resisting environmental progress, but rather, it's about ensuring that environmental performance is measured by outcomes rather than by prohibiting specific technologies. High-efficiency natural gas systems, hybrid systems, and district energy solutions can achieve strong environmental performance while maintaining affordability and reliability. A balanced transition—rather than abrupt, one-size-fits-all restrictions—better supports both environmental and economic sustainability, and is more reflective of the reality we face.

Restricting natural gas through the Building Code risks several unintended consequences:

- Increased construction and energy costs for families and businesses;
- Reduced economic competitiveness in rural and resource-based communities;
- Diminished attractiveness for agricultural and industrial investment;
- The forced abandonment of functional, efficient infrastructure, resulting in material waste and additional environmental burden.
- The potential to continue our dependency on other jurisdictions as a critical source of on demand energy

After feedback received from UBCM executive in regards to a previous 2025 version of our submission, we have made adjustments to this resolution to respectfully address those recommendations, such as to broaden consideration of the various relevant codes that influence the BC step code, and to acknowledge and respect the autonomy of local

governments in their implementation of building code, based on local priorities and initiatives.

Municipalities vary significantly in geography, infrastructure capacity, climate, and economic composition. Local governments are best positioned to understand these realities and pursue practical environmental progress tailored to their communities. Preserving energy flexibility respects local autonomy, protects public and private investment, and maintains democratic confidence in policy decisions.

The resolution before you asks that the Province amend the BC Building Code to ensure that natural gas remains a viable energy option—now and in the future—while still supporting reasonable and achievable energy efficiency goals. It further calls for any amendments to consider related provincial building and energy regulations and to be implemented in a manner that expands, rather than restricts, local opportunity and autonomy.

This is about balanced transition, environmental responsibility grounded in measurable results, and safeguarding the economic stability of communities across British Columbia.

BULLET POINTS:

Background and Policy Context

- In 2018, the Province adopted the CleanBC plan.
- CleanBC informed amendments to the BC Building Code, incorporating the BC Energy Step Code.
- The Step Code establishes progressively stringent energy efficiency and GHG reduction requirements for new construction and major renovations.
- In practical effect, this framework is moving toward the elimination of natural gas as an energy option in many areas of British Columbia.

Regulatory and Investment Impacts

- In December 2023, the BC Utilities Commission denied approval of FortisBC Energy Inc.'s \$327 million Okanagan Capacity Upgrade project.
- The denial cited uncertainty in future natural gas demand influenced by CleanBC policies and Step Code impacts.
- This demonstrates that current regulatory direction is already affecting long-term infrastructure planning and private sector investment in BC.

Importance of Natural Gas to Rural and Resource-Based Communities

- Natural gas remains:
 - Clean-burning and comparatively low-emission;
 - Reliable and dispatchable;
 - Cost-effective for residential, agricultural, and industrial users.
- Essential applications include:
 - Greenhouse heating;
 - Industrial process heat;
 - Dependable residential heating.
- In many areas outside the Lower Mainland:

- Electrification alone may not provide sufficient reliability;
- Peak demand and extreme weather events pose risks to fully electric systems;
- Affordability remains a significant concern.

The Resolution advocates for:

- Measuring environmental performance by outcomes rather than by prohibiting specific fuel sources;
- Technology-neutral policy approaches.
- High-efficiency natural gas systems, hybrid systems, and district energy solutions can:
 - Achieve strong environmental performance;
 - Maintain affordability and system reliability.
- A balanced and staged transition is more practical than abrupt, one-size-fits-all restrictions.

Risks of Eliminating Natural Gas via the Building Code

- Increased construction and energy costs for families and businesses.
- Reduced economic competitiveness in rural and resource-based communities.
- Diminished attractiveness for agricultural and industrial investment.
- Forced abandonment of functional and efficient infrastructure, resulting in:
 - Material waste;
 - Additional environmental burdens from premature replacement.
- Potential continued dependency on other jurisdictions for critical, on-demand energy supply.

Response to Feedback from UBCM

Revisions include:

- Broadening consideration of the various provincial codes and regulations that influence the Step Code;
- Explicitly acknowledging and respecting local government autonomy in building code implementation;
- Recognizing diverse local priorities and initiatives across municipalities.

Principles of Local Autonomy and Flexibility

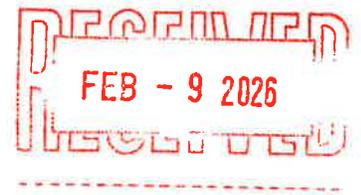
- Municipalities differ significantly in:
 - Geography;
 - Climate;
 - Infrastructure capacity;
 - Economic composition.
- Local governments are best positioned to:
 - Assess community energy needs;
 - Balance environmental goals with economic realities;
 - Implement context-sensitive solutions.
- Preserving energy flexibility:
 - Protects public and private investment;
 - Respects democratic decision-making;
 - Maintains public confidence in environmental policy.

Core Request of the Resolution

- That the Province amend the BC Building Code to:
 - Ensure natural gas remains a viable energy option now and in the future;
 - Support reasonable and achievable energy efficiency goals;
 - Consider related provincial building and energy regulations;
 - Implement changes in a manner that expands—rather than restricts—local autonomy and opportunity.

Overall Objective

- Promote a balanced energy transition.
- Ground environmental responsibility in measurable results.
- Safeguard the economic stability and long-term sustainability of communities across British Columbia



February 2, 2026

Dear Mayor Maureen Pinkney and Council,

Last year in March 2025, the Ministry of Health renewed funding support for the 2025 BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program season. BCAFM is proud to deliver this incredible program and share its positive impact in your community.

A Positive Impact in 100 Mile House

The BC Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program is addressing nutrition needs, affordability and food security for lower-income pregnant people, families with children, and seniors/elders in your community.

We collaborate with *Cariboo Family Enrichment Centre* who provide program participants with \$27 a week for 16 weeks to purchase fresh, local foods – including fruits, vegetables, cheese, eggs, nuts, fish, meat, herbs, and honey—directly from BC farmers at your local farmers' market.

We've tallied up the results, and more than **28** lower-income households redeemed **\$12,096** in coupons at *South Cariboo Farmers Market* in 2025.

Your community members received access to healthy food while fostering stronger community connections. At the same time, local farmers, with the additional sales, can sustain and grow their farms, strengthening our local and regional food systems and contributing to a healthier, more connected community.

Our Request to You

BCAFM does not have secured funding for the 2026 program season and beyond. We are asking for your support to secure continued funding for this powerful program. Sending a letter to The Honourable Josie Osborne, BC Minister of Health, would go a long way in demonstrating the importance of continued and expanded funding investment for the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program in your riding.

We look forward to continuing this meaningful work with your community.

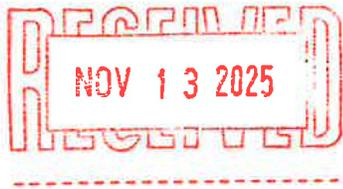
With gratitude,

Heather O'Hara
BCAFM Executive Director

Wylie Bystedt
Chair, BCAFM Board of Directors

BC Association of Farmers' Markets

208 - 1089 West Broadway Vancouver, BC V6H 1E5
604-734-9797 | bcfarmersmarket.org | bcfarmersmarkettrail.com



100 Mile Community Forest
Box 340 #1-385 Birch Avenue
100 Mile House, BC V0K 2E0

November 3, 2025

Dear 100 Mile Community Forest,

We are pleased to share the 2025 BC Community Forest Association (BCCFA) *Indicators Report*, highlighting the achievements and growing impact of community forests across British Columbia. The results show strong leadership in local employment, collaboration with First Nations, wildfire risk reduction, ecosystem restoration, and investments in community priorities such as recreation, education, and climate resilience.

Amid mounting challenges in the forest sector, community forests continue to show that locally led, collaborative management delivers meaningful results for people and forests. The provincial government has made a clear commitment to expand the community forest program, recognizing its value in advancing reconciliation, supporting rural economies, and building more resilient landscapes. Now more than ever, the BCCFA's profile is heightened in BC's forest industry. We are actively engaged with the Ministry of Forests and BC Wildfire Service to ensure that community forest perspectives are reflected in policy, programs, and funding opportunities.

We invite you to **join the BCCFA membership** and become part of a growing network of community forests working together to shape the future of forestry in BC. Membership connects you with peers across the province, provides access to shared expertise and advocacy, and ensures your voice is heard in discussions that affect your tenure and your community.

We encourage you to read the 2025 *Indicators Report* and see how our membership is strengthening community forestry in BC.

To learn more about membership or to join the BCCFA, please contact us at info@bccfa.ca. We would be delighted to welcome you to our network.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Gunter, BCCFA Executive Director

