

2017 Atlantic Mayor's Congress Summerside, PE

Thursday May 18, 2017

9:03am

26 in attendance (+ Stefanie Turner)

Matt Kerrigan (AMC) proposes to instead of having a 3-year chairperson host the congress', the Mayor from the host city becomes the automatic chair.

-All in agreement. No motion needed

9:20am Eric Megarity (Cities of New Brunswick) moved for the approval of the minutes from Truro

Seconded by Anna Allen (Windsor)

Motion carried

Laurie Murray (UNSM) moved for the adoption of the agenda

Seconded by Bill Mills (Truro)

Motion carried

Adam Lordon (Miramichi) requested to have the minutes from Truro re-sent electronically

Clark Somerville - President FCM report

Questions:

Clifford Lee (Charlottetown)

Who pays for the implementation/training of local police departments on the marijuana legislation?

(Response) This legislation is a de-regulation, not a revenue generator. There will be licencing to have plants. FCM was very firm that there cannot be a high cost to the municipalities to implement the legislation.

Housing submission

(Response) National housing strategy needs to address issues

Bill Karsten, 3rd Vice-President of FCM - FCM Asset Management Program

No questions

Mayor's Roundtable (Part 1)

Eric Megarity, Cities of New Brunswick

Tony Keats, MNL

Laurie Murley, UNSM

Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, MODL

Jacques LeBlanc, Shediac

Mike O'Brien, Fredericton

Jim MacLeod, CBRM

Stephanie Poulin-Angleheart, Campbellton

Bill Mills, Truro

Charles Pender, Corner Brook

Christine Blair, Colchester County

Conner MacPhee, PEI Department of Immigration - Immigration Best Practices

Questions:

Dawn Arnold (Moncton)

What is the Mentorship program?

(Response) The program is through Skills PEI. The company can apply for post-secondary student wage subsidies.

Bill Martin (Summerside)

I do not have a record of what the question was

(Response) Candidates are tested at a testing office on their speaking, listening and reading. They are graded on a scale of 1-9 on their abilities to help assess the supports they need and the type of work environment would be successful for them.

Bill Mills (Truro)

What do you do if a newcomer does not integrate into the community/language?

(Response) The PEI Association for Newcomers to Canada has programs for the non-applicant family members. These programs focus on increasing retention by providing supports to the members who do not necessarily work outside the family unit and find integration more difficult.

Clifford Lee (Charlottetown)

Charlottetown is facing a special situation where a family who has financially invested in the community is uncertain if their residency application will be approved. What can we as a municipality do to help keep them here?

(Response) You can reach out to the Provincial department for help fast track the process, however in the end, this is a federal issue.

Stephanie Poulin-Angleheart (Campbellton)

Refugees/landed immigrants can be here for several years and still cannot vote. They find this extremely frustrating and feel like they are not truly part of the community.

(Response) This is a federal issue. New Brunswick can amend the bi-law allowing landed immigrants to vote municipally. However you need to be a citizen to vote provincially and federally.

Bill Karsten (FCM)

What is PEI doing to change mindset and cultural prejudice?

(Response) The goal is to integrate newcomer vs. citizens. It is important the newcomers understand our language and culture in order to successfully integrate into the community. In 2017 the population goal is 100,000. Immigration plays a strong role in that along with birth rates and islanders moving back home.

Premier Wade MacLauchlan speaks at Luncheon

Greg Gaudet, City of Summerside - Energy production and Storage
No questions

Meredith Cassie, Event Atlantic - Tourism | Regional Cooperation | Sport Tourism Focused
No questions

Mayor Panel - Bill Carsten (Halifax), Dawn Arnold (Moncton), Bill Martin (Summerside)
Urban sprawl vs. downtown density & ribbon development

*Bill to send Adam geographical map of 'official' Halifax boundaries

Friday May 19, 2017

Mike Legere, Forest NB and Robert Fawcett, JD Irving - Softwood Lumber Tariffs
Robert Fawcett, JD Irving - Carbon Tax vs. Cap & Trade

Questions:

Not recorded

What is the estimated job loss if things continue as they are?

(Response) 55 mills could close and 3,000 jobs could be lost. Province and Municipalities need the federal government to fund 60% of the bud worm project.

Not recorded

What effect does British Columbia sending wood to China have on the industry?

(Response) BC sending wood to China benefits Atlantic Canada as it removes product from our market.

Mayors Roundtable (Part 2)

Jim MacAlpine, Digby

Bev Getson, UMN

Timothy Habinski, Annapolis County

Anna Allen, Windsor

Clifford Lee, Charlottetown

Cyril Abbott, Gander

Rowan Caseley, Kensington

Adam Lordon, Miramichi

Dawn Arnold, Moncton

Bruce MacDougall, FPEIM

Bill Martin, Summerside

Resolutions:

Bev Getson (UMNB) moved to write the Federal Government and impress the importance of the softwood lumber tariff file.

Seconded by Cyril

-Timothy Habinski (Annapolis County) would like wording of resolution more specific. Anna Allen (Windsor) agrees with Timothy

-Mike O'Brien (Fredericton) cannot support without first speaking with council

-Adam Lordon (Miramichi) feels if we are to have motions we should have the information and context prior to the meetings.

-Clifford Lee (Charlottetown)-AMC needs to decide what we want to be as a group. He feels this group needs to be an actionable organization. Resolution needs more 'meat.'

-Matt Kerrigan (AMC) suggests that instead of a resolution, a joint statement be created.

-Laurie Murley (UNSM) would like clarification on what AMC wants. She suggested an e-vote after the resolution is created

Bruce MacDougall (FPEIM) moved to table the resolution. The resolution is to be written and then distributed to all members for a vote via email. Deadline to have resolution written is 7 days from today. Members will then have 24hours to respond.

Seconded by Mike O'Brien (Fredericton)

Motion carried

Bev Getson (UMNB) moved to write the Federal Government and impress the importance of financially supporting the bud worm research program.

Seconded by Adam

Quick discussion on following the same procedure as first resolution.

Bill Martin (Summerside) moved to table the resolution. The resolution is to be written and then distributed to all members for a vote via email. Deadline to have resolution written is 7 days from today. Members will then have 24hours to respond

Seconded by Anna Allen (Windsor)
Motion carried

Further Discussions:

- Clifford Lee (Charlottetown) is very concerned that the organization needs to decide on process. It is a waste of time for him to attend the congress if no resolutions are passed.
- Bill Martin (Summerside) noted that resolutions evolve through the course of these meetings. It is a different format then with council
- Cyril Abbott (Gander) noted that not many at the meeting are comfortable with voting on non-written motions
- Laurie Murley (UNSM) suggested that if members are questioned by the press it can be commented that 3 resolutions are being drafted.
- Bill Martin (Summerside) suggested that AMC needs to look at the procedures of the organization.
- Clifford Lee (Charlottetown) clarified that the resolutions made by the AMC organization are that of the organization, not of the respective councils.

Dawn Arnold, Moncton - Plan Next Meeting

Proposed dates:

October 18 - 20 2017 SELECTED

October 25 - 27 2017

Legs for literacy is on October 22, 2017, if anyone wishes to extend their trip.

Ideas for presentations:

Smart Cities

Town & gown (Spelling?)

Syrian Integration

Downtowns

Marijuana legislation panel - various police departments

Pace Programs

Affordable housing

Bill Martin (Summerside) moved to adjourn the meeting

Seconded by Laurie Murley (UNSM)

Meeting adjourned at 11:51am