



*Southern Interior Local  
Government Association*

**To: SILGA Members**  
**From: SILGA Executive**  
**Date: January 27, 2010**  
**Re: UBCM Resolution Process**  
**Discussion of Scope and Options**

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**1. Decision Request:** Please have your council/regional district directors discuss this paper and provide feedback to SILGA before February 8, 2010.

## **2. Introduction**

The purpose of this policy paper is twofold. One, to present to the UBCM staff in advance of the session at the SILGA convention the membership's views on potential changes to the resolution process. Two, to ensure our members are well informed for this session.

## **3. Problems with current system/Solutions to consider for improvement.**

### **i) Too many people don't attend the resolution sessions. Marketplace and Ministerial meetings take precedence.**

**Solution A)** It would be unproductive to exclude the time scheduled for resolution debate from potential Ministerial meetings. However, Ministerial meetings times outside of the resolution period should be prioritized for those communities who are more than 2 hours from the Legislature or Ministry Offices as they have more difficulty and expense arranging meetings at any other time.

**Solution B)** Ministers and their staff can be invited to Area Association conventions (formalized meeting schedule like UBCM) to allow communities/regional districts to schedule meetings at times other than the UBCM convention.

### **ii) Too many microphones and difficulty for the chair to see the people standing at them.**

**Solution A)** Have two microphones at the front of the assembly. One is for supporting the resolution while the other is for dissenting.

**iii) Voting takes a lot of time if the vote is close.**

**Solution A)** Have UBCM staff investigate costs of renting voting machines.

**iv) Some delegates monopolize the microphones.**

**Solution A)** This is a delicate situation as debate should not be limited. It may be necessary to have a UBCM board member in the audience to quietly speak to a delegate who has overstepped the boundaries.

**Solution B)** If electronic voting is used, have a "Call the Question" button available. If a certain percentage (70%?) agree to call the question, debate stops and voting immediately follows.

**Solution C)** The length of time for the "stop light" system should be shortened for speaking.

**v) Emergency resolutions get discussed before timely submitted ones.**

**Solution A)** The UBCM resolutions committee should vet the emergency resolutions more strictly. If they find similar resolutions have been submitted they should reword them into one resolution and send them back to area association/local councils to get their approval.

**Solution B)** Resolutions brought through area associations should have priority and put to the front of the resolution book for debate first as they have already been supported by their region.

**vi) Resolution sessions are interrupted too often.**

**Solution A)** Have two continuous blocks of resolution time. Also allow more time for resolutions and recommend fewer biological breaks. Offer coffee/refreshments at the back of the room that delegates can take to their chairs.

**vii) Constitutional requirement to explain resolution process each convention takes too much time.**

**Solution A)** Have the UBCM staff review the constitution to see if it can be reworded to allow the chair of the resolutions committee to ask the delegates to turn to a page in the resolution booklet which explains the process, rather than having to announce the entire process.

**viii) Resolution session is not run as efficiently as possible.**

**Solution A)** Have the UBCM staff investigate hiring a parliamentarian to run the session rather than the chair of the resolutions committee.

**Solution B)** Resolutions need to have a provincial scope, if not, they have to be reworded to have a provincial impact, either by UBCM staff or area associations.