

# Strengthening Responsible Conduct

Year

2021

Number

SR3

Sponsor(s)

UBCM

Whereas responsible conduct of elected officials, both individually and collectively as a Council or Board, is essential to sound and effective governance; And whereas local governments are best served by tools and resources that reflect the legislative framework for local government in British Columbia, which is based on foundational concepts of autonomy, empowerment, accountability and collaboration:

Therefore, be it resolved that UBCM ask the provincial government to:

- Introduce a legislative requirement that all local governments in British Columbia must consider the adoption or updating of a Code of Conduct at least once early in each new term of office;
- Work collaboratively with UBCM and others to consider the design of a mandatory educational module that would support responsible conduct by local elected officials;
- Update the oath of office prescribed by regulation to embed the foundational principles identified by the Working Group on Responsible Conduct; and
- Provide guidance for local governments that have established an oath of office by bylaw so that these oaths may be updated with the same foundational principles for responsible conduct.