

**Delegation: The Honourable Claire Trevena  
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure**

**Discussion Highlights:**

- **BC Bus North and Bulkley-Nechako Highway 16:** The Ministry is negotiating co-funding for long distance bus service with the Federal Government to support BC Bus North, beyond the current two-year commitment (until 2021). The Bulkley-Nechako Transit service has committed funds until 2022. The NCLGA requested a written commitment that goes beyond 2022 prior to the next election and for funding of Volunteer Road Rescue Services on provincial highways (referred to the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General).
  - Recommended Local Government Action: Contact your local MLA to support long-term funding commitments for rural bus services in the upcoming provincial budget.
  - Note: Changes in fairs may be experienced as the transition to the private sector develops.
- **Safety of First Responders Attending a Roadside Accident:** The Ministry considered the request to limit speed through highway accident scenes to 30 km/hour difficult to enforce and potentially confusing to travelers when work zones are often 60 km/hour and the Slow Down-Move Over campaign is set at 70 km/hour.
- **Fire Mitigation on Transportation and Utility Corridors:** The Minister acknowledged the concern related to secondary roads where brush is cut and left, rather than mulched as along highways. However, the cost of clean-up across large tracks of secondary roads is problematic and the Minister requests that members work with the Ministry to identify high risk routes for priority focus.
  - Recommended Local Government Action: Request that local governments identify routes of highest risk (such as single access communities) and work with local contractors to reduce risk.
- **Sign for Cellular Phone Service on Highway 37 North:** Following a request from the Regional District of the Kitimat-Stikine, the NCLGA discussed the potential for installing signs to notify travellers regarding gaps in cellular phone service along Highway 37. The NCLGA was referred to the Ministry of Tourism and Tourist Information Centres to identify gaps and share the information with travellers. The Ministry advised on the limitations of road signage but agreed that that information could potentially be added to Drive BC.
- **Diminishing Access to Provincial In-Person Services:** Places additional travel pressures on member communities and the transportation network, further exacerbating the need for bus services, safe (fire mitigation and emergency workers) travel corridors and consistent cellular coverage. NCLGA representatives underscore the importance of in-person services and recommends implementing further actions (i.e. collaborate with Federal government) to enhance local presence.

**Referenced NCLGA Resolutions:**

NCLGA Resolution	Sponsor Community	UBCM Debate Status
<a href="#">Diminishing Access to Provincial Government In-Person Services (#R37 - 2019)</a>	Village of McBride	Endorsed
<a href="#">Safety of First Responders Attending a Roadside Accident (#R19 - 2019)</a>	Fraser-Fort George RD	Endorsed
<a href="#">Fire Mitigation on Transportation and Utility Corridors (#R16 - 2019)</a>	Cariboo RD	Endorsed