



City of Delta
COUNCIL REPORT
Regular Meeting

To: **Council**

From: **Corporate Services Department**

Date: **May 8, 2025**

2025 UBCM Community Excellence Awards

The following report has been reviewed and endorsed by the City Manager's Office.

▪ **RECOMMENDATION:**

THAT the City of Delta's applications for the 2025 UBCM Community Excellence Awards for the following initiatives be endorsed by Council:

1. The Youth and Kids (YAK) Pass under the Excellence in Service Delivery category; and
 2. The Housing Our Future PLAN-A-THON under the Excellence in Governance category.
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▪ **PURPOSE:**

To obtain Council's approval of Delta's submissions for the 2025 UBCM Community Excellence Awards.

▪ **BACKGROUND:**

The annual Community Excellence Awards recognize and celebrate Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) members that have implemented projects or programs that demonstrate excellence in meeting the purposes of local government in BC. The awards are designed to profile promising practices and to encourage local governments to learn from the success of other members in order to implement changes in their own communities.

Similar to previous years, the four award categories in 2025 are:

1. Excellence in Governance
2. Excellence in Service Delivery
3. Excellence in Asset Management
4. Excellence in Sustainability

▪ **DISCUSSION:**

For the 2025 Community Excellence awards, staff are recommending Delta submit two applications to be considered by UBCM. The programs recommended for submission are:

1. **Youth and Kids (YAK) Pass** – *Excellence in Service Delivery*
2. **Housing Our Future PLAN-A-THON** – *Excellence in Governance*

These submissions highlight Delta's ongoing efforts to improve service access, foster community wellbeing, with an emphasis for families in Delta, and demonstrate leadership in inclusive governance.

A description of each application, and summaries of such applications are as follows:

1. **YAK Pass – Excellence in Service Delivery**

Introduced on Family Day (February 17, 2025), the YAK Pass provides free access to Delta's recreation facilities for all youth aged 18 and under. The initiative builds on Delta's legacy of offering no-cost recreational programming to youth and expands it by removing age-related restrictions previously in place.

The program reflects Council's "Delta Families First" vision and reduces financial barriers to physical activity and recreation. From launch to the end of May 2025, approximately 6,000 YAK Passes have been issued, and more than 60,000 facility visits have been logged by youth—an increase of over 5,000 from the previous year. The initiative was supported by a robust communications campaign featuring a branded YAK mascot to promote engagement and awareness.

2. **Housing Our Future PLAN-A-THON – Excellence in Governance**

The PLAN-A-THON was a one-day event held on November 23, 2024, aimed at supporting homeowners interested in building small-scale multi-unit housing (SSMUH), such as coach houses or secondary suites. City staff from multiple departments provided residents with real-time, property-specific advice through a "one-stop shop" approach.

With more than 300 participants in attendance, the event offered an accessible, transparent, and hands-on opportunity for residents to understand new SSMUH regulations and contribute feedback. This input will directly shape proposed regulatory updates, including refined zoning definitions and changes to height and density standards. The PLAN-A-THON represents an innovative and inclusive governance model—merging service delivery with public engagement to ensure policy decisions reflect community needs and aspirations.

In accordance with UBCM Community Excellence Award application requirements, each application must have five representative photos of the project. A copy of each application, and their photos can be found as Attachment A - Youth and Kids (YAK) Pass Application and as Attachment B - Housing Our Future PLAN-A-THON Application. Additionally, UBCM asks that any available videos be shared via a public link. Staff are producing a video to accompany Delta's *Housing Our Future PLAN-A-THON* application. This video will be posted on Delta's YouTube channel and shared with Council when ready.

Implications:

Financial Implications – There are no financial implications.

▪ **CONCLUSION:**

It is recommended that Council endorse Delta’s two UBCM Community Excellence Award applications.



Mike Brotherston
Director, Corporate Services

Department submission prepared by: Tyson Schofield, Manager of Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs

This report has been prepared in consultation with the following listed departments.

Concurring Departments		
Department	Name	Signature
Communications & Engagement	Deanie Wong	DW
Development	Doreann Mayhew	DM
Parks, Recreation & Culture	Josh Turner	JT

▪ **ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. Youth and Kids (YAK) Pass Application
- B. Housing Our Future PLAN-A-THON Application