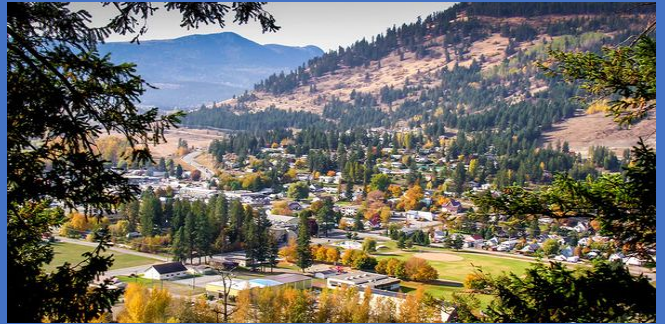


# SILGA

2021 June  
Newsletter



Lumby, BC

## A Prayer for our Indigenous Neighbours

Turn off the sun. Tell the wind not to blow.  
Halt the rivers and stop the tide.  
Lest this grief never subside.

Ask the birds not to sing and the fish not to swim.  
Put nature to sleep.  
For these children, we must weep.

How do we find forgiveness in the un-forgivable?  
How do we live with the horror that was un-livable?

We must answer every call.  
To the urgent actions needed.  
Or the healing and forgiveness  
So essential go unheeded.

As a City, as a Province, as a Nation, if we are truly worthy of  
the offer of reconciliation then we must stand in solidarity  
and condolence with our beloved neighbours and all  
Indigenous communities who continue to suffer the trauma  
of the residential school system and the tragedy of  
colonization.

L Wallace Richmond



[How to Support Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc](#)

Southern Interior Local Government Association  
PO Box 27017 Cityview PO, Kamloops BC V2E 0B2  
250-851-6653 [www.silga.ca](http://www.silga.ca)

2021-22 Federation of Canadian  
Municipalities Board of Directors  
Congratulations to our SILGA  
representatives!



Rhona Martin, CSR Director



Arjun Singh, Kamloops Councillor

## 2021 SILGA Resolutions

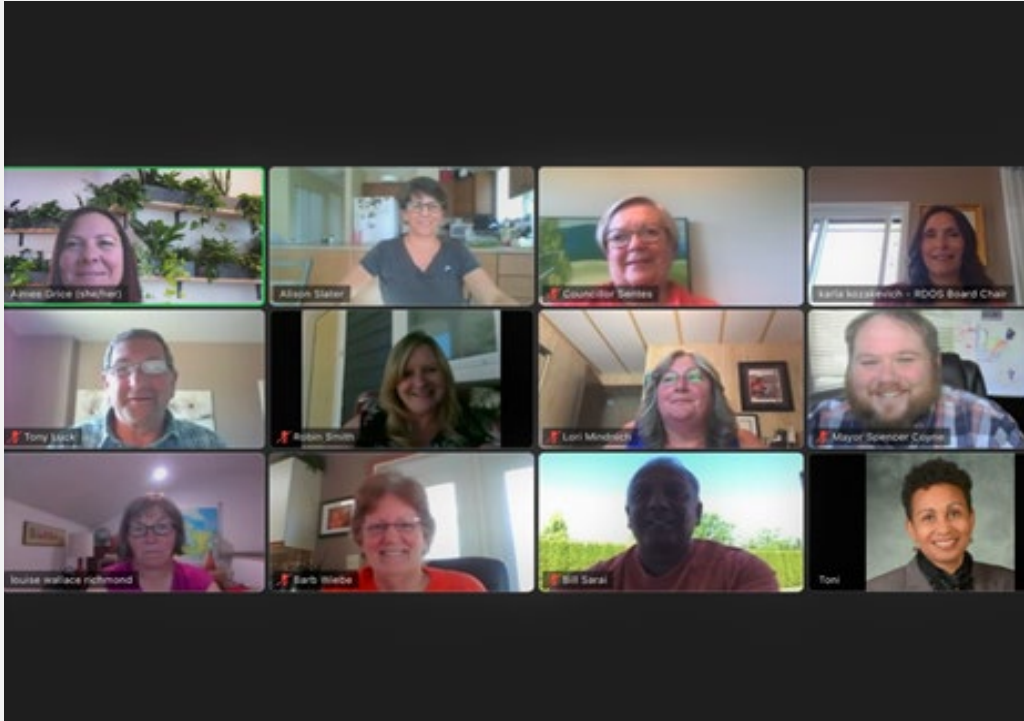
At the April 28 AGM, 31 resolutions were debated, including five SILGA constitutional resolutions. 26 resolutions were passed while five resolutions were defeated.

For all information on the 2021 resolutions, visit the [SILGA website](#).

Meet Warren Brown, Manager of  
Lytton First Nation O&M Department  
and [Canadian Water Summit's 2021  
Water/ Waste Water Operator and  
Water Steward of the Year](#).



# 2021-22 SILGA Board of Directors



From Left to Right, 2nd VP Aimee Grice, Oliver, GM Alison Slater, Director Judy Sentes, Penticton , President Karla Kozakevich, RDOS, Director Tony Luck, Merritt, Director Robin Smith, Logan Lake, Past President Lori Mindnich, Lumby, Director Spencer Coyne, Princeton, Director Louise Wallace Richmond, Salmon Arm, Director Barb Wiebe, Lillooet, Director Bill Sarai, Kamloops, 1st VP Toni Boot, Summerland

## 2022 SILGA Convention Salmon Arm April 26-29, 2022

We've started the planning for an in-person convention! The convention will be centered at the Prestige Harbourfront Resort with additional hotel rooms available at the Fairfield Inn.

The host convention committee is hard at work deciding on speakers, tours and entertainment but they have guaranteed that every locally elected official will not want to miss this one. There will be an emphasis on networking, collaboration and FUN!

[Click here](#) for all the up to date information as it becomes available.

## COVID-19 Vaccinations and Herd Immunity

Our health care leaders are urging everyone to get vaccinated but as community leaders how can you convince those on the fence to get a vaccine?

Step 1. Listen. Ask "why aren't you vaccinated?" Hear the person out.

Step 2. Have a discussion and try to meet the other person where they are, understand their position, and talk with them (not at them!) about their concerns. Your words should come from a place of love and concern, not hostility.

Step 3. Focus on the big-picture positives:

- The vaccine is safe and free.
- Your chance of dying from or being hospitalized with COVID-19 drops to nearly zero with the vaccine.
- You're protecting yourself and the people around you.
- As more people are vaccinated, schools and businesses can continue to safely reopen and we can see our families again.

## KEEPING THE ECONOMY HEALTHY IN A PANDEMIC

Jack Middleton | Advisor, Citizen Engagement &  
Outreach with CAPP

Trans Mountain Expansion is under construction today, and Kamloops is playing a major role.

The pandemic has been terrible for everyone. Canadians and small businesses are struggling and as the pandemic has stretched out over a year, we've continued to experience those impacts for much longer than we ever thought possible.

One bright spot has been major projects being built across British Columbia. For nearly a decade, twinning the existing Trans Mountain pipeline from Edmonton to Burnaby has dominated national headlines, political battles, and court cases.

Now, when new economic opportunities are needed most, the Trans Mountain Expansion Project (TMX) is doing just that. In fact, as of April 30, 2021, there were approximately 8,150 people working on the Project. Approximately 1,280 workers on the project have been Indigenous people. As of January 31, 2021, Trans Mountain has signed 66 Agreements with 73 Indigenous groups in BC and Alberta that represent more than \$550 million in benefits and opportunities for Indigenous communities.



The most recent B.C. budget showed an estimated real GDP contraction of -5.3% in 2020. However, according to [an article](#) by the Business Council of B.C., major projects have substantially reduced the economic impact. Because of ongoing construction, B.C. is in a much better position to restore jobs and bounce back after the pandemic. There's evidence this is already happening; we've seen a 4.4% rebound in GDP for 2021 and stable job recovery in the 2021 BC budget.

While some like to pretend the natural gas and oil industry is dying, it remains one of Canada's largest and most important sectors. The industry supports over 500,000 Canadian jobs, and contributes over \$10 billion in average annual revenue to governments. A huge amount of money – perhaps so huge, the reality of what that means gets lost.

When you hear the words “direct and indirect jobs,” what do you think of? A welder, an engineer, maybe someone operating heavy machinery? All good examples, but it also includes accountants, lab techs, and entrepreneurs. It's the indirect benefits that go unseen and often make the biggest difference in communities.

In September we [interviewed a few small business owners](#). From Bryan Pilbeam, General Manager of the Delta Hotel in Kamloops, to Ray Dhaliwal, owner of Ray's Lock & Key, we heard one message loud and clear: TMX is creating opportunities that simply wouldn't have otherwise existed during the pandemic.

In Ray's case, he was able to hire and train extra long-term staff to re-key contractor facilities in Clearwater. For Bryan, it was the fact that Kamloops missed the summer 2000 tourist season, and having a few rooms consistently booked out through the year to TMX workers gave him the ability to keep staff employed.

The Trans Mountain Expansion Project recently announced the horizontal directional drill crossing of the Thompson River was completed in December 2020, with cleanup in the area now complete. Moving forward, crews will now be focusing their efforts on pipeline construction along Tranquille Road adjacent to the airport property.

As TMX and other major projects such as LNG Canada and Coastal GasLink are built, British Columbians will be the ones building it.

*You can find out more about the responsible development of Canada's oil and natural gas sector by signing up for [Canada's Energy Citizens](#) or following us on [Youtube](#).*