


## Attachment 1


### Tri-Cities Joint UBCM Resolution

 Vanessa Washington <washingtonv@portcoquitlam.ca>  
To: ● Stephanie Lam; ○ kkarn@coquitlam.ca  
Cc: ○ Councillor Nancy McCurrach; ○ Mayor Brad West; ○ Carolyn Deakin

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Thu 5/9/2024 9:28 AM

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Good morning Clerks,

The attached resolution was submitted to the UBCM by the City of Port Coquitlam Council. We would like to know if City of Coquitlam and City of Port Moody Councils would be interested in endorsing this resolution in order to provide a joint submission to the UBCM? Please see Cllr. McCurrach's message below:

We believe that this resolution will be much stronger if it is a Tri-Cities joint resolution. We look forward to having this resolution on "Gender Equity: Updating the Provincial Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, and the British Columbia Building Codes to include provisions for menstrual supplies" being a joint submission, and welcome your cities to join on. Please let us know if this is something your Councils would be interested in doing. Final submissions for UBCM resolutions is June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Cllr. Nancy McCurrach  
Creator of the resolution

Should you have any questions or require any further information, please let me know.

Best regards,

**Vanessa Washington | City of Port Coquitlam**

Manager of Legislative Services

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## **CERTIFIED RESOLUTION**

This letter is to certify that at its' April 9, 2024, Council meeting, the City of Port Coquitlam Council adopted the following resolution:

## **DRAFT RESOLUTION**

### **Port Coquitlam Resolution for 2024 UBCM Convention**

#### **Gender Equity: Updating the Provincial Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, and the British Columbia Building Codes to include provisions for menstrual supplies.**

**WHEREAS** the 2024 British Columbia Building Code contains updated accessibility features for universal washrooms and that they must contain full-sized adult changing tables; and no new updates were made to the provincial Building Code and Occupational Health and Safety Regulations to include accessibility features for free menstrual supplies or sanitary disposal bins for those who menstruate;

**AND WHEREAS** equity-based policies around access to menstrual products as a health and human rights imperative will support inclusion, accessibility, mobility, reduce stigma, and promote gender equality for all people;

**AND WHEREAS** in December 2023, the Canada Occupational Health and Safety Regulations were revised to include free menstrual products in all federally regulated workplace restrooms;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) call upon the Province of British Columbia to update the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations, and the British Columbia Building Code to include provisions for sanitary disposal bins, and courtesy menstrual supplies as is currently required for toilet paper in restrooms outside the home, thus supporting accessibility and gender equity for people who menstruate.

Certified by:

*C. Deakin*

Corporate Officer

April 10, 2024

## Background

\* The Minister of Education for British Columbia, recognizing lack of access to menstrual supplies in schools as a barrier to education and an issue of equity in 2019 required all schools to provide free menstrual products in schools, <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2019SDPR0033-000587>

\* The UN and World Health Organization 2022 have positioned their official statement on menstrual health to be recognized as a health and human rights issue relating to gender equality/equity, not a hygiene issue <https://www.who.int/news/item/22-06-2022-who-statement-on-menstrual-health-and-rights>

\* December 2023 the Canadian Occupational Health and Safety Regulations were revised to include free menstrual products in all federally regulated workplace restrooms. <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2023/12/menstrual-products-now-available-at-no-cost-to-employees-in-federally-regulated-workplaces.html>

\* The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) would be able to add more pressure to enact legislation by the British Columbia Government to address this specific gender equity issue. The precedent has already been set in globally, with Scotland now legally requiring free access to menstrual products <https://www.gov.scot/publications/period-products-free-provision-scotland-act-2021-equality-impact-assessment/>

\* Province Adopts Changes to BC Building Code March 8/2024 with full size adult changing tables in universal washrooms. “2) A universal washroom required to have an accessible change space as stipulated in Sentence 3.8.2.8.(15) shall a) be equipped with an adult-sized change table that is.....” [https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/construction-industry/building-codes-and-standards/revisions-and-mo/bcbc\\_2024.pdf](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/farming-natural-resources-and-industry/construction-industry/building-codes-and-standards/revisions-and-mo/bcbc_2024.pdf)