

P
Pol. Sci. Canadian Federation of
C. Mayors and Municipalities

Resolutions and Constitution

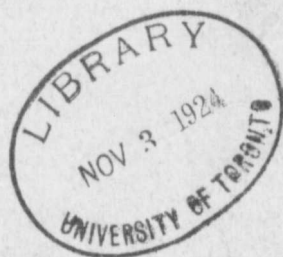
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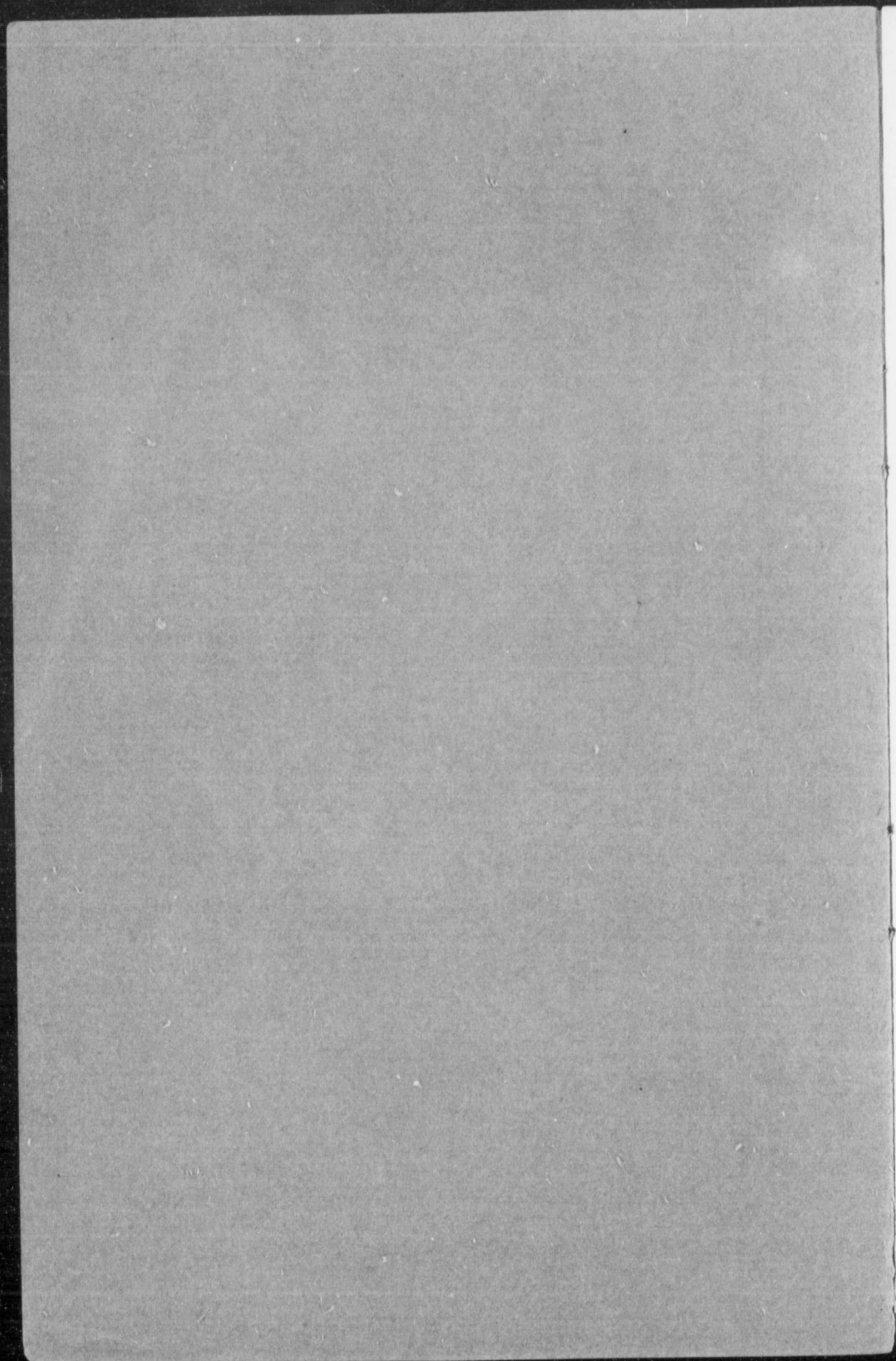
Canadian Municipal Union

Adopted at the Convention
held in

The City of Toronto

August 28th, 29th and 30th, 1901





THE CANADIAN MUNICIPAL CONVENTION

Held at Toronto on August 28th, 29th and 30th, 1901.

The Convention was held pursuant to the following invitation, viz.:

MAYOR'S OFFICE,

Toronto, August 16th, 1901.

DEAR SIR,—Pursuant to my circular of the 24th of June, to which a large number of acceptances have been received, including the Mayors of important cities from all the Provinces of the Dominion, a convention of delegates from the municipalities of Canada will be held at the City Hall, Toronto, commencing on Wednesday, the 28th inst.

The primary object of the Conference will be to arrange for a Municipal Union for common action in defence of municipal rights and the interests of citizens against the encroachments of great corporations, through Parliament, the Legislature, and otherwise. Other subjects of common interest and advantage from a municipal point of view will come up for discussion, to be handled at the Conference or by the proposed Union. Among these will be a plan for improving the credit of the municipalities in each Province, or in the Dominion.

The conclusions arrived at at the Conference will be recommendatory, and will be submitted for ratification to the respective Municipal Councils.

The Toronto Annual Exhibition will be open during the sittings of the Convention, and, by the courtesy of the directors, all privileges of the Exhibition will be offered to the delegates and their ladies.

Special rights and privileges are offered by the Railways to Toronto during the period of the Exhibition, but it may be found most convenient for delegates from other Provinces to take advantage of the rates to Buffalo, with stop-over privilege at Toronto.

Delegates desiring to have rooms secured for them will kindly communicate by letter or telegraph.

Yours very truly,

O. A. HOWLAND,

Mayor.

REPRESENTATION.

During the Convention the following Delegates were present by authority of their respective Councils, viz. :

Jas. Wilson.....	Mayor	Thorold.
D. B. Wood.....	“	Brantford.
Thos. Thauburn.....	“	Brampton.
R. S. McGill.....	“	Simcoe.
Chas. Kelly.....	“	Uxbridge.
W. D. Morris.....	“	Ottawa.
Alexander W. MacRae...	Alderman, for Mayor of St. John, N. B.	
D. W. Dulmage.....	Alderman	Palmerston.
R. Armstrong.....	Mayor	Toronto Junction.
W. M. Knowles.....	Councillor	Westmount, Quebec.
W. D. Lighthall.....	Mayor	“ “
G. W. Sulman.....	“	Chatham.
C. L. Von Gunten.....	Warden	Kent County
Thos. Vair.....	Mayor	Galt.
Lt.-Col. E. Cruikshank...	County Councillor...	Fort Erie, Welland.
P. E. Campbell.....	Mayor	Cornwall.
Jno. Arbuthnot.....	“	Winnipeg, Man.
Aaron Read.....	“	Owen Sound.
Dr. Stark.....	County Councillor...	Finch.
James Greenwood.....	Mayor	Blenheim, Kent County.
Chas. A. Humber.....	Alderman	Goderich.
Jas. Wilson.....	Mayor	“
Wm. Mitchell.....	Clerk	“
Jno. Knox.....	Councillor	“
W. B. Graham.....	Mayor	Ridgetown.
J. T. Hamilton.....	“	Halifax, N. S.
J. W. Bowlby, K. C.....	Chairman Finance...	Brantford.
Henry Duncan.....	Reeve of York	Don.
S. F. McKinnon.....	City.
V. A. Sinclair.....	Mayor	Tilsonburg.
W. J. Charlton.....	“	Weston.
W. L. Bell.....	Port Arthur.
W. B. Sanders.....	Stayner.
F. T. Daville.....	Mayor	Aurora.
Geo. Ingle.....	“	Lindsay.

John Lyle.....	Clerk and Treasurer.	Bowmanville.
John B. Mitchell.....	Mayor	“
Charles Collins.....	“	Dundas.
W. P. Hubbard.....	Controller	Toronto.
Thomas Urquhart.....	Alderman	“
F. H. Richardson.....	“	“
J. J. Graham.....	“	“
G. M. Roger.....		Peterborough.
S. R. Armstrong.....		“
Henry Best		“
John Mearns.....	Mayor	Woodstock.
J. Bingeman	Alderman	Berlin.
Wm. Still.....	Mayor	Orangeville.
Wm. Rickard.....	Warden	Northumberland and Durham.
G. A. Radenhurst.....	Mayor	Barrie.
S. Chant.....	“	St. Thomas.
Jacob E. Kneel.....	“	Preston.
Henry White	“	Port Hope.
Jno. S. Hendrie	“	Hamilton.
C. M. Durward.....	Alderman	Brantford.
E. Flood.....	“	Lindsay.
W. Clegg.....	Mayor	Wingham.
E. Garrett.....	Reeve	Bradford.
Thos. Evans		Paris.
F. G. Rumball	Mayor	London.
J. J. Kilivi.....		Sault Ste. Marie.
A. M. Todd	Alderman	Goderich.
Jno. Walker	“	Petrolia.
Chas. Senior.....	Ex-Mayor	Blenheim.
J. Watson	Mayor	Listowel.
O. B. Sheppard	Vice-Chairman	Board of Control, Toronto.

The following Municipalities also intimated their intention to be represented, but their delegates for various reasons were unable to be present :

New Westminster, B.C. ; Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. O. A. Howland, Mayor of Toronto, was elected Chairman of the Convention, and Mr. W. D. Lighthall, Mayor of Westmount, Montreal, Secretary.

CONSTITUTION.

The following Constitution reported by the Committee on Organization was, after debate, unanimously adopted by the Convention :

NAME.

1.—That the name shall be the Union of Canadian Municipalities.

MEMBERSHIP.

2.—The membership shall consist of all Municipalities of Canada which by vote of their Council declare their intention of joining the Union.

OBJECTS OF THE UNION.

3.—The objects of the Union shall be the general improvement and facilitation of every branch of Municipal Administration by the following means :

First.—The perpetuation of the Organization as an agency for the co-operation of Canadian Municipalities in all questions pertaining to Municipal Administration.

Second.—In particular the guidance and improvement of legislation, both of the Dominion and the Provinces, upon Municipal questions, and the betterment of Municipal Government and the promotion of Municipal interests generally.

Third.—The holding of Annual Conventions for discussion, information and resolutions on the above subjects.

Fourth.—The securing of united action for the protection of individual Municipalities and Municipal interests as a whole against legislative or other encroachments of corporations.

FEES.

4.—The following shall be the scale of fees to be paid by members :

Townships, Parishes and Incorporated Villages	\$2 00
Counties	5 00
Towns and Cities with a population under ten thousand.....	5 00
Towns and Cities with a population under fifty thousand	10 00
Cities with a population over fifty thousand.....	25 00

ANNUAL MEETING.

5.—The Annual Meeting shall be held at such place as shall be determined by vote of the previous Annual Convention, and shall be held at such time as the Executive Committee shall determine.

REPRESENTATION.

6.—Each member shall be entitled to send such representatives as its Council may annually appoint. Votes in Convention may be taken by show of hands unless any member calls for a vote by members, in which case each member by its representative or representatives shall cast but one vote.

OFFICERS.

7.—(a). The Officers of the Union shall be a President and one First Vice-President and one Second Vice-President for each Province represented, to be elected at the Annual Convention.

THE EXECUTIVE.

8.—There shall be an Executive Committee, which shall be composed of the President and Provincial Vice-Presidents.

(b). The First and Second Vice-Presidents from a Province shall form a Provincial Committee or Sub-Committee to watch the interests of Municipalities in their respective Provinces, and any member of the Union may communicate with them for the purpose of securing the support of the Union in opposing or advancing matters affecting the interests of any member.

(c). The said Provincial Committees shall forthwith report any proposed action to the President of the Union, and no expenditure shall be made or charge incurred to the Union except by and with the consent of the Executive.

(d). When any one of the representatives of any Province dies or retires, or removes from a Province, or becomes incapable to act, the Executive shall fill the vacancy for the year.

(e). The Executive may confer and vote by correspondence and shall be a general Administrative Committee.

(f). During the Convention such members of the last year's Executive as are continuing delegates shall form a Committee on Resolutions with such delegates as may be added by the Convention at its first session for that Convention only.

(g). The Executive shall meet at least one day before the Annual Meeting.

(h). Vacancies on the Executive may be filled by the Executive for the remainder of the year and until the next Annual Meeting.

(i). The Executive may elect or appoint a Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer from its own membership or otherwise. The Chairman so elected shall be the central officer through whom meetings, conferences, and the action of the Executive may take place.

QUORUM.

9.—A majority of the members of the Executive Committee at any time shall constitute a quorum thereof.

AMENDMENTS.

10.—Resolutions for the amendment of the Constitution or for any other purpose shall in the first instance be referred to the Resolutions Committee to report thereon to the Convention, unless by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting the Rule is dispensed with. This section is subject to the provisions of Section 6.

RESOLUTIONS.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously by the Convention :

+ 1. That Municipalities should have full and exclusive control of their streets, and that no Legislation should be passed infringing on such control unless the same be subject to consent of the Municipality concerned ; and that the members of this Union will resolutely resist each and every invasion of these rights ; and that the Executive Committee be charged with the duty of assisting to prevent such invasions of the rights of any Municipality.

2. That whereas the Dominion and Provincial Governments are in the habit of leasing various properties for public uses, and paying therefor large rentals ; and whereas the owners of such property, while receiving valuable consideration for the premises so leased, claim to be entirely exempt from paying ordinary taxes on the freehold, this Union protests against the construction sought to be placed in some such cases upon Clause 125 of the B. N. A. Act claiming the right of exemption from Municipal Taxes, and recommends that all Municipalities suffering from this grievance unite in resisting, and if necessary in testing the subject in the Courts of Law.

+ 3. That all legislation under which properties of certain corporations are to be assessed as scrap iron should be decisively and distinctly repealed.

+ 4. That the Executive Committee be instructed to consider and report upon a method of unitedly strengthening the credit of the Municipalities of the Dominion and reducing the burden of interest charge upon them.

+ 5. That it is contrary to equity and to wise public policy and of doubtful legality, that Governments should exempt their own properties and the incomes of those in their employ from Municipal taxation ; and that the Executive Committee be authorized to consider the best means of giving effect to this Resolution.

+ 6. That whereas the Railway Committee of the Privy Council has assumed jurisdiction to order Municipalities to pay part or the whole of the cost of protection of crossings and of bridges and subways, and whereas such claim of jurisdiction has never been affirmed by the highest Courts of Canada or the Empire, and whereas the

practice of the Railway Committee is of doubtful legality, inequitable and contrary to public justice and policy, this Union of Canadian Municipalities protests against such practice and claim of jurisdiction, and instructs the Executive to unite the Municipalities of Canada to oppose the policy and, if necessary, to obtain a legal determination upon the right.

7. That the scope of Municipal Administration and Legislation is so large and important that in the public interest, Municipal issues should be kept solely in view by the electorate at Municipal Elections, free from other questions or associations, and the members of this Convention declare their intention of exerting their influence to this end in their several localities.

8. That we earnestly recommend to all Municipalities a careful oversight over all concessions of franchises with a view to the future extension of the principle of Municipal ownership and control of public utilities; and we particularly urge that all Municipalities retain the control of all franchises for electric railways; which opens a new field for the means of local communication and transportation.

9. That the Executive be instructed to print the Constitution and Resolutions and send copies to all members of this Union and to other Municipalities and to the Premiers of the Dominion and of the different provinces, and to other suitable quarters; and the delegates to the Convention are requested to obtain confirmation of these resolutions by their Municipalities, and that all Municipalities not already members be invited to confirm these resolutions and to join the Union.

OFFICERS.

The following were elected by the Convention as the officers of the Union for the succeeding year :

PRESIDENT, O. A. Howland, K.C., C.M.G., Mayor of Toronto.
 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT (Ontario), W. D. Morris, K.C., Mayor of Ottawa.
 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT (Ontario), Aaron Read, Esq., Mayor of Owen Sound.
 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT (Quebec), W. D. Lighthall, Esq., Mayor of Westmount, Que.
 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT (Quebec), W.M. Knowles., Esq., Councillor, Westmount, Que.
 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT (Nova Scotia), J. T. Hamilton, Esq., Mayor of Halifax, N.S.
 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT (Nova Scotia)—————
 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT (New Brunswick), Alex. W. MacRae, Alderman, St. John, N.B.
 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT (New Brunswick)—————
 1ST VICE-PRESIDENT (Manitoba), John Arbuthnot, Esq., Mayor of Winnipeg.
 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT—————