



## Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness

August 22, 2024

9:00 am

5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room of City Hall

1100 Patricia Boulevard, Prince George, BC

*We respectfully acknowledge the unceded ancestral lands of the Lheidli T'enneh,  
on whose land we live, work and play.*

**PRESENT:** Lisa Cran <Chair> <Zoom>  
Alicia Buchanan  
Lauren Harding  
Nicole Botten  
Alex Rowan  
Alex Schare

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Sean LeBrun, Manager of Parks and Solid Waste Division / Staff Liaison  
Charlotte Peters, Manager of Bylaw Services  
Neil Matheson, Parks Supervisor  
Gina Layte Liston, Senior Manager of Environmental Services, Regional District of Fraser-Fort George  
Leslie Kellett, Deputy Corporate Officer  
Elisha Leclair, Information and Records Coordinator

### A. COMMENCEMENT

The meeting of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Moved By** L. Harding

**Seconded By** A. Buchanan

*That the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness PERMITS Lisa Cran to chair the meeting via remote participation.*

**Carried Unanimously**

### B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Document Number: 730202

**Moved By** A. Rowan  
**Seconded By** L. Harding

*That the agenda for the August 22, 2024 Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness meeting, BE ADOPTED.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**C.1 Minutes from the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness Meeting held July 24, 2024**

**Moved By** A. Schare  
**Seconded By** A. Buchanan

*That the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness meeting held July 24, 2024 BE ADOPTED as read on this day and that such minutes as read set out all the business before the committee at that meeting and fully and properly record all of the resolutions passed by the committee at that meeting.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**C.2 Minutes from the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness Meeting held July 25, 2024**

**Moved By** A. Rowan  
**Seconded By** N. Botten

*That the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness meeting held July 25, 2024 BE ADOPTED as read on this day and that such minutes as read set out all the business before the committee at that meeting and fully and properly record all of the resolutions passed by the committee at that meeting.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**D. NEW BUSINESS**

**D.1 Recommendation from July 25, 2024 Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness Meeting**

**Moved By** N. Botten  
**Seconded By** A. Schare

*That the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECTS Administration to incorporate an automated bear-resistant solid waste garbage bin based off industry standards as a two-year pilot project to select a brand compatible with City operations to be established in an area known to have high-bear encounters.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**Moved By** N. Botten  
**Seconded By** A. Buchanan

*That the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness RECOMMENDS that Council DIRECTS Administration to return a report to Council within two months following the end of the two-year pilot project advising on the results of the pilot project and to provide Council with budget implications for a city-wide roll out of the chosen bins with consideration given to an opt-out provision for homeowners/tenants who can provide proof of secure garbage storage.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**Moved By** N. Botten  
**Seconded By** L. Harding

*That the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness RECOMMENDS to Council that bear-resistant solid waste receptacles continue to be phased in to public spaces, including parks and bus stops.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**D.2 Handout: Correspondence dated July 18, 2024, from Lauren Harding: Engagement with the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation**

**Moved By** A. Schare  
**Seconded By** L. Harding

*That the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the correspondence from Lauren Harding regarding engaging the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation on their wildlife practices and/ or policy.*

**Carried Unanimously**

**D.3 City of Prince George Recommended Tree List**

The Committee acknowledged the Recommended Tree List and confirmed the list is available on the City's website.

**D.4 Fruit Tree Removal Program**

The Committee considered the report dated April 9, 2024 from the Director of Civic Operations titled "City of Prince George Fruit Tree Removal Incentive Program" and noted they do not have a recommendation for Council's consideration at this time. The Committee discussed including reference to this item in the Committee's Report to Council noting that consideration of this type of program should be made after other communities with existing fruit tree removal incentive programs have demonstrated success with volunteer uptake of the program and a reduction in human-wildlife encounters.

**D.5 Electric Fencing as a Barrier to Wildlife Attractants**

The Committee discussed amending the City of Prince George Zoning Bylaw to permit electric fencing related to wildlife attractants such as bee hives and fruit-bearing trees and bushes.

**D.6 Correspondence from Lauren Harding dated August 1, 2024 titled "Literature Review - Fruit Trees as Bear Attractants"**

**D.7 Correspondence from Alex Rowan and Nicole Botten dated August 8, 2024: Gleaning Abundance Program**

The Committee discussed the request for the Committee to recommend that Council provide additional funding to the Gleaning Abundance Program to assist with coordination costs of its Fall Fruit Fest.

**E. CORRESPONDENCE**

**E.1 Correspondence from Nicole Corrado from July 18, 2024 titled "Stop killing bears"**

**F. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**F.1 Next Committee Meeting: September 4, 2024 - Discussion Topic: Enforcement**

All reports, information items and associated background documents must be submitted through the chair and staff liaison to [legislativeservices@princegeorge.ca](mailto:legislativeservices@princegeorge.ca) before 12:00 p.m., Friday, August 23, 2024. Due to staffing availability, the September 18, 2024 topic will be changed to Public Education/Communication.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

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Lisa Cran, Chair

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Certified Correct