



Minutes of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness

September 18, 2024

9:00 am

2nd Floor Conference 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>
Alicia Buchanan
Nicole Botten <9:10 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.>
Alex Rowan <9:00 a.m. - 9:55 a.m.>
Alex Schare <9:01 a.m. - 10:32 a.m.>
James Spankie

IN ATTENDANCE: Julie Rogers, Manager of Communication
Neil Matheson, Parks Supervisor
Charlotte Peters, Manager of Bylaw Services
Elisha Leclair, Information and Records Coordinator

A. COMMENCEMENT

The meeting of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness was called to order at 9:01 a.m.

A. Schare entered the 2nd Floor Conference room at 9:01 a.m.

B. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved By J. Spankie

Seconded By L. Cran

*That the agenda for the September 18, 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 September 4, 2024

Moved By A. Schare

Seconded By A. Buchanan

That the minutes of the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness meeting held September 4, 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 Consideration of Recommendations from the September 4, 2024 Committee Meeting

Moved By A. Buchanan

Seconded By A. Schare

That the Advisory Committee on Bear Awareness RECOMMENDS that Council adopt a new bylaw specific to wildlife attractants and solid waste. The proposed bylaw should:

- a. *use section 11 from Bylaw 8425, 2012, which addresses "Feeding Wildlife and Control of Wildlife Attractants";*
- b. *use Section 6 from Bylaw 7661, 2004, which pertains to "Garbage Containers and Locations";*
- c. *implement a progressive increase in fines for infractions related to wildlife attractants and solid waste;*
- d. *define wildlife attractants to include:*
 - i. *Bird feeders, with specific attention to hummingbird feeders;*
 - ii. *fruit trees; and*
 - iii. *sources of solid waste;*
- e. *establish requirements for the maintenance of fruit trees and bushes, specifically the need to manage fruit before it falls to the ground;*
- f. *mandate the securement and/or enclosure of wildlife attractants to prevent access by wildlife; and*
- g. *permit and regulate the use of electric fencing to secure wildlife attractants, specifying requirements for voltage, installation, and maintenance.*

Carried Unanimously

N. Botten entered the 2nd Floor Conference room at 9:10 a.m.

D.2 City of Prince George Support of Education and Community Outreach Initiatives Related to Bear Awareness

D.2.1 Education and Outreach Documents submitted from Northern Bear Awareness Society

D.2.2 Education and Outreach Information submitted from City of Prince George Communications Division

A. Rowan left the Zoom meeting at 9:55 a.m.

A. Schare left 2nd Floor Conference room at 9:56 a.m. and returned at 9:57 a.m.

D.3 Education and Communication: Highlights from Academic Literature

E. CORRESPONDENCE

E.1 Correspondence from Aaron Hofman, Director of Advocacy and Policy with the Fur-Bearers charity dated July 16, 2024 to Mayor and Council regarding the high number of black bears killed by conservation officers in the Prince George area in 2023

F. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

G.1 Next Committee Meeting: October 2, 2024 - Discussion Topic: Cost Benefit / Analysis

All reports, information items and associated background documents must be submitted through the chair and staff liaison to legislativeservices@princegeorge.ca before 12:00 p.m., Friday, September 20, 2024.

N. Botten left the 2nd Floor Conference room at 10:30 a.m.

A. Schare left the 2nd Floor conference room at 10:32 a.m.

The meeting no longer held quorum and adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Lisa Cran, Chair

Certified Correct