



April 16, 2024

To British Columbia Municipalities

Dear Mayor and Members of Council:

Re: Support for Resolution Black Bear Cub Conflict Response by British Columbia Conservation Officer Service

At it's Regular Meeting held on Monday, February 26, 2024 the District of North Vancouver Council unanimously passed the following motion:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Union of British Columbia Municipalities resolution Black Bear Cub Conflict Response by British Columbia Conservation Officer Service is supported for Lower Mainland Local Government Association consideration:

WHEREAS *the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service currently can independently decide how to handle black bears and cubs in conflict situations, without the oversight of an independent external public board;*

AND WHEREAS *there is no mandate for orphaned black bear cubs to be taken to a Wildlife Sanctuary for health assessment and treatment by a qualified wildlife veterinarian, and be the sole authority to perform a humane euthanasia of black bear cubs if needed.*

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED *that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities request the Province of British Columbia to initiate changes to the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service, Human-Black Bear (Single) Conflict Response Guideline, to include a review of actions through an independent civilian-led oversight board, orphaned bear cubs to be transported to a wildlife sanctuary for health assessment of cubs by qualified wildlife veterinarian, for treatment or euthanasia, and an audit done by the Solicitor General on the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service actions, policies and procedures.*

We are anticipating that this will be considered at the upcoming Lower Mainland Local Government Association's Annual Conference, and we would appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Mayor Mike Little