



Town of Gibsons

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Tracy Forster, Administrative Assistant II

DATE: June 24, 2019

SUBJECT: Correspondence for the Week Ending June 24, 2019

Please note: *Only correspondence indicated has been forwarded to staff. If you have any questions, or would like staff to follow up with items on the CRF, please contact Lindsey as items do not need to wait for a Council meeting to be actioned.*

1. Time Sensitive Material

- 2019-06-19 BC Natural Resources Forum, Prince George - Jan 28-30, 2020
- 2019-06-23 Cedar Grove Elementary Gnome Project Committee re Invitation to Commemorate Arrival of Gnome - June 26, 1pm

2. Regular Correspondence (Including Emails)

- 2019-06-05 Jay Chalke, Ombudsperson re Quarterly Report January 1-March 31, 2019
- 2019-06-10 Lori Pratt, Chair, SCR D re Regional Water Conservation Initiatives
- 2019-06-18 Alison Cuffley, BC SPCA re Spring Newsletter & Annual Report
- 2019-06-19 The Compass - Firesmart Funding - Private Managed Forest Consultation
- 2019-06-19 Val Stapleton, Disability Alliance of BC Community, Announces Changes Aimed at Reducing Poverty
- 2019-06-20 Heather Evans-Cullen GDPL Letter to ToG regarding Provincial Funding
- 2019-06-20 Jeff Zweig, Mosiac Forest Management re TimberWest 2018 Sustainability Report
- 2019-06-20 News from the Ombudsperson's Prevention Team
- 2019-06-20 ^{22(1) FOIPPA} re Supportive Housing
- 2019-06-21 CBC News re Rash of Rudeness Marks Fading Sense of Civility in Govt
- 2019-06-21 Hon. Janet Austin, Lt Gov of BC re Letter of Thanks
- 2019-06-21 ^{22(1) FOIPPA} re Supportive Housing
- 2019-06-21 Vancouver Sun Article re Botched Caribou Plan Leaves Divisions that can't be Easily Healed
- 2019-06-21 Vancouver Sun Reschedule Vancouver Fireworks if Air Quality Poor-Not So Fast
- 2019-06-22 - The Globe and Mail, As Canada's Habitats Disappear, Conservation Needs to Start on our Doorstep
- 2019-06-24 Pacific Business and Law Institute re Hot Topics in Real Estate Development
- 2019-06-24 Pamela Goldsmit-Jones, MP re Response to Gibsons Residents re Supportive Housing

Town of Gibsons
PO Box 340, 474 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, BC V0N 1V0

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Gibsons General Mailbox

From: vel anderson <vel.anderson@gmail.com>
Sent: June 23, 2019 5:19 PM
To: Gibsons General Mailbox
Subject: INVITATION TO COMMEMORATE ARRIVAL OF GNOME

Hello Mayor Beamish,

We extend to you this invitation; to come celebrate the arrival of the "new" old Gnome to Cedar Grove Elementary School.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26th at 1pm at Cedar Grove

Elementary School

Hello all,

You'll never know my appreciation for the Elphinstone Community Association's efforts to make me a reality. Especially the committed efforts of Darcy Gertz, to whom I will be ever thankful for his releasing me from the ten foot long red cedar log placed in his dooryard last summer.. Yes, after many weeks of chainsawing, chiseling, carving and sanding Darcy was able to release my true self.

While waiting for my special coating to preserve me for many moons to come, the weather turned cooler and wet, so there I stood in Darcy's driveway. Oh, I know there was serious discussion as to how to protect me from the coming rains.

After many months of shivering in the protective shed while waiting for steady warm weather, the great news came. I'm to be moved to Cedar Grove Elementary School on Tuesday June 25th. In the meantime, Darcy will be busy applying my special protective coats.

With me goes a "time capsule", to be opened 20 years ahead. This holds the pictures and letters that the Cedar Grove Elementary School children have written to themselves, mentioning their plans or thoughts for the future. I promise to protect these with great care and watch over all the children as they grow into their true selves.

See you on the 26th.

Now a few words from the GNOME PROJECT COMMITTEE:

Hope you will join us on Wednesday at 1pm for a small celebration at the school.

-Introductions

-Picture taking and other fun stuff

-Cake and ice cream

-Coffee and juice

We thank all who contributed to this project in any.

The Gnome Project Committee, Vel Anderson, (Chair), Trish Wray, Marilyn Richmond, Chris Kelly

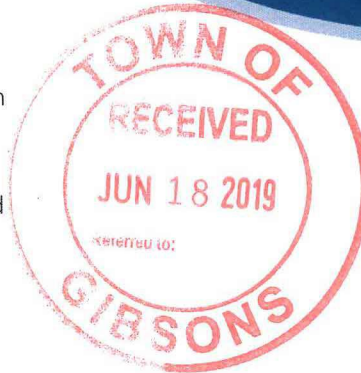


The Office of the
Ombudsperson

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His Worship Bill Beamish
Mayor
Town of Gibsons
474 South Fletcher Road
Box 340
GIBSONS BC V0N 1V0



June 5, 2019

Dear Mayor Beamish,

RE: Quarterly Report: January 1 – March 31, 2019

This package of documents details the complaint files the Office of the Ombudsperson closed for **the Town of Gibsons** between January 1 and March 31, 2019. This package does not include information about complaint files that are currently open with our office. As required by the *Ombudsperson Act*, this report provides information about the complaint files we closed regarding your organization within the last quarter, including both files we investigated and files we closed without investigation. No action is required on your part, however we hope that you will find this information useful and share it within your organization.

Enclosed you will find a detailed report containing the following:

- The number of files our office closed in the last quarter regarding your organization and the category under which these files were closed. The categories we use to close files are based on the sections of the *Ombudsperson Act*, which gives the Ombudsperson the authority to investigate complaints from the public regarding authorities under his or her jurisdiction. A more detailed description of our closing categories is available on our website at: <https://bcombudsperson.ca/qr-glossary>.
- If applicable, copies of all closing summaries from investigated files that were closed during the last quarter. Our office produces closing summaries for *investigated* files only, and not for enquiries or those we choose not to investigate. These summaries provide an overview of the complaint received, our investigation and the outcome.
- If applicable, a summary of the topics identified in all complaints that were closed in the last quarter for your organization. Our office tracks the topics of complaints we investigate and those we close without investigation (we do not track this information for enquiries). We track general complaint topics for all complaints we receive, and when applicable, we include authority-specific and/or sector-specific topics for your organization and/or sector. Because complaints are confidential, we do not share complaint topic information if we received too few complaints to preserve the complainants' anonymity.



Quarterly report for Town of Gibsons for January 1 – March 31, 2019

Type of complaint closure	# closed
Enquiries – Many people who contact us are not calling to make a complaint, but are seeking information or advice. These contacts are classified as <i>Enquiries</i> to distinguish them from <i>Complaints</i> , which are requests that our office conduct an investigation.	0
Complaints with No Investigation – Our office does not investigate every complaint it receives. First, we determine whether we have authority to investigate the complaint under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> . We also have discretion to decline to investigate for other reasons specified in the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	2
Early Resolution Investigations – Early Resolution investigations provide an expedited process for dealing with complaints when it appears that an opportunity exists for the authority to take immediate action to resolve the issue. Typical issues that are addressed through Early Resolution include timeliness, communication, and opportunities for internal review.	0
Complaint Investigations – When we investigate a complaint we may conclude with a determination that a complaint is not substantiated, or with a negotiated settlement of the complaint, or with public findings and recommendations. We may also exercise discretion to cease investigation for a number of other reasons specified in the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	Total: 0
Reason for closing an Investigation:	
Pre-empted by existing statutory right of appeal, objection or review.	0
Investigation ceased with no formal findings under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	
More than one year between event and complaint	0
Insufficient personal interest	0
Available remedy	0
Frivolous/vexatious/trivial matter	0
Can consider without further investigation	0
No benefit to complainant or person aggrieved	0
Complaint abandoned	0
Complaint withdrawn	0
Complaint settled in consultation with the authority - When an investigation leads us to conclude that action is required to resolve the complaint, we try to achieve that resolution by obtaining the voluntary agreement of the authority to settle the complaint. This allows matters to be resolved fairly for the complainant and authority without requiring a formal finding of maladministration.	0
Complaint substantiated with formal findings under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	0
Complaint not substantiated under the <i>Ombudsperson Act</i> .	0
Ombudsperson Initiated Investigations – The Ombudsperson has the authority to initiate investigations independently from our process for responding to complaints from the public. These investigations may be ceased at the discretion of the Ombudsperson or concluded with formal findings and recommendations.	0

For more detailed information about the complaint closing categories used by our office, please see our glossary of terms at: <https://www.bcombudsperson.ca/resources/information-public-bodies/fairness-quick-tips>. To obtain a more detailed breakdown of the complaints closed for your authority for the quarter, please contact us at consult@bcombudsperson.ca.

The tables below summarize the complaint topics we are tracking for your sector and/or authority and the number of times this topic was identified in the files (investigated and non-investigated complaints) that were closed in the most recent quarter.

If you would like more information on the types of complaints we receive, please contact our Prevention Initiatives Team: email us at consult@bcombudsperson.ca or call us at 250-508-2950.

Sector-Specific Complaint Topics - All Local Government

Business Licensing	3	3%
Bylaw Enforcement	36	34%
Council Member Conduct (incl. Conflict of Interest)	8	8%
Official Community Plan/Zoning/Development	19	18%
Fees/Charges (incl. Taxes)	9	8%
Open Meetings	3	3%
Procurement	3	3%
Services (incl. Garbage, Sewer, Water)	7	7%
Response to Damages Claim	2	2%
Other	16	15%

General Complaint Topics - All Local Government

Decision/Outcome - Disagreement with	36	26%
Accessibility	3	2%
Delay	9	6%
Administrative error	5	4%
Treatment by staff	11	8%
Communication	18	13%
Process/Procedure	30	21%
Complaint/Review/Appeals Process	9	6%
Employment/Labour Relations	2	1%
Other	15	11%
Adequacy of complaint/review/investigation process	1	1%
Compliance with Legislation	1	1%

Sunshine Coast Regional District

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www.scrd.ca

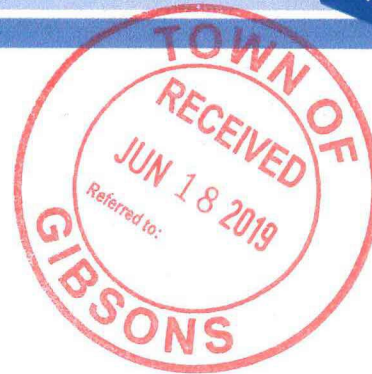


June 10, 2019

Mayor Siegers, District of Sechelt
Chief Paull, *shishálh* Nation
Mayor Beamish, Town of Gibsons

Dear Local Government Partners,

Re: Regional Water Conservation Initiatives



In response to a staff report titled Managing Growth to Address Water Supply Deficit, the following Resolution was adopted at the May 23, 2019 regular Board meeting:

158/19 (part) **Recommendation No. 8** *Managing Growth to Address Water Supply Deficit*

THAT the report titled Managing Growth to Address Water Supply Deficit be received for information;

THAT staff prepare a list of actionable initiatives to incentivize and/or regulate the conservation of water in new and existing developments including xeriscaping, rain and grey water recycling;

THAT staff reach out to other local governments to consider water conservation initiatives that could be used in the region.

This correspondence and the attached report serve as information and an invitation for future engagement on this important discussion for our community.

Recognizing that the discussion on the management of growth is ongoing, please feel free to contact me to discuss.

To discuss the Resolution above, please feel free to contact the General Manager of Infrastructure Services, Remko Rosenboom at 604.885.6810 or Remko.Rosenboom@scrd.ca.

Thank you for your consideration and collaboration.

Yours truly,

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Pratt".

Lori Pratt
Chair

Enclosure

cc: Andrew Yeates, CAO, District of Sechelt
Rochelle Baptiste, Interim CAO, *shishálh* Nation
Emanuel Machado, CAO, Town of Gibsons

ELECTORAL AREAS: A - Egmont, Pender Harbour B - Halfmoon Bay D - Roberts Creek E - Elphinstone F - West Howe Sound

MUNICIPALITIES: District of Sechelt / Sechelt Indian Government District / Town of Gibsons

SUNSHINE COAST REGIONAL DISTRICT STAFF REPORT

TO: Infrastructure Services Committee, May 16, 2019

AUTHOR: Angie Legault, Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Ian Hall, General Manager, Planning & Community Development
Remko Rosenboom, General Manager, Infrastructure Services

SUBJECT: **MANAGING GROWTH TO ADDRESS WATER SUPPLY DEFICIT**

RECOMMENDATION(S)

THAT the report titled *Managing Growth to Address Water Supply Deficit* be received for information.

BACKGROUND

The SCRD Board adopted the following resolution at the January 10, 2019 Board meeting:

003/19 **Recommendation No. 10** *Growth Management Options*

THAT staff provide a report to a Committee in Q1 2019 regarding tools, options, and approaches related to the management of growth and development on the Sunshine Coast in the context of a water supply deficit.

At the December 13, 2018 Planning and Community Development Committee the report titled *Regional Growth Strategy - Options Report* was received for information. The purpose of that report was to outline "the current framework [for regional growth management] contained in the *Local Government Act*, a chronology of discussions on the Sunshine Coast and current practices".

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of tools, options and approaches to manage growth to address the water supply deficit and to seek direction on next steps.

DISCUSSION

As stated in the *Regional Growth Strategy - Options Report* there are growth pressures facing the Sunshine Coast beyond water supply management, many of which are external to SCRD authority. Highway capacity, ferry service, housing prices and availability, residential and forestry interfaces are examples of additional growth pressures. A comprehensive regional review of growth trends and pressures in co-operation with other levels of government would be beneficial for the SCRD. Such a review could inform the development of a more comprehensive regional growth management approach.

Issue Definition

There is a community narrative that growth and water demand are directly linked. This linkage is implied in the question considered by this report. In order to ensure that any growth management strategy that is applied in an effort to ensure adequate community water supply meets its aim, the scope and nature of this link should be explored.

Key considerations:

- Recent growth trends: 2016 Census data shows continued moderate (less than 1.1% annually) growth in the resident population of the entire Sunshine Coast from 2011. The District of Sechelt had a 10% growth in population over this time period (2% per year).
- Exact seasonal population and tourism figures are unknown but are a factor requiring further analysis.
- Despite the above-mentioned resident and tourism growth the recent trends in water demand are: Over the last 8 years, the annual average daily water use remains at 13,500m³ per day. The maximum daily demand during the summer months has fallen from 28,000m³ per day in 2009 to 21,500m³ per day in 2017 – a reduction of 23% that can largely be attributed to water conservation initiatives.
- Based on the best available information about local water use, significant water demands not related to new residential or business growth are (in no particular order) – (1) water use by tourist and seasonal residents, (2) water used for residential irrigation, especially of ornamental lawns, (3) water demand associated with leaks on private properties (especially in unmetered areas), (4) potable water used for applications where alternatives may be available.
- Presently only areas served by the Chapman Creek and Eastbourne water systems are impacted by a water supply deficit. These service areas include areas within the District of Sechelt, Town of Gibsons, Islands Trust, and Sechelt Indian Government District (all lands not under SCRD planning and development jurisdiction), as well as four of the five rural electoral areas.

Based on these considerations it can be concluded that while every individual development results in an increased water demand, the total water demand on the Chapman Creek Water System has declined in the summer months over the last decade. The current water supply deficit is caused by a significantly longer period of little or no rain during the summer months and an improved protection of aquatic ecosystems during those months.

Combined, the above factors point to the need for a nuanced approach to looking at how growth relates to water demand. For example, a subdivision leading to development of new dwellings that are water efficient, and which replaces a former sprinkler-based irrigation system with xeriscaping or with tree plantings may result in a net increase year-round but a decrease in water demand during dry summer months.

Legislative Authority

The ability of local governments to manage growth is a complex consideration that depends, in large part, on the nature of the growth to be managed. There is no specific authority available to local governments through the *Local Government Act*, *Community Charter* or other legislation for a blanket moratorium on development approvals.

By considering specific categories of development applications it is possible to identify potential growth management mechanisms. Broadly speaking, these are:

1. Building permits – an applicant for a building permit is entitled, as of right, to a building permit if they comply with the zoning bylaw, building bylaw and building code and so one would have to look to any provisions in the two building enactments regarding water supply as a basis to refuse a building permit. Staff suggest this would be an especially challenging approach to regulation.
2. Development permits – the only authority for refusal of a development permit relates to conditions or guidelines set out in the Official Community Plan and in the absence of that, there is no general discretion on a broad level to refuse based on water supply issues. See below for additional discussion of development permit areas and Development Cost Charges.
3. Zoning amendments – land use decisions are within the discretion of the Board and so a concern over water supply would be an acceptable rationale for not approving rezoning to a more water-intensive use or amending the zoning to a less water-intensive use.
4. Subdivision approval – a refusal to approve a subdivision based on clear statutory grounds (for example excess cost to local government) or the residual discretion (contrary to the public interest) by an approving officer would have a reasonably strong chance of withstanding any judicial challenge. SCRD is not the subdivision authority for electoral areas; staff provide input to the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure Approving Officer.
5. Water Service Application for subdivisions – an applicant for new water service connections resulting from a subdivision has to meet all terms and conditions of Subdivision Servicing Bylaw No. 320. Not meeting all these terms and conditions could be grounds for the SCRD to refuse a water service connection associated with a subdivision within the water supply service area. The current bylaw includes a section 302 (1) (1.1) which states that:

“An extension to a water system shall only be connected to an existing community water system if the water sources used for the combined system are adequate to serve each parcel to be served by the combined system with at least 2,500 litres of water per day year round.”

To date no new service connection has been refused based on this bylaw provision. While the intent of this section is to balance growth with water supply availability, the wording of this section is considered to be insufficient to withstand a judicial challenge.

Water Service for undeveloped property for which the water parcel tax is being paid, could not be refused as long as all technical requirements are met.

6. Water Rates and Regulations – Bylaw No. 422 regulates the actual allowable use of water provided by the SCRD, including during drought conditions. While the allowable water uses during drought conditions are reviewed annually (Drought Management Plan), this is not the case for the more general water use provisions.

Precedents

There is precedent in other jurisdictions for managing growth to maintain water service levels.

The **North Salt Spring** Waterworks District Board of Trustees (improvement district) significantly restricted all new, large-scale development in 2014. Undeveloped properties paying parcel taxes are limited to one 19mm service connection for a single residential or single commercial unit, regardless of zoning. Given the impact to the community this moratorium is not supported by the local municipality.

The **Town of Okotoks**, Alberta has a Water Allocation Policy to maintain service levels while accommodating growth. Developers are required to transfer a provincial water license to the Town with sufficient capacity to support increased population prior to development approvals. The Water Allocation Policy applies to lands that have not yet been serviced by municipal water service but considered for expanding urban development.

The **Municipality of Gig Harbor** through authority of Washington State's Growth Management Act, requires all developments and redevelopments to empirically show there is water, sewer, and transportation capacity available to serve their needs. Should capacity be lacking, applicants are required to provide service expansion (for example, develop and licence a ground water source) prior to the granting of land use approvals or building permits.

Considerations Related to Approach

With regard to regulating development, generally, key considerations are:

- Transparency – any policy or regulation respecting ability/restriction of development should be clear, easy to understand, and widely known.
- Equity – consistent, fair treatment must be provided for all citizens, property owners, or water users (as applicable) based on defensible criteria and established process.
- Unintended Consequences – restricting growth generally, or in a specific area, or of a specific type may have unplanned results including impacts on property values, economic effects, social effects, etc. Consideration of possible impacts and mitigating strategies may be required.

These considerations are variously prescribed by legislation, core values of good governance and/or prudent risk management to avoid legal challenges.

Specific Tools to Consider

Beyond the ability to plan for growth through Official Community Plans and Regional Growth Strategies, local government tools to manage growth include:

1. **Water Conservation Development Permit Area:** In 2008 the Province of BC adopted the *Local Government (Green Communities) Statutes Amendment Act*, which added additional development permit area possibilities including the establishment of development permit areas to promote water conservation. This particular development permit area has not yet been utilized on the Sunshine Coast specifically and would only apply to the areas within the planning jurisdiction of the SCRD while the majority of the growth is occurring outside of the SCRD jurisdiction.
2. **Development Cost Charges:** The Development Cost Charges Bylaw No. 693 allows the SCRD to collect Development Cost Charges (DCCs) for approved subdivisions or issued building permits which impose a capital cost burden on the regional water system. This bylaw applies to the entire regional water supply service area and is hence not restricted to the area the SCRD has planning jurisdiction over. Updating this bylaw would not allow for a direct regulation of the water use of new developments but could do so indirectly. It could promote water conservation through financial incentives for low water use developments or location-based fees that could result in increased DCC revenue to support development of water service(s).
3. **Regulating Water Use:** Expanding water use regulations within Water Rates and Regulations Bylaw No. 422 could impact both new use resulting from growth as well as existing uses. Updates could include a review of both the Zoning Bylaw and Bylaw 422 to look at a combination of blanket restrictions on certain allowable uses and/or placing terms and conditions on other uses e.g. establishing a maximum allowable volume per residential property or a ban on using water for certain commercial uses like water bottling or cannabis production. Bylaw 422 applies to the entire water supply service area and is hence not restricted to the area the SCRD has planning jurisdiction over. If this option was pursued, a careful review of the issues that might arise would be required to avoid any legal challenges.
4. **Subdivision Servicing Standards:** Updating Subdivision Servicing Bylaw No. 320 could result in additional terms and conditions to be set for applicants for new water service connections associated with subdivisions. This bylaw applies to all water supply service areas and is hence not restricted to the area the SCRD has planning jurisdiction over.
5. **Resolution for Comments on Subdivision:** The SCRD could develop a standard resolution for comments on subdivision referrals indicating that subdivision applications within the water supply service area should not be approved by the Approving Officers as that would result in excessive cost to the SCRD in water supply management and also not be in the general Public Interest.

Analysis of Tools

Aspects that should be considered in the selection or design of any of these tools are:

- Time to develop
- Cost to develop
- Cost to administer
- Jurisdiction – SCRD rural electoral areas only or shared with member/other Local Governments
- Enforceability
- Complexity / possibility of unintended consequences
- Effect on cost of housing
- Effect on economic development
- Community acceptance
- Precedent/proven/legally acceptable
- Fairness/equity
- Effectiveness and efficiency in achieving water demand reduction, especially during dry months

Developing a recommendation or making a decision on a preferred approach requires intergovernmental dialogue and would benefit from public participation. Questions to explore are:

1. What is the specific water demand target(s) in a service area?
2. What interest is there in cooperating/coordinating tools across jurisdictions? Would tools that are fully within the SCRD's jurisdiction be preferred?
3. From the community perspective, what are the costs and benefits associated with tools that change (1) allowable land use (planning-driven); (2) water use (infrastructure-driven) or (3) development costs?
4. What level of impact on the cost of housing and/or economic development is acceptable?
5. What are the costs and benefits of an approach that applies to all development versus a specific focus on subdivisions?

Staff recommend that if the Board directs that growth management to address the water supply deficit be further explored then these and other relevant questions form part of upcoming public participation opportunities related to water. Subsequently they can be discussed with other local governments on the Sunshine Coast.

Organizational and Intergovernmental Implications

Recent amendments were made to SCRD rural area official community plans for density strategies to promote affordable housing. This was a consistent policy applied to several official community plans. A similar consistent approach across OCPs could be undertaken to create a development permit area for water conservation. It would have to be determined under which condition this would apply; building permit, subdivision, etc. and whether it would apply to both rural area and municipal OCPs. SCRD does not have authority to amend municipal OCPs, however this initiative could be undertaken concurrently by local governments if each agrees.

In addition to policy development of when, where and how to apply any of the described tools, consideration must also be given to the additional resource pressure associated with these proposed changes, such as review of applications, record management and enforcement.

Financial Implications

Changes to growth trends/patterns could have financial implications for SCRD related to revenue from permits, DCCs and applications. Additional lenses/requirements applied as part of any of the growth related application processes could require additional staff time with commensurate impacts to fees, per SCRD's Financial Sustainability Policy.

Further financial analysis should be undertaken as part of considering application of any particular tool.

Timeline for next steps or estimated completion date

To be determined based on Board direction.

Communications Strategy

Refining of options, specific tools, and recommendations for action related to growth management could have significant impact for a broad constituency of stakeholders. SCRD's Public Participation Framework would support a participation strategy prior to decision making.

STRATEGIC PLAN AND RELATED POLICIES

The SCRD has a mission of providing leadership and quality services to our community through effective and responsive government. Prioritizing water uses in a way that respects the organization's values of collaboration, environmental leadership, and transparency contributes to this mission.

The SCRD's strategic priority to Embed Environmental Leadership is supported by the Region's overall water supply strategy, as outlined in the Comprehensive Regional Water Plan (2013) and furthering the SCRD's goal to reduce water consumption by 33% relative to 2010 levels by 2020.

CONCLUSION

There are nuances to the linkage between growth and water demand. As well, local government authority to manage/restrict growth is provided through a variety of tools that have specific and different constraints on application, areas of jurisdiction, social impacts, etc.

If the Board directs further exploration of growth management to address water supply deficit, intergovernmental dialogue and public participation are recommended to occur. There are possible financial implications to the selection of any particular approach.

Reviewed by:			
Manager	X - A. Allen X - S. Walkey	Finance	
GM	X - I. Hall X - R. Rosenboom	Legislative	X - A. Legault
Interim CAO	X - A. Legault	Other	

Gibsons General Mailbox

From: Alison Cuffley <acuffley@spca.bc.ca>
Sent: June 18, 2019 4:35 PM
To: BC SPCA Government Relations
Subject: BC SPCA Science & Policy newsletter and AnimalSense
Attachments: BC SPCA AnimalSense Spring 2019.pdf; BC SPCA Science and Policy Newsletter Spring 2019.pdf

Hello,

Please find attached a copy of the BC SPCA's AnimalSense magazine as well as our new Science & Policy newsletter. I hope you enjoy reading about the amazing work being done to help animals across B.C. and are inspired to help us speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

If you would like paper copies to distribute within your municipality or for your personal use, please don't hesitate to contact me and I would be happy to mail them to you. If you'd like more information or have questions about anything you read in the attached, you can contact me directly or reach our reception line at 1-800-665-1868.

Kind regards, Alison

Alison Cuffley
Officer, Government Relations
BC SPCA
1245 East 7th Avenue
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604.647.1321
1800.665.1868 x 1321

OUR MISSION: To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

*The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit organization reliant on donations from the public.
Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001*

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SCIENCE & POLICY NEWSLETTER

Updates on BC SPCA science and academic initiatives, animal policy, legislation and current events



BC SPCA sponsors Research Chair in Animal Welfare at UBC

More than 20 years after the University of British Columbia's Animal Welfare Program (UBC AWP) launched, the BC SPCA has re-committed to the program's success with the sponsorship of a new Chair in Animal Welfare, focusing on companion animal welfare. The BC SPCA is thrilled to announce Dr. Alexandra (Sasha) Protopopova (MS, PhD) as the BC SPCA Research Chair in Animal Welfare. In 1997, the BC SPCA was a founding partner in the creation of the UBC AWP, which brought Drs. David Fraser and Dan Weary to B.C. from Ontario, with a 5-year commitment through an NSERC Industrial Research Chair collaboration with the veterinary community and animal industries. This initial investment in animal welfare research in Canada

has led to an internationally respected body of research, with program graduates taking key roles in industry, government, academia and animal welfare organizations (including the BC SPCA) over the past two decades. The BC SPCA now has a unique opportunity to help chart the future of animal welfare research for the next generation of researchers and students – and affect change for the lives of many more millions of animals.

Dr. Protopopova joins Drs. Fraser, Weary and Nina von Keyserlingk as an incoming Assistant Professor to the UBC AWP in August 2019. Dr. Protopopova's work at Texas Tech University has systematically explored questions of companion animal well-being and behaviour. Her research at UBC will focus on important issues to the community, companion animal industry, and to professional staff within the animal sheltering

field, including improving animal shelter practices, companion animal well-being, and human-animal interactions for the benefit of both. This novel program will generate cutting-edge research in the field of companion animal welfare and create multidisciplinary training opportunities for graduate students and professional staff, like those at the BC SPCA.

Companion Animal Welfare

Research to improve the lives of cats in shelters



Thanks to funding by Zoetis Canada and the Mitacs Accelerate Fellowship, Bailey Eagan (above), MSc student in the UBC AWP, is working in partnership with the BC SPCA aiming to improve the lives of cats in animal shelters. Bailey initially looked at the role stress plays in shelter cats after intake, and her current research focuses primarily on how the enclosure environment (e.g. size of enclosure, available furnishings such as Hide, Perch and Go boxes) affects their welfare. Cats appear sensitive to environmental changes, and some limited studies suggest that they are affected by other aspects of the room including certain kinds of noise, like barking dogs. Bailey's research uses sound meters to survey different sources and volumes of noise that is common in animal shelter environments, and the behavioural responses of cats to these noises. This research

may help improve understanding of how different sounds affect cats in a shelter, and inform noise mitigation guidelines to make shelter environments more comfortable for the animals living within them.

The BC SPCA and UBC AWP are also interested in understanding the factors that result in animals ending up in BC SPCA animal shelters. Bailey is working on an additional project analyzing common reasons for cat and dog surrender and return to BC SPCA shelters, with the goal of identifying and understanding local reasons for relinquishment and addressing causes that may be preventable.

Cat overpopulation in review

In 2013, cat overpopulation was at a crisis point in B.C. Most BC SPCA branches had waitlists for cats, especially in spring and summer, and reports of free-roaming cat colonies and cat hoarding cases were on the rise. Outside of sheltering facilities, kittens in the community were given away for free on a regular basis.

The BC SPCA conducted a review of branch and community statistics to assess the current state of pet overpopulation in B.C., which confirmed that homeless and unwanted cats were the greatest source of animal intake at BC SPCA animal shelters. The BC SPCA's 2014-2018 strategic plan made addressing cat overpopulation a top priority, along with raising the cultural value of cats. The organization collectively established a 'Herding Cats' strategy to outline the Society's objectives, strategies and tactics.

The BC SPCA compiled the findings into a comprehensive internal review to help us prepare for the next five years of addressing cat overpopulation. A summary report is available at: spca.bc.ca/herding-cats. This is an opportunity to share our learnings with other sheltering organizations and stakeholders with the aim of seeing broad-scale positive change improving the lives of cats across North America.

Farm Animal Welfare

Setting the bar for farm animal welfare

In Canada, animal welfare groups (like the BC SPCA), farmers, veterinarians, researchers, and retailers work together to set farm animal care standards through the National Farm Animal Care Council Codes of Practice. This year is the first in a multi-year process that will see a new fish Code, and updates to Codes for goats, dairy cattle, and transportation being updated. A few ways the BC SPCA helps influence and apply these standards:

- Submits evidence-based comments, and encourages supporters to endorse them and send in their own comments.
- Works with Humane Canada to find experts to represent animal welfare in Code development. Over the next three years, BC SPCA internal experts will fill some of the 21 animal welfare positions involved in these Codes.
- Works with provincial government to incorporate Codes as a regulation of the B.C. *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*.

By participating in the Codes, we work with farmers to move welfare forward, creating a better life for farm animals. More comment periods are coming, sign up to be the first to hear when we need your support: spca.bc.ca/action-alert

Wild Animal Welfare

PMRA considers humaneness of vertebrate pest control

The federal Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) is responsible for regulating poisons, including those for use on predators like wolves and bears. The agency conducted a consultation on the possible consideration of humaneness when evaluating products for use on animals. They are evaluating three products — sodium fluoroacetate (Compound 1080), sodium cyanide, and strychnine. The BC SPCA provided a submission with science-based recommendations for incorporating and evaluating humaneness in

the PMRA's review process. The submission can be reviewed at <https://spca.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Consultation-Humane-Vertebrate-Pest-Control-12Feb2019.pdf>

There is particular concern from wildlife and animal welfare scientists directed towards the use of pesticides on large vertebrate predators. Stakeholders such as the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association are also opposed to inhumane pest control methods that cause severe pain, uncontrollable seizures, and death by asphyxiation. The use of these products causes significant suffering and may also unintentionally affect non-target species with a cruel outcome.



Photo credit: John E. Marriott

Vancouver Park Board considers AnimalKind pest control standards

The BC SPCA applauded the Vancouver Park Board for unanimously passing a motion to review its pest control management strategies for wildlife and rodents at the city's parks and recreational facilities. The Park Board will also assess the feasibility of incorporating the BC SPCA's AnimalKind standards for pest control into its contracts, similar to an existing move by the City of Delta. The standards focus on removing the animals and preventing future problems instead of trapping, relocating or killing, and also outline best practices for limiting rodenticide use. Read the standards at www.animalkind.ca/pestcontrol

Science & Policy Events

BC SPCA hosts first Canadian Animal Policy Symposium



On March 1, the BC SPCA brought together government analysts, industry experts, veterinarians and animal welfare advocates in Victoria to discuss the influence of animal welfare science on provincial policymaking in Canada.

The first event of its kind hosted more than 120 participants, eager to hear from our professional and academic experts who joined us from B.C., Alberta, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island. Following opening remarks from B.C. Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Lana Popham, the symposium delved into topics such as:

- B.C.'s collaborative approach to animal welfare policy development;
- The comprehensive development of Prince Edward Island's 2017 Animal Welfare Act;
- Saskatchewan's Interagency and Animal Welfare Task Team, including the province's application of the One Welfare approach;
- National Farm Animal Care Council's development process for Codes of Practice; and
- Policy options for disease prevention among domestic and wild sheep populations in B.C.

The symposium encouraged incredible engagement and dialogue, and the BC SPCA looks forward to hosting the event again in the future.

Animal Behaviour Science Symposium

June 7 - 10, 2019

Burnaby, B.C.

Register at spca.bc.ca/abss

Featuring a world-renowned line-up of experts and animal behaviour professionals, this event will provide a unique opportunity to learn about the art and science of behaviour modification, humane training, and animal welfare.

The event will bring together veterinary, animal training, and animal welfare professionals with the goal of sharing knowledge of behaviour modification science and strengthening ties between the veterinary and science-based training community.

Contact abss@spca.bc.ca for more information



Can't make the event, but want to learn more about dog training science? Earlier this year, the BC SPCA's AnimalKind accreditation program released a dog training science webinar and a scientific review of dog training methods. View both online at: www.animalkind.ca/dogtraining



PLUS: BC SPCA 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

AnimalSense

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AnimalKind dog trainers
leave fear and force out
of the lesson plan

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Learn to spot
trace evidence of a
stressed-out hen

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INSIDE

THE BC SPCA

SPRING/SUMMER 2019



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BC SPCA's AnimalKind program accredits dog trainers who use only positive, reward-based methods.

photograph: Viktoria Haack



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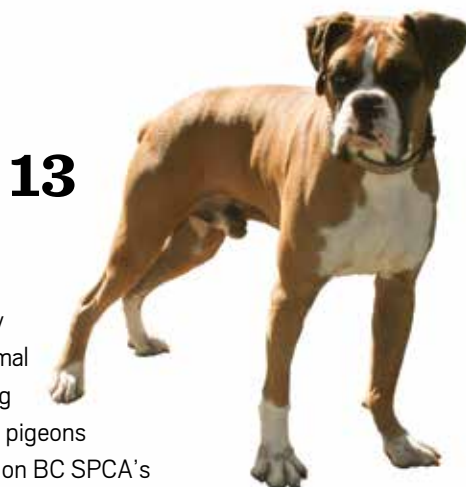
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BCSPCA

is a not-for-profit reliant on support from animal lovers like you. To explore ways to show your care, visit sPCA.bc.ca. THANK YOU!

AnimalSense

BC SPCA SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS

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MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Dear Friends,

In this edition of *AnimalSense*, we focus on reward-based training and the recent expansion of our AnimalKind animal welfare accreditation and referral program to encompass dog trainers. The goal of the program, which already included humane pest control operations, is to create an entire community of animal-related companies who use science-based practices and share animal welfare values. The BC SPCA AnimalKind program will now help dogs by connecting adopters and guardians with trainers who use humane methods. With your support, we will continue to expand AnimalKind in the future by offering accreditation in the area of dog daycares and kennels.

This edition also includes our annual report of BC SPCA activities during 2018. It was a year of many highlights and advancements for animal welfare. The critically important work of the BC SPCA is only possible because of the generosity and steadfast commitment of our donors, community partners, volunteers, staff and members. On behalf of the province's most vulnerable animals, thank you for your ongoing support.

Warmest regards,

Craig Daniell
Chief Executive Officer
BC SPCA



HOARDER SURRENDERS 194 CATS AND KITTENS

and suffering from a range of medical issues, have now been successfully rehabilitated and adopted into loving homes. That same hoarder had already surrendered 53 cats to the branch in 2016 and 2017. “It’s frustrating to deal with the same individual repeatedly but our first priority is to be there as a safety net for these animals,” says Penticton manager Carolyn Hawkins. “The large number of animals in care definitely puts a strain on our resources, but it is so rewarding to see these cats recover, come out of their shells and to find them wonderful homes.” The Penticton cats were just one of a number of large-scale animal intakes handled by BC SPCA staff and volunteers in recent months. □

THE SOUTH OKANAGAN/SIMILKAMEEN BRANCH in Penticton was *feline* the crunch recently after 141 cats were taken into care from a local animal hoarder. The cats, who were very fearful of humans

BECOME A BC SPCA MEMBER!

YOU ARE INVITED to help direct the mission, vision and activities of the BC SPCA by becoming a member. Members participate in the governance of the society by electing local Community Councils and our provincial Board of Directors, who set the long-term direction for the organization. Members are also entitled to vote at meetings of their local SPCA. Please contact your branch for more information on how to get involved. Membership forms are available online at spca.bc.ca/membership. □



BC SPCA hosts animal behaviour conference

THE BC SPCA is hosting its second annual Animal Behaviour Science Symposium, June 7-10 in Burnaby. Featuring a world-renowned line-up of animal behaviour experts, the event provides a unique opportunity for veterinary, animal training and animal welfare professionals to share leading-edge research and learn about the art and science of

behaviour modification, humane training and welfare. The keynote speaker for the conference is Jean Donaldson, founder and principal instructor of The Academy for Dog Trainers. Donaldson is acknowledged as one of the top dog trainers in the United States. For a full list of speakers and registration information, visit animalbehavioursymposium.ca. □

PIGEONS ON THE PILL

The BC SPCA recently teamed up with TransLink, Metro Vancouver's transportation network, for a pilot project to humanely reduce the pigeon population at VCC-Clark SkyTrain station. Large pigeon populations at SkyTrain stations have caused safety issues, triggering alarms on the tracks that cause trains to brake suddenly. "With this project, an automatic bird feeder at the station dispenses OvoControl, a non-toxic, effective and humane contraceptive," says Dr. Sara Dubois, the BC SPCA's chief scientific officer. "Pigeons who eat the pellets on a regular basis will not be able to fertilize eggs. With fewer pigeons being born, the population around SkyTrain stations will reduce naturally and will cause fewer operational issues."



OvoControl has been approved by Health Canada and only has contraceptive effects in birds. "In other studies, the pigeon population has been reduced 50 to 90 per cent," says Dubois. "This is an example of using the latest

animal welfare knowledge to ensure that we manage wild animal populations humanely."

Following this pilot, the program may be expanded to other TransLink locations. □



Making life **SWEETER** for animals

The BC SPCA's first-ever Treat Week was a huge success. The event, which replaced the society's Cupcake Day, saw more registrants around the province than ever before. From the Lower Mainland to Prince George, businesses and individuals took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy a whole week of treats while doing something great for animals in need.

While some people continued with their annual cupcake baking,

others tried something new, offering spa services and yoga classes by donation, crafting custom-made soaps and whipping up every kind of confection (including grilled ice-cream sandwiches)! With all of the BC SPCA's branches participating, the event united animal lovers from across the province in treating our four-legged friends to a sweeter life.

Go to treatweek.ca and sign up to be one of the first to get details on Treat Week 2020. □





Register now for a **BC SPCA** summer camp

SEARCHING FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES for your kids or grandkids? Look no further! Registration is now open for BC SPCA summer camps across the province. Each year, our camps reach more than 1,600 young people, affording them a unique opportunity to engage with animals and animal welfare issues. Campers spend a week with us, discovering new things about pets, farm animals and wildlife in a fun and supportive environment. Whether your child enjoys games, crafts, skits or songs, there is something to suit every learning style. The sunny season will be here before you know it! For details and to register, visit spca.bc.ca/camp. □

An enduring impact

AS AN ANIMAL LOVER, guardian to 16-year-old cat Coco and longtime friend of the BC SPCA, Linda Lee Leong recently made a donation to create the Linda Lee Leong Special Endowment Fund to improve the lives of animals across B.C. Leong has made a commitment to bequeath additional funds to grow the endowment, thereby ensuring

her legacy of support will live on in perpetuity. When asked about what motivated her to create the fund, Leong explained, “To me, animals live life at its best and at its finest. I feel immensely grateful that they are a part



of our world. Let’s try to improve their lives the best that we can.”

Leong is a wonderful advocate for animals and enjoys sharing tales of our work with her friends and family. She is encouraging her network of loved ones to contribute to her fund in celebration of her birthday through her own fundraising page. To learn more about the different ways you can support the SPCA, visit spca.bc.ca/donate. □



Left: Henrik Nilsson won this year’s Wild Settings category with a shot of a mama bear and her cub catching salmon near Bella Coola. Right: The best in Backyard Habitats was Nanoose Bay resident Tony Markle’s pic of a rufous hummingbird bathing in a water feature.

WILDLIFE-In-Focus

British Columbia is rich with majestic wildlife, and amateur photographers once again captured some stunning images for the BC SPCA’s annual Wildlife-In-Focus contest. Participants were encouraged to submit photos in one of two categories: Backyard Habitats, which highlights our special relationship with wild animals in our very own backyards, and Wild Settings, which features animals in their natural environments.

First-place winner in the Backyard Habitats category this year was Tony Markle of

Nanoose Bay, for his photo of a rufous hummingbird bathing in a water feature outside his home. Top spot in Wild Settings was Henrik Nilsson, who snapped a beautiful pic of a mother bear catching a salmon with her cub on the Atnarko River near Bella Coola.

This year’s photo contest raised nearly \$18,000 to help injured and orphaned wild animals cared for at the BC SPCA’s Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre (Wild ARC) in Metchosin. To view more photos or to learn about the 2019 photo contest, visit spca.bc.ca/wildlife-in-focus. ■

“ Bella is now coming to me instead of running away, and she follows me around, seeking treats and walks. The positive training has made a complete difference for her.



KINDNESS IS THE BEST **TEACHER**

BC SPCA expands its AnimalKind accreditation, helping dog guardians find trainers who leave fear and force out of the lesson plan

Opposite left: Sarah Low sought out an AnimalKind trainer to help Bella, her 10-year-old Shiba Inu, overcome anxiety. Right & below: Renée Erdman of North Vancouver's Bravo Dog and Lisbeth Plant of Cowichan Canine are among B.C.'s first AnimalKind-accredited trainers.



soon gave Low second thoughts. “They told me to make a loud growling noise or to throw a bag with a chain in it near her any time she exhibited an unwanted behaviour to startle her. I didn’t feel comfortable with this and I noticed that Bella was becoming fearful of me, and that’s not what I wanted.”

training, Bella is now coming to me instead of running away, and she follows me around, seeking treats and walks. The positive training has made a complete difference for her.”

“Every year, the SPCA receives hundreds of calls from dog owners seeking guidance on how to find a good trainer,” says Dr. Sara Dubois, chief scientific officer for the BC SPCA. “Many trainers say they are using humane methods, but until now we’ve had no way to assess this or to make a referral. With our new accreditation program we can confidently recommend AnimalKind companies that have been audited by the SPCA, knowing they are committed to using positive and effective training methods.”

The AnimalKind standards were developed after a thorough review of scientific research, in-person consultations with B.C. dog trainers, and feedback from international animal behaviour and dog-training experts, community veterinarians, animal behaviour associations, kennel

When Low moved to Vancouver Island, she sought the services of Lisbeth Plant from Cowichan Canine, a trainer recently certified by AnimalKind, the BC SPCA’s animal welfare accreditation program. Previously applying only to pest control companies, in January it was expanded to include dog trainers; the trainers it accredits use only positive, reward-based methods.

The difference in Bella has been remarkable, says Low. “She is now 10 and lost her sight about a year ago, which had added to her anxiety. With the reward-based

When Sarah Low was seeking a trainer for her Shiba Inu, Bella, she reached out to what she believed was a reliable professional online. “We were living in California at the time and I found a trainer who would come to our home to work with Bella on her fear and anxiety issues. At the time, I had no idea that there were different types of training and I trusted their advice because I thought they were the experts,” she says. But Bella’s reaction to the techniques recommended by the trainer

POSITIVE TRAINING



Negative reinforcement has been part of dog training for generations, but studies show positive, reward-based methods are not only more humane, but more effective.

clubs, service dog organizations and other humane societies. The program does not allow aversive methods that use punishment, confrontation or intimidation, or have the potential to cause physical or psychological harm to an animal.

Aforementioned trainer Lisbeth Plant says she is excited to have her Cowichan Canine be one of the first B.C. companies accredited through the AnimalKind program. “Lack of regulation in the dog training industry is a real problem,” she says. “Uneducated and misguided trainers have the potential to cause serious damage, resulting in suffering for dogs who are subjected to outdated, or even dangerous, training methods.” Plant is a firm believer in AnimalKind’s evidence-based approach. “Learning without fear of correction is the fastest



and most effective learning environment. It is as important to animals as it is to children – or to any of us,” she says. “To anyone following behavioural science, force-free, fear-free positive reinforcement training and behavioural modification is indisputable.”

Plant has helped more than 600 dogs of various breeds using reward-based methods. She says most of her clients seek her out because they have a dog who is highly reactive, anxious or exhibiting aggression. “Many of the dogs I see have been exposed to aversive training in the past, simply because that’s what people have been taught. People get their advice from the Internet, from ‘dog

park experts’ or from family and friends.” Plant says she works with guardians to help them identify their dog’s fear triggers so that they can protect their pet from uncontrolled overexposure to them. “At the same time, we create a daily training plan to desensitize and counter-condition their dog to the triggers, using rewards and positive reinforcement.”

Fear and aggression are also the most common behaviour issues treated by Renée Erdman of Bravo Dog in North Vancouver. Erdman too is among the first companies to be accredited by AnimalKind.

“A lot of dogs have challenges related to fear, but that fear is expressed through aggressive behaviour,” she says. “It is

understandable that we want to have safe dogs in our communities, but by punishing aggressive behaviour we confirm to the dog that ‘the dog/person/thing I am scared of really is horrible since I feel pain every time I see it’ or ‘I had better stay quiet or the repercussions will be worse.’ This is known as ‘learned helplessness,’ which results in a robotic shell of a dog who cannot express responses to his environment for fear of being punished.”

Erdman says she uses reward-based training not just because it is humane, but because it is effective. She cites a recent case where a dog would not allow his owner to pick him up. “The dog had an extreme fear of being handled, brushed and touched. We worked together using a counter-conditioning program, progressing according to the dog’s comfort level. The owner can now

pick the dog up and groom him, and even bathe the dog, which had not been possible for many years.”

Erdman says many of the coercive and punishment-based training ideas of the past originated with the training of military dogs and trickled down into pet training. “I have a huge amount of respect for trainers who have changed

their methods and progressed with the new information we have,” she says. “We know so much more now, and with this knowledge we can do better.” ■

For further information about the AnimalKind program, or to find an accredited trainer near you, visit animalkind.ca.

Which would your dog prefer?

HERE ARE FOUR APPROACHES trainers use to address unwanted behaviours.

The BC SPCA supports using **POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT*** first to redirect your dog from a problem behaviour to a desired one, supplemented by **NEGATIVE PUNISHMENT** when appropriate.

*In the context of behavioural science, positive/negative and reinforcement/punishment are technical terms and do not mean good/bad in the traditional sense.

PROBLEM BEHAVIOUR: Dog jumps up on people when greeting them.

DESIRED BEHAVIOUR: Dog sits calmly to greet people.

1 POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT (R+)



Increasing the likelihood of a desired behaviour by applying a rewarding stimulus (e.g., food) when the behaviour is performed.



2 NEGATIVE REINFORCEMENT (R-)



Increasing the likelihood of a desired behaviour by removing an aversive stimulus (e.g., releasing choke chain) when the behaviour is performed.



3 POSITIVE PUNISHMENT (P+)



Decreasing the likelihood of an undesired behaviour by applying an aversive stimulus (e.g., choke chain) when the behaviour is performed.




4 NEGATIVE PUNISHMENT (P-)



Decreasing the likelihood of an undesired behaviour by removing a rewarding stimulus (e.g., attention from the guardian) when the behaviour is performed.





AnimalKind
BCSPCA Accredited

Training with rewards is not only better for dog welfare, but has been shown in scientific studies to be more effective than training with aversive methods. For information on these studies, and on the science behind the BC SPCA’s AnimalKind dog training accreditation program, visit animalkind.ca.

A NEW WAY FORWARD

With its latest five-year Strategic Plan, the BC SPCA sets out to PROTECT, CARE, INSPIRE and GROW

The BC SPCA has launched a new four-pillar Strategic Plan for 2019-2023 to take animal welfare in B.C. to a new level. “Last year, we completed a very ambitious and successful five-year Strategic Plan that included hundreds of initiatives to improve the lives of domestic, farm and wild animals in B.C.,” says BC SPCA CEO Craig Daniell. “One of the most significant changes we achieved between 2014 and 2018 was a dramatic decrease in the number of surplus, homeless animals. This was accomplished through intensive efforts to spay and neuter owned and unowned animals across the province, with a particular focus on addressing the cat overpopulation crisis in B.C.”

Daniell says fewer animals entering the BC SPCA’s 36 shelters means the society can focus donations on other urgent issues. The new Plan rests on four pillars:

- **PROTECT.** An improved and more collaborative response to rescue animals from cruelty and abusive situations, particularly in underserved communities;
- **CARE.** Increased support for vulnerable pet owners who face barriers to providing good care, including spay/neuter, for their animals;
- **INSPIRE.** Inspiring British



Columbians with knowledge and resources to improve the lives of animals; and

- **GROW.** Organizational growth, including increased training to enable SPCA staff and volunteers to expand rehabilitation for animals in their care.

“Last year, we provided direct care for nearly 22,000 animals and we will always be that safety net for the thousands of abused, injured and homeless animals who need shelter and veterinary care,” says Daniell. “However, with fewer homeless animals entering our shelters, we can increase our help for animals with more challenging behavioural and medical issues, who require additional attention and a higher level of expertise to rehabilitate.”

Daniell says the society will

also be able to grow its prevention, education and advocacy programs to address the root causes of cruelty and neglect, and to expand outreach services to vulnerable guardians. “An example of this is our compassionate board program, which offers free, temporary care of pets for individuals who are fleeing violent domestic situations. One of the barriers to safety for these women is the lack of pet-friendly transition housing. By increasing our services in this area, we can keep pets safe while their owners get the help they need and ultimately ensure that loving pet owners and their animals can stay together.” ■

For full details on the BC SPCA’s new Strategic Plan, visit spca.bc.ca/strategicplan.



BCSPCA
2018
ANNUAL
REPORT

“Together, with our dedicated staff and volunteers, and our loyal supporters, we are working to create a world where animals are protected from pain and suffering, and where every animal is treated with respect and compassion.”

MELISSA BARCELLOS
President, Board of Directors,
BC SPCA

CRAIG DANIELL
Chief Executive Officer,
BC SPCA

inspire

ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION are at the heart of the BC SPCA's mission to create a better world for animals. Last year, with the help of our supporters, we empowered animal lovers of all ages to take action in their communities through our wide-ranging youth programs, website resources, social media campaigns and advocacy with all levels of government. In 2018, our work included written submissions to government on wildlife and habitat and species at risk, improvements to farm animal codes of practice, support for more humane animal bylaws in communities across B.C., a ban on pet store sales, promotion of pet-friendly housing, cruelty-free cosmetics and support for a bill to end the keeping of whales and dolphins in captivity. □



Young animal lovers lead by example

When the BC SPCA celebrated the opening of its new community animal centre in West Kootenay in 2018, one of the participants on hand at the ceremony was nine-year-old Jacob Thomas. A devoted animal lover and the guardian of an SPCA-adopted cat, Jacob was also among the first group of kids to sign up to attend an SPCA summer camp at the new centre in Castlegar. But Jacob's connection to his local SPCA doesn't end there. He was also the first donor to make an over-the-counter donation at the new West Kootenay SPCA to help abused and injured animals in

his community, with money he collected in lieu of birthday presents earlier in the year.

"Young people, who participate in our Kids Club, summer camps, school clubs and workshops, are some of the most dedicated, generous and vocal advocates for animals in their communities," says Craig Naherniak, BC SPCA general manager of humane education. "They speak out on animal issues and find innovative ways to support animals in need. Inspiring and educating youth is an important area of our work and we believe it will have a significant impact on animals for generations to come." □

12,000

KIDS ENGAGED IN OUR SUMMER CAMPS, WORKSHOPS, KIDS CLUB, SCHOOL PRESENTATIONS AND CLUBS

144,646

VISITS TO OUR "TAKE ACTION" ADVOCACY WEBPAGE

22

ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS LAUNCHED TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF ANIMALS

161,714

SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS HELPING US TO SPREAD THE WORD

4,551,835

WEBSITE VISITS

Cedric's story

When Cedric came into the care of the BC SPCA, he was suffering from extreme starvation and was near death. The young boxer had a body condition score of only one out of nine and required surgery to remove a deflated plastic football he had eaten in desperation.

“He was just skin and bones, definitely the most emaciated dog I have ever seen in my 30 years rescuing animals,” recalls Jodi Dunlop, SPCA branch manager. “You could see every single rib

protruding and he shivered constantly to try to keep warm.” Dunlop took Cedric into her own home as a foster pup in a fight to save his life. “He required around-the-clock care. I fed him a tablespoon of food every few hours, monitoring him carefully to make sure he didn’t ingest more than he could handle. It was a very slow process to increase his food intake and to ensure he was getting the nutrients he needed without overwhelming his compromised digestive system.” Without your caring generosity the months of intensive care that Cedric needed wouldn’t have been

possible. Thanks to you, Cedric made a full recovery and was adopted into a devoted family. Cedric’s former guardians pled guilty to animal cruelty following a BC SPCA investigation. □



8,009

ANIMAL CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS

29,583

CALLS TO THE PROVINCIAL ANIMAL HELPLINE

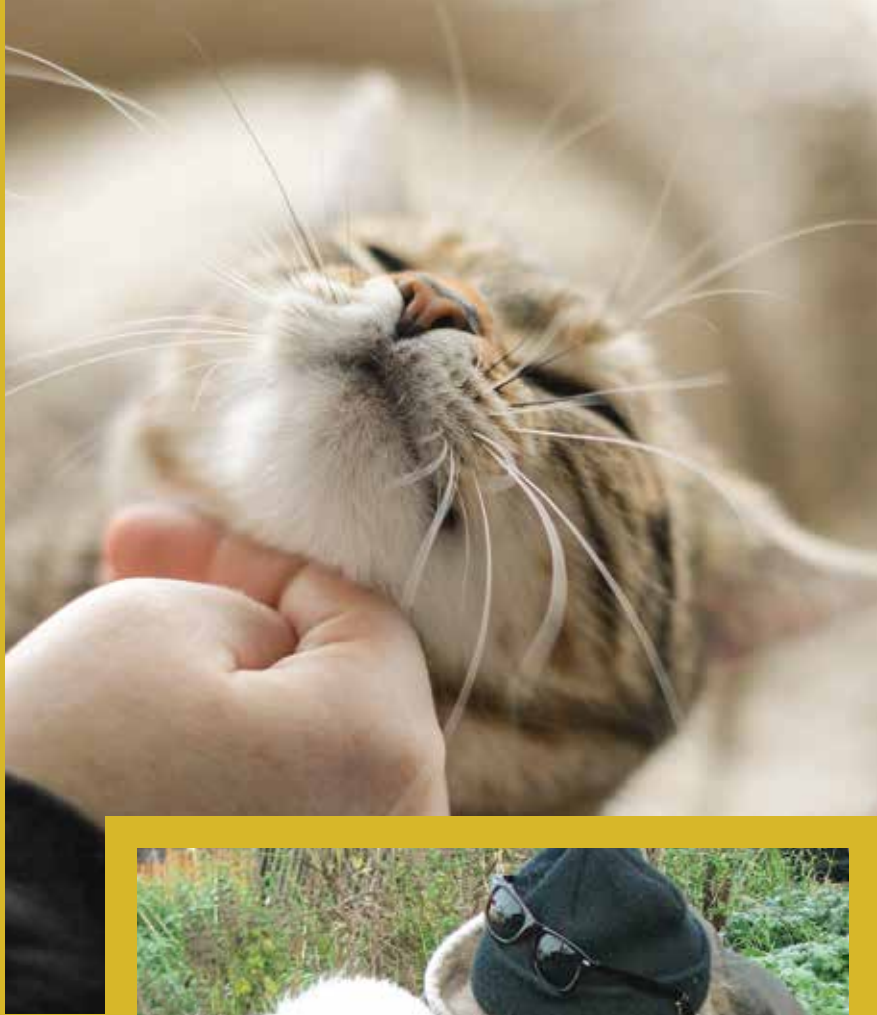
protect



IN 2018, BC SPCA constables rescued thousands of animals from cruel and abusive situations. From large animal hoarding cases and puppy mills to starving and neglected farm animals, your support meant that our constables were there to protect and relieve the suffering of at-risk animals and to ensure their abusers were held accountable through our justice system. □

care

LAST YEAR, staff and volunteers in our 36 branches provided emergency care and shelter for nearly 22,000 domestic, farm and wild animals. As an evidence-based organization, our veterinary, sheltering and rehabilitation services are based on leading-edge animal science research. Together, we also provided spay/neuter surgeries for thousands of homeless and community animals to reduce the suffering of surplus animals; operated the BC Pet Registry, B.C.'s first centralized database to reunite lost pets with their owners; and assisted vulnerable pet owners through charitable veterinary services and outreach programs. Your loyal support means vulnerable animals get the care they need. □



Helping people and pets stay together

When he was homeless, squatting in a makeshift hut in an industrial area of East Vancouver, it was Mark Matthews' golden retriever, Bounder, who gave him a reason to get up every day. A Canadian Armed Forces vet who was injured in an explosion, Matthews had struggled with

post-traumatic stress disorder and addiction. Four years after rescuing Bounder, Matthews fell behind on student loans and couldn't afford a home. "I found out about Charlie's, a program run by the SPCA in the Downtown Eastside that offered pet food and free vet visits for pets of people surviving on a low income," says Matthews. "I don't know what I would have done without Charlie's – Bounder was my soulmate, my therapist and my friend, and having those services meant I could take care of him." For Matthews and Bounder, access

to support meant that their special bond could continue right to the end. Bounder made it to his 12th birthday, but developed cancer that spread throughout his body. Matthews was at his side as veterinarians at the BC SPCA Animal Hospital in Vancouver helped to peacefully end his life. "They were so good about it – the veterinarians even paid for his cremation and the hospital paid for

everything else," says Matthews. "These people go above and beyond. I hope to pay back every penny I can." Matthews says he will always be grateful for the SPCA staff and volunteers who helped him. "Bounder kept me from choosing a negative lifestyle, even when I wanted to. I don't know what I would have done without the people who helped me keep him with me as long as possible." □

LILY FINDS HER WAY HOME, THANKS TO BC PET REGISTRY

Lily's owners always kept her indoors, but when the young cat escaped through a door accidentally left ajar in her Richmond home last summer, she got more of an adventure than she bargained for. She hid inside the bumper of a neighbour's car, and was unwittingly taken for a joy ride when the neighbour – unaware

of his stowaway – drove to various locations in Vancouver and Burnaby to run errands. At his last stop, he noticed a swishing tail under his bumper and immediately called the Burnaby SPCA for assistance. After coaxing the frightened cat from her hiding place, SPCA staff scanned her microchip and were quickly able to reunite Lily with



her anxious family in Richmond through the BC Pet Registry, the province's first centralized database for lost pets. More than 83,000 animals across B.C. have been registered since it was created in 2015. □



Orphaned otter trio released back to the wild

Three adorable and rambunctious otters were sent home to the wild in May 2018 after nearly a year in care at the BC SPCA's Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre (Wild ARC) in Metchosin.

Lady (rescued in Ladysmith) was orphaned after her mom was chased by a dog and dropped her, while Cowby (rescued

in Cowichan Bay) was found covered with more than 100 ticks after his mom was scared off; both otters were so young their eyes weren't even open yet. Piers was found alone and calling for his mother on Piers Island near Swartz Bay – but his mother couldn't be located. The trio would have died without intervention, and required extremely specialized care to teach

them the survival skills they would need in the wild while ensuring they didn't become habituated to their caregivers. Keeping the trio busy, fed and clean was no small feat. Marguerite Sans, Wild ARC's senior wildlife rehabilitator, notes: "We knew we had done everything we could to help them grow and to prepare them for reintegration into the wild. Releasing a wild animal in our care back to their natural habitat is one of the happiest days for our staff and volunteers." □

41,515
ANIMALS IN NEED ASSISTED ACROSS B.C.

21,808
HOMELESS ANIMALS PROVIDED WITH EMERGENCY CARE AND SHELTER

14,379
ANIMALS ADOPTED INTO NEW LOVING HOMES

2,801
INJURED AND ORPHANED WILDLIFE REHABILITATED

5,095
ANIMALS TRANSPORTED THROUGH THE DRIVE FOR LIVES PROGRAM

15,524
SPAY/NEUTER SURGERIES FOR HOMELESS AND COMMUNITY ANIMALS

FINANCIAL STRENGTH, leading-edge training, effective governance, state-of-the-art facilities and a culture of leadership and innovation are key to strengthening our work for the animals. Since 2013, the BC SPCA has been among the elite group of non-profit organizations accredited by Imagine Canada for proficiency in five key areas: financial accountability and transparency; board governance; fundraising; staff management; and volunteer engagement. The BC SPCA was also once again named in the top-10 Canadian charities in *MoneySense* magazine's annual survey, earning an "A" rating for overall efficiency, transparency and donor stewardship. □



grow

Volunteer HEROES

Improving our facilities

The BC SPCA continues to make exciting progress on our eight-year Facilities Development & Services Plan to replace or refurbish aging SPCA facilities in 12 B.C. communities. In 2018, we officially opened our new West Kootenay Community Animal Centre in Castlegar and our Tri-Cities Education & Adoption Centre in Coquitlam. Work also began on new community animal centres in Kamloops and South Peace (Dawson Creek) and on an education & adoption centre for our Sea to Sky Branch in Squamish. Thank you for the wonderful support that has made it possible to help more animals in these communities. □

Nancy van Aggelen has been a volunteer with the BC SPCA for the past six years at the busy Vancouver Branch, where she has contributed more than 2,600 hours of her time. Van Aggelen has had cats and dogs all her life. "They were friendly, they were well-trained, so I thought: 'I can do this. Volunteering will be a piece of cake, right?' But I am constantly learning."

Over the years, she's bottle-fed kittens, worked with cats in isolation who are sick or have infectious diseases,



and addressed a range of feline behavioural issues. She's helped traumatized cats learn to trust again and socialized cats who were fearful of being petted or picked up.

She started with cat wellness then moved into cat adoption

Sean Hogan, with one of 1,330 Kelowna animals cared for in 2018.



Learning to love again

Your generosity helps rescue animals from puppy mills, hoarding environments and other neglectful situations. But did you know your kindness also provides the extensive behaviour modification to help them adapt before being adopted into new, loving homes? One key area of growth for the BC SPCA in 2018 was increased behaviour training for staff caring for

extremely fearful and anxious animals. Sean Hogan, manager of the Kelowna Branch, says this support and knowledge is making a real difference.

He cites Kona, a young Great Pyrenees/pit bull mix who was highly reactive to other dogs and fearful of strangers when she arrived at the Kelowna SPCA. “We gave her anti-anxiety medication to help her cope with her new environment and one of our staff members worked with her every day, following a behaviour modification plan specifically tailored to her needs, until she was ready to be placed in a foster home,” says Hogan. “It is so wonderful to see the progress Kona has made from start to finish.”

Hogan says Kona’s transformation wouldn’t have been possible before. “As early as two years ago, we didn’t have this level of training and support to help animals with very specialized challenges. Now I feel more confident when we take in animals with serious behavioural issues that we can help them and that they will do well in their new homes.” ■



counselling, assisting potential adopters to see if their lifestyle will be a good fit for the feline who has caught their eye.

“It’s your intuitive ability to read a person’s needs, to know which cats you have in the shelter and to then get the match right,” she says. Sometimes that means redirecting a potential adopter to a cat who will be a better fit to avoid the chance of a cat being returned.

Her friends know how much the SPCA means to Nancy and sponsored a kennel in her name to thank her for all the hard work she does.

Last year, more than 5,500 SPCA volunteers contributed 162,922 hours to help animals across B.C. □

572

SKILLED AND CARING STAFF

5,500

DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS WHO HELP US EXPAND OUR SERVICES TO ANIMALS

44

BC SPCA FACILITIES DEDICATED TO THE CARE AND PROTECTION OF ANIMALS

Leadership Team

BC SPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- **Melissa Barcellos**
President
- **Roselyn Boarman**
- **David Budd**
(to August 2018)
- **Lindsay Curry**
- **Louise Egan**
- **Jennifer Gore**
(to May 2018)
- **Linda Greville**
- **Peter Havlik**
(to May 2018)
- **Shawn Ireland**
- **Rosolynn Kalb**
- **Sheila Kullar**
- **Sabrina Qureshi**
- **Carol Richards**
- **Jason Scultety**
- **Mary Lou Troman**
- **Erin Van Zant**
(from December 2018)
- **Andrea Wilhelm**

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM




- **Craig Daniell**
Chief Executive Officer
- **John Andrew**
Chief Financial Officer
- **Bob Busch**
General Manager, Facility Development
- **Lorie Chortyk**
General Manager, Communications
- **Shoni Field**
Chief Development Officer
- **Marcie Moriarty**
Chief Prevention and Enforcement Officer
- **Craig Naherniak**
General Manager, Humane Education
- **Mark Takhar**
Chief Operations Officer
- **Geoff Urton**
General Manager, Strategy and Innovation
- **Jolie Wist**
General Manager, Human Resources

YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION



**FOR EVERY DOLLAR YOU GAVE IN 2018,
HERE IS HOW YOU HELPED THE ANIMALS**



40¢ EMERGENCY SHELTER & CARE	20¢ CHECK-UPS & MEDICAL TREATMENT	8¢ CRUELTY INVESTIGATIONS
		
<p>Providing a temporary home for 21,808 abandoned, abused and injured animals.</p>	<p>Each animal gets an initial health check and is spayed or neutered. Sick or injured animals receive further treatment.</p>	<p>We conducted 8,009 new cruelty investigations* in 2018 and removed 1,087 animals from dangerous or neglectful situations.</p>
4¢ PREVENTING FUTURE SUFFERING	<p>Humane education and advocacy help stop the cycle of violence and make our communities safer.</p>	
9¢ SUPPORTING THE ANIMALS	<p>It takes a team to care for the animals. Nothing fancy, but essential.</p>	
12¢ INVESTING IN RELATIONSHIPS	<p>Fundraising ensures we can continue to take care of the animals. Thank you!</p>	

Note: Above breakdown does not include 7¢ for amortization/other and the surplus. The surplus will be invested in improvements to our facilities and asset base.
*Did you know we're the only animal welfare organization in B.C. with the authority to enforce laws related to animal cruelty?

REVENUES (IN \$000S)	2018	2017	EXPENDITURES (IN \$000S)	2018	2017
Donations & Fundraising	\$16,541	\$15,664	Sheltering, Kenneling, Bylaw Enforcement & Social Enterprise	\$14,234	\$13,605
Legacy & Life Insurance*	\$12,397	\$8,340	Veterinary Care & Spay/Neuter	\$3,263	\$2,966
Kenneling & Bylaw Enforcement	\$2,009	\$2,000	Cruelty Investigations	\$3,425	\$3,420
Sheltering, Medical, Clinical Services & Social Enterprise Services	\$8,785	\$8,612	Humane Education	\$1,025	\$896
Lotteries & Raffles	\$900	\$787	Advocacy & Volunteer Development	\$791	\$716
Other Grants	\$999	\$1,017	Hospitals & Clinics	\$4,667	\$4,722
Investment Income & Capital Gains	(\$462)	\$1,382	Animal Health & Welfare	\$668	\$748
Total	\$41,169	\$37,802	Administration & Program Support	\$3,711	\$3,381
			Revenue Development	\$5,159	\$4,431
			Amortization	\$1,074	\$960
			Other	\$481	\$455
			Total	\$38,498	\$36,300
	2018	2017			
Surplus/Deficit	\$2,671	\$1,502			
Expenditures, less amortization	\$37,424	\$35,340			

The BC SPCA is proud to be accredited by **Imagine Canada**. This accreditation means we've demonstrated excellence in financial accountability and transparency, board governance, fundraising, staff management, and volunteer management.

*A significant portion of Legacy gifts are designated. Designated gifts are not recognized as revenue in our financial statements until the terms of the designation are met, which may be in future years.



CELEBRATE LIKE A CHAMP

Instead of asking for presents, these people dedicated their birthdays to raising funds via the BC SPCA's Champions for Animals program. Such selflessness truly is cause for celebration.

ROBERT

Robert Pacey began taking photos of his Labrador/husky mix standing on chairs as a way to make his wife smile while she recovered from cancer. Eventually, Pacey created the Instagram account "Luna On Chairs," through which he and his pooch raised funds for cancer research.

"I can't even begin to comprehend Luna's impact on our life," Pacey says. "She helped my wife through a difficult illness with her antics as 'Luna On Chairs' and was my sidekick, muse and best friend for 12 years."

Luna passed away in June 2018 but lives on in the hearts of those she touched. "Not a day goes by



that we don't think of her," he says.

For his birthday, Pacey decided to team up with Luna again, via a fundraiser for the BC SPCA dedicated to his dog's memory. He raised more than \$500. "[My birthday is] a legacy to our lovely Luna. It's one of the ways we are remembering her and it's also allowing us to help those who help animals like her."

COOPER

Most kids would be eagerly looking forward to their birthday with a wish list of video games and gadgets, but nine-year-old Cooper Johnston is a true Champion. Instead of presents, he collected donations from his friends for the animals. "I really love cats," he says. "My dad is allergic, so I can't have my own. Since I can't have a cat, I like to help the animals at the SPCA

because it's the right thing to do."

Johnston raised \$1,014 in 2016, then \$1,050 in 2017 and an incredible \$1,655 in 2018 because "all animals deserve to have a healthy, happy life."

Become a Champion by registering for free at champions.sPCA.bc.ca. Then, share your page with loved ones to let them know that the best gift they can give you is a donation to the BC SPCA. Alternatively, start a Facebook fundraiser: Choose "Fundraisers" from Facebook's "Create" menu, click on "Charity" and search for "British Columbia SPCA" on the list. Every dollar raised goes directly to caring for stray and injured animals. ■





PICKING THE Best Eggs

Did you know that, with a brown egg, you can tell how stressed the hen was when she laid the egg just by looking at it?



The next time you're shopping, take a peek inside a carton of brown eggs (usually cage-free are brown). See if you can spot a hazy layer of calcium – a chalky-white film – on one or more of the eggs.

Hens prefer to lay their eggs in a quiet, secluded nest. They become agitated, frustrated and stressed when they can't find one. Often this happens in barns that don't have enough nest boxes for all the hens.

When a hen is kept from laying her egg, an extra layer of calcium starts to build on its surface while she waits. The longer she has to

wait, the more extra calcium coats the egg.

When buying eggs, pick a cage-free brand whose eggs are solid brown and have the least amount of calcium coating – or none at all. It means the hens were less stressed.

With white eggs, you can't actually see if there is extra calcium – but it's a safe bet that there is. This is because most hens who lay white eggs are kept in tiny cages and have no nest boxes (see sidebar on the right). These hens are frustrated every day because they have no place to lay their eggs except on the wire floor amongst other chickens.

So many egg choices, so little time to shop!



FARM TYPE: BATTERY CAGES

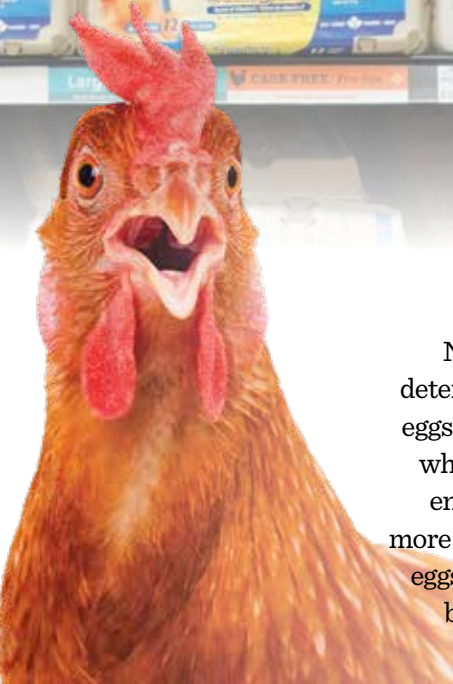
HEN WELFARE: Poor

- No nest boxes, little space to move, no area to scratch
- Can't stretch wings or dustbathe

COST: \$

EGG COLOUR: White (mostly)





Are brown eggs better?

Not necessarily! The colour of an egg is determined by the breed of chicken. White eggs typically come from leghorn chickens who are usually raised in battery cages or enriched battery cages (which have a bit more space and a nest area). Most cage-free eggs are brown. They come from different breeds such as Rhode Island reds, New Hampshires and Plymouth Rocks.



Grocery stores have lots of different types of eggs. Why so many? Eggs come from different farmers who raise hens in different ways. Some are kept in cramped cages (battery cages) with only space the size of this magazine to live their entire lives, while others have more room to move about – cage-free hens.



FARM TYPE: CAGE-FREE*

HEN WELFARE: Better

- No cages, some space to move, usually nest boxes, can stretch wings
- No independent inspections

*Free-range eggs: hens can go outside (in nice weather)

Free-run eggs: hens always live in a barn

COST: \$\$

EGG COLOUR: Brown (mostly)



FARM TYPE: SPCA CERTIFIED & CERTIFIED ORGANIC

HEN WELFARE: Best

- Farms meet highest welfare standards
- Independently inspected each year
- No cages, lots of space to move, perches up high, nest boxes, can stretch wings and dustbathe

COST: \$\$\$

EGG COLOUR: Brown (mostly)



spcacertified.ca

Certified is best

SPCA Certified and Certified Organic eggs come from hens with the best welfare. Farms are independently inspected to strict rules about hen care and welfare needs. Hens have the freedom to stretch their wings, preen and move about the barn. There are spaces to explore both inside and outside the barn (if free-range eggs), private nesting areas and perches up high to rest at night. With litter on the floor, hens can also dustbathe and forage. These eggs cost the most but the hens have the best living conditions. These eggs are also typically brown. ■



Far from the mindless automatons we make them out to be, recent studies show fish collaborate, communicate, play and remember. Some of them even sing.



YOU DON'T KNOW FISH!

Fish play diverse and significant roles in our society. Several hundred billion are farmed and caught for food each year around the world. Here in Canada, they are the third most popular pet after cats and dogs, and the third most common research model after mice and birds. Each year, nearly 20 million are caught recreationally in B.C., the third highest haul in the country.

Yet even though they are widely used, fish are not very well understood – or appreciated. “We have a hard time relating

to them,” says Meghann Cant, animal welfare educator for the BC SPCA. “We seem to have so little in common with them that it’s easy for us to believe they’re just primitive, instinct-driven animals.”

However, in recent years, this traditional view of fish as unthinking, unfeeling automatons has been challenged. Thanks to researchers around the world, we are discovering more about their mental and emotional capacities all the time. Here are just a few examples that speak to the complex abilities found in fish.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Bluestreak cleaner wrasses provide a special service to fellow fish. The wrasses swim into the gills and mouths of their “clients” to remove and feed on their parasites. “In some cases, their clients are fish who would otherwise eat them,” says Cant. The wrasses can remember more than 100 individual clients of all different species. They can also recall how well their last interaction with each one went.

Studies have shown that being stroked by cleaner fish is not only a pleasurable feeling for client fish,

it also helps them to relieve stress. “It’s like a therapeutic massage,” says Cant.

COMMUNICATION

Elephantfish communicate using electricity. Through unique electrical signals, they can tell each other apart. “These signals say how old they are, how big they are, how far away they are and even whether they’re male or female,” says Cant. Males use them to serenade females, and pairs sing duets together.

Groups of knifefish, another type of electric fish, can even change frequency to avoid jamming each other’s signals. One scientist who studies them has made these signals audible and likens the adult knifefish to violins and the younger ones to flutes.

COOPERATION

Giant moray eels and Red Sea coral groupers often hunt together. First, the groupers make gestures to ask the eels to join them on a hunt – a kind of sign language. Then, once out hunting, they adopt complementary roles: the eels can squeeze into crevices too small for the groupers, while the groupers are faster swimmers in open water. Working together, the pair has a better chance of catching something to eat. “Groupers will also ask octopuses to hunt,” adds Cant. “Apparently, the octopuses catch on a little quicker than the eels do.”

MEMORY

At low tide, frillfin gobies stay close to shore in tide pools to feed. When a predator such as a heron comes along, they escape by leaping into an adjacent pool.

They are remarkably accurate; missing a jump would mean being stranded on the rocks. Frillfins are able to leap from pool to pool by memorizing the layout of the tide pool while swimming over it at high tide. All it takes is one try to create this mental map – and they can still remember it more than a month later. “The forgetful Dory from the movie *Finding Nemo* is far from reality,” says Cant. “Fish have excellent memories.”

FAMILY

Daffodil cichlids live in extended family groups. The group is made up of a large male and a large

swirling around them and batting at them. “It’s reminiscent of kids playing with those punching-bag clowns weighted at the bottom to bounce back,” says Cant.

LEARNING

With incredible aim, archerfish can shoot powerful jets of water out of their mouths to knock down insects flying above them. They learn this impressive skill by watching and copying other archerfish.

More recently, it was discovered that archerfish can recognize human faces and tell them apart. “What’s even more impressive,” says Cant, “is the fact that the fish



Red Sea coral groupers often extend a helping fin to giant moray eels, working together to hunt.

female – the dominant pair who do all the breeding. The rest are smaller helper fish. Many of the helpers are the offspring of the pair. They stay behind to defend the group’s territory and care for their younger brothers and sisters.

PLAY

The spontaneous nature of play makes it a difficult behaviour to observe in the wild. However, in captivity, white-spotted cichlids have been seen playing with objects such as floating thermometers,

can still identify people when their faces are turned away from them.”

So what does all of this mean for fish welfare? Given the varied roles they play in our society – as pets, food, entertainment and research subjects – fish are by far the most used vertebrate on Earth. “The scientific evidence is now weighted in favour of fish as thinking, feeling creatures,” Cant concludes. “Perhaps it’s time we put the debate to rest and turn our attention instead to how we can improve their lives.” ■

ABUSED PIT BULL CHECKS OUT OF HOTEL, INTO LOVING HOME



He was lucky to escape from a horrible night in a hotel room, where he was beaten by his guardian. Tony, a beautiful grey and white pit bull, arrived at the BC SPCA North Peace Branch bruised and terrified.

Hotel staff first noticed something was wrong that night when guests complained they had heard yelping and banging from one of the other rooms on their floor. When the hotel

manager investigated, he discovered that the dog had escaped from the room and was hiding in a nearby field. He noted that Tony flinched and ducked away from human touch as they waited for help to arrive.

The RCMP took possession of Tony, who was then transferred into BC SPCA custody and taken to a local veterinary hospital to treat his bloodshot eye, bleeding lip and bruises on his ears and muzzle.

Tony was later moved to the Nanaimo & District Branch through the BC SPCA Drive for Lives animal transfer program. Drive for Lives transports animals from branches in northern B.C. to more heavily populated locations to help ensure they have the best chance of being adopted.

“Tony very quickly became a volunteer favourite with his easy-going, loving nature,” says Kristin Lloyd, animal care specialist at the Nanaimo & District Branch. “He was a mischievous guy who would often ‘make it snow’ in his kennel by emptying his bed of all its fluff

in record time. He was with us for a few months before finding his perfect forever home with a young, active couple who were so happy to bring this special dog into their family.”

NEGLECTED KITTY NOW BASKING IN ATTENTION

Just a kitten when he was rescued from a neglectful guardian and taken into SPCA care in Cranbrook, Sylvester had already experienced too much suffering in his short life. “He had an untreated infection in his right eye that was so severe he required a costly surgery to remove it and



he was battling an upper respiratory infection,” says East Kootenay Branch manager Christy King. Generous donors raised more than \$2,500 for his medical bills and he spent four months recovering with the SPCA.

“He was a bit nervous at first, but once he realized that we had plenty of delicious treats to offer him, he warmed up very quickly,” recalls King. “Even though he was very sick, he was always so affectionate and playful. He loved having volunteers come to visit with him so he could sit on their laps and snuggle.”

On January 16, the eight-month-old kitty was adopted into his forever home. His new family writes: “He’s been absolutely adorable and the most playful cat in the world. He definitely has a personality and he’s been a purring machine since we’ve gotten him.”

Thank you for making Sylvester’s happy ending possible!

INJURED DEER GETS BACK ON HIS HOOVES

A young buck on Vancouver Island is lucky to be alive after somehow getting entangled in a metal poultry feeder. “Three of his legs were trapped and he was in critical condition when he was brought to us,” says Meghan Hatch, assistant manager at the BC SPCA’s Wild Animal Rehabilitation Centre



(Wild ARC) in Metchosin. “We freed him using metal cutters and mineral oil but his feet were quite swollen and he had severe lacerations on his two front legs near the hooves, which made suturing the wounds impossible.”

Hatch says the deer was put on a strict regimen of antibiotics to keep his wounds from becoming infected, while staff tried to keep their patient calm. “Severe stress can be fatal to a young deer and they can cause damage to themselves or others if they panic – so we had to be very careful handling him.”

After several rounds of antibiotics and regular bandage changes, the wounds began to heal and he was eventually able to bear weight on all four limbs again. Thanks to SPCA donors who supported his care, this buck has recovered fully and was released back to the wild.

NEW YEAR’S NIGHTMARE

The New Year is a time of celebration but for one young dog it was quite the opposite. Remy lived a miserable life – tied outdoors to a doghouse all day and night – but things were about to get worse. On New Year’s Eve, someone shot Remy, a one-and-a-half-year-old chow mix, in the face while he was tethered and could not escape his attacker.

His owners contacted the SPCA, who rushed the injured dog to a nearby veterinary hospital for emergency treatment. Remy was surrendered by his guardians and spent four weeks recovering in SPCA care. The sweet-natured dog, who soon became a favourite of staff and volunteers, was especially excited about playing with his new toys, and became known for carrying a stuffed toy in his mouth while out on his daily walks. On January 27, he was adopted into his forever home and Remy, now renamed Hank, is enjoying a safe and happy life surrounded by his new family. ■





ASK THE SPCA

WE ANSWER
YOUR QUESTIONS
ABOUT COMPANION,
FARM AND WILD
ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR

I found a snake in my garden the other day. Should I be freaking out?

Just stay calm! Chances are you spotted a garter snake. They are harmless to humans and fairly common in urban and suburban areas throughout much of the province.

Three species of garter snake call B.C. home: the common garter snake, the northwestern garter snake and the wandering garter snake. These beautiful reptiles can play a very valuable role in your garden as predators of snails, slugs and voles.

Should you feel up to the task, you can actually make your garden more hospitable to garter snakes and other helpful reptile visitors.

- **Just say no to chemicals.** Snakes are easily harmed by the pesticides meant for their prey.
- **Know before you mow.** Prior to getting out the lawn mower or weed eater, stir the long grass with a stick to give snakes a chance to flee.
- **Cover up.** Leave natural cover, such as bark, leaves, twigs, branches, rocks and fallen logs, to provide shelter for snakes.

Rock piles, especially on sunny south-facing slopes, make great warming spots to aid in digestion and reproduction.

- **Offer safe passage.** Snakes are less likely to use shelters isolated in the middle of an open area. Instead, locate rock and brush piles near hedges and shrubs to give them safe corridors to travel.
- **Lift with care.** When landscaping, move objects like stones carefully to avoid accidentally crushing snakes hidden underneath.
- **Go wild!** Simply leaving a portion of your property alone is an excellent way to attract and shelter snakes, who are adapted to such natural habitat.

Did you know that six out of the nine snake species in our province are considered vulnerable, threatened or endangered? Like all wild animals, snakes face a number of serious threats such as habitat loss and climate change. Sadly, negative attitudes towards them tend to impede conservation efforts. Learn more about B.C.'s snakes at bc reptiles.ca.

I've never had an indoor cat before. How do I keep her happy?

Meeting the needs of an indoor cat isn't always easy; it requires commitment, some planning and a little imagination on your part. First, try thinking like a feline.

As a species, cats need daily interaction and stimulation to stay mentally and physically healthy. Providing an indoor environment that promotes natural behaviours your cat could normally express outdoors – like climbing, hiding, chasing, jumping and pouncing – is key.

Here are some ways you can enrich your furry companion's life indoors:

- Cats like novelty, so provide a variety of toys, and rotate them regularly.
- Invest in a food-dispensing toy, such as a ball that drops kibble as it rolls, to encourage her to work for her meal.
- Provide at least one scratching post with high perches.
- Plant a pot of indoor greens that are safe for her to munch on, such as cat grass.



“ Providing an indoor environment that promotes natural behaviours your cat could normally express outdoors is key.

- Make high perches out of shelves or shadow boxes, and hang them up near windows so your cat can observe the outside world.
- Hide treats around the house and encourage her to find them.
- Schedule a little playtime every day. Wand toys are especially good at triggering her hunting instincts.
- Put out objects such as cardboard boxes and paper bags for her to explore.

Should you find your cat yearning for the outdoors, consider building a catio. Catos are screened-in areas, either free-standing or attached to a house, equipped with things like walkways and ramps to encourage climbing and perching. Catos allow cats to enjoy the sights and smells of the great outdoors while keeping them safe from cars and predators (and keeping wildlife safe from them!). Find inspiration and details on how to make your own catio at sPCA.bc.ca/catio.



Opposite page: They may give you a fright, but garter snakes are harmless to humans and actually quite beneficial to gardens, preying on snails, slugs and voles. Above: A catio is a great way to keep your indoor cat stimulated and safe.



“ About a third of a dog's brain is devoted to processing and storing scents. The result is a vast library of smells that helps them get a 'view' of the world.

When I go for walks, my dog is constantly wanting to stop and smell things. Should I pull her along so she gets the right amount of exercise?

It can be a real challenge to get anywhere on a walk if your dog just wants to stop and smell everything along the way. Yet we tend to underestimate how important it is for a dog to spend time sniffing.

While we rely primarily on sight, dogs' understanding of the world is built around their nose. They have 50 times as many scent receptors as people – that's why they have such a long snout. In fact, dogs have 300 million receptors compared to our paltry six million.

Dogs also process air differently than people. When we breathe, air goes in and out through the same passage. Dogs, on the other hand, breathe in through the holes at the front of their nose, but exhale

through slits at the side. This allows them to trap some air in their nose chamber, magnifying the strength of the smell and turning even trace odours into strong ones.

About a third of a dog's brain is devoted to processing and storing scents. The result is a vast library of smells that helps them get a "view" of the world. As they sniff, their brain is working hard sorting out the array of odours, telling them who has come and gone, and when and which direction they went.

So, instead of an eight-block walk, perhaps you end up going only one in the same amount of time. It may seem odd to travel such a short distance, but it is a serious mental workout for your dog. Of course, you do need to balance the right amount of physical exercise with chances for your dog to pause and smell. But don't be frustrated when she wants to make frequent stops. Remember the walk is for her, and the stimulation will tire her out. ■



More so than seeing, sniffing is how your dog interacts with the world. Try not to interrupt her.

Keeping a better eye on seal pups

THE EXPERTS



Dr. Amelia MacRae has made impressive strides in seal pup nutrition and pain detection.



APPLIED KNOWLEDGE
by Dr. David Fraser

We have a wealth of research on the care of common animals like cattle and pigs, but the story is very different for dozens of species admitted for wildlife rehabilitation.

Every year, the Vancouver Aquarium's Marine Mammal Rescue Centre accepts up to 200 orphaned or injured harbour seal pups that receive diligent care from a devoted (and busy!) group of staff, volunteers and student interns. For many years, our recent PhD graduate Amelia MacRae has been doing research to improve the pups' care.

MacRae's first project was a study in basic nutrition. The centre had been feeding the pups either a rich milk replacer or a fish-based diet containing ground herring, but many failed to thrive. Amelia monitored weight gains and found that pups did much

better on the milk replacer, but were still far below the weight gains seen in their wild, mother-reared brethren.

Knowing that seal milk is about the richest in the animal kingdom, MacRae and the centre staff decided to add an extra feeding per day to boost the intake of calories. The milk replacer again far outperformed the fish diet, and both groups of pups did significantly better with the extra feeding. This has now become standard procedure for the centre, and the seals show much better survival and growth.

Recently, MacRae established ways to monitor pain in the pups. Many of them arrive with injuries, and all have to be tagged, usually with a flipper tag, before they can be released, but how can we track and manage the associated pain?

MacRae looked for three changes that are used to detect pain in farm animals: changes in facial expression, vocalizations

and skin temperature around the eye (as measured by an infrared sensor). After flipper tagging, vocalizations became shriller and eye temperature increased, much as we see in other species after a painful procedure. But the clearest response was in the eyes: after tagging, the large, round eyes of seal pups took on a narrower, wincing look. It was so clear that even an untrained observer could detect their discomfort with near-perfect accuracy. Now we can use these signs to monitor pain and look for effective means of management.

So kudos to MacRae, and kudos to the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre for being so open to research and to making science-based changes in how they care for animals. ■

Dr. David Fraser is a professor in the UBC Animal Welfare Program. The program, initiated in 1997 by the BC SPCA and other partners, works to improve the lives of all animals through research, education and public outreach.

Celebrate your birthday with the Animals!

When you set up a Champions fundraising page or facebook fundraiser for your birthday, you are ensuring animals in need get the care they need.

spca.bc.ca/champions

Visit us online to learn how to get started.




BCSPCA **CHAMPIONS
FOR ANIMALS**

Tracy Forster

From: Union of BC Municipalities <ubcm@ubcm.ca>
Sent: June 19, 2019 12:34 PM
To: Tracy Forster
Subject: FireSmart Funding; Private Managed Forest Consultation

Having trouble viewing this e-mail? [Click here](#)



THE COMPASS News and information from the Union of BC Municipalities

FireSmart Community Funding & Supports June 19, 2019

Funding for the 2020 Community Resiliency Investment (CRI) program's FireSmart Community Funding & Supports stream has been confirmed and program materials released. The program is structured to fund FireSmart activities in all eligible First Nation and local government communities throughout BC. [Read more](#)

Deadline Extended for Private Forest Consultation

The Province has extended the deadline for feedback on its review of the Private Managed Forest Land Program (PMFLP) to July 22. An earlier deadline was noted in a June 5th article. [Read more](#)

Climate and Energy Action Awards


Receive recognition for your work by applying for a Community Energy Association 2019 Climate & Energy Action Award. The awards are offered in 3 categories: community planning and development, corporate operations, and climate change adaptation. The deadline for applications is July 2nd, 2019. [Read more](#)

DAVID LOUKIDELIS QC
Associate Counsel
Young, Anderson

Leaders in
Local Government Law
& Labour Relations

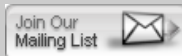
YA YOUNG ANDERSON
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

YA YOUNG ANDERSON
BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS



younganderson.ca

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Union of BC Municipalities, 60 - 10551 Shellbridge Way, Richmond, BC V6X 2W9 Canada

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Sent by ubcm@ubcm.ca in collaboration with

Gibsons General Mailbox

From: Val Stapleton <feedback@disabilityalliancebc.org>
Sent: June 19, 2019 2:25 PM
To: Gibsons General Mailbox
Subject: DABC Community Update - Province Announces Changes Aimed at Reducing Poverty
Attachments: DABC Community Update - Province Announces Changes Aimed at Reducing Poverty.docx

Dear Community Partner,

On June 17, the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction announced a number of policy changes that **will take effect on July 1st**. These changes are being introduced to further the Province's poverty reduction strategy, TogetherBC, and help reduce the rate of poverty in BC.

For more information, please see the attached Community Update.

Kind regards,
Val Stapleton, Membership Outreach Coordinator
Justina Loh, Executive Director



we are all
connected

June 2019

Community Update Province Announces Policy Changes Aimed at Reducing Poverty

Dear Community Partner,

On June 17, the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction announced a number of policy changes that **will take effect on July 1st**. These changes are being introduced to further the Province's poverty reduction strategy, TogetherBC, and help reduce the rate of poverty in BC.

The Province's media release (https://archive.news.gov.bc.ca/releases/news_releases_2017-2021/2019SDPR0047-001258.htm) lists policy changes which will impact people with disabilities and people on regular income assistance.

For all people on Ministry assistance, including those on PWD:

- ending penalties for families providing room and board to a family member;
- expanding access to the identification supplement;
- eliminating the "transient" client category; and
- expanding the moving supplement to cover more circumstances.

For people **not** intending to apply for PWD:

- decreasing the work search from five weeks to three weeks;
- expanding access and simplifying the application process for Persons with Persistent Multiple Barriers programs by eliminating the Employability Screen, the 12/15 month wait period to apply and removing addiction-related restrictions to eligibility;
- removing \$10,000 asset limit on a vehicle for everyday use; and
- increasing asset limits for people on income assistance from \$2,000 to \$5,000 for a single income assistance or PPMB recipient and from \$4,000 to \$10,000 for families and couples.

We welcome these changes, which will remove barriers to supports and increase the well-being of many British Columbians with disabilities living on low incomes. We encourage the government to keep moving forward and to raise the disability and income assistance rates further.

Further changes will be announced in the coming months, which DABC will monitor.

For more information, please contact our Advocacy Access program by phone at 604-872-1278/1-800-663-1278 or by email at feedback@disabilityalliancebc.org.

Kind Regards,

Justina Loh,
Executive Director

Mayor and Council

From: Heather Evans-Cullen <hecullen@gibsons.bclibrary.ca>
Sent: June 20, 2019 3:17 PM
To: Mayor and Council
Subject: GDPL Letter regarding Provincial funding to libraries
Attachments: GDPL Letter to TOG regarding provincial funding.pdf

Hi Mayor Beamish and Council,

Please find attached a letter from the Gibsons and District Public Library to the Town of Gibsons Mayor and Council requesting your support to increase Provincial funding to libraries. Could you please add this to your next meeting's agenda?

Many thanks,

Heather

*Letter attached to July 9, 2019 Council Agenda

Heather Evans-Cullen
Library Director
Gibsons and District Public Library
470 South Fletcher Rd. Gibsons, B.C.
V0N -1V0
(604) 886-2130
hecullen@gibsons.bclibrary.ca
www.gibsons.bclibraries.coo

T: 604.886.2130 / gdplinfo@gibsons.bclibrary.ca

June 20, 2019

Town of Gibsons
Town Hall
PO Box 340
474 South Fletcher Road
Gibsons, B.C., V0N 1V0

Attention: Mayor Bill Beamish and Council

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of the Gibsons and District Public Library, I am writing to encourage the Town of Gibsons to support Victoria's resolution to the UBCM regarding increasing provincial funding to libraries. As you are aware, public libraries provide crucial information and resource services to the citizens in our community, and sustainable funding is required for libraries to run effectively.

Over the last thirty years, provincial funding has remained frozen. As such, libraries and their associations across B.C. are participating in a collective advocacy effort to encourage the Government of British Columbia to add \$20 million to the BC Provincial Budget for 2020 for allocation to libraries.

We encourage the Town of Gibsons to endorse the following motion to be submitted to the UBCM:

Motion:

"WHEREAS libraries in British Columbia are largely financed by levies paid by local governments,

AND WHEREAS libraries are a social justice equalizer that provide universal access to information and learning materials irrespective of income levels,

AND WHEREAS libraries in British Columbia provide open and equal public access to vital resources, including the internet, public computers, digital library tools and in-person service from expert staff to provide opportunities for all British Columbians to access knowledge and information and increase literacy in our communities and present informative programmes: including First Nations programmes and material which advance public understanding and reconciliation,

AND WHEREAS libraries In British Columbia are delivering their excellent services in an environment where Provincial library funding has remained virtually stagnant for the past 30 years, AND WHEREAS restoring funding to libraries supports the BC Government's agenda to eliminate poverty, improve access to education, and address social justice in B.C.,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Government of British Columbia give urgent attention to funding for the BC Libraries by adding \$20 million to the BC Provincial Budget for 2020 for allocation to libraries throughout BC,

AND FURTHER THAT the Province be requested to ensure that BC Libraries will henceforth receive Provincial Government financial support at a sustainable level in subsequent years following the 2020 Budget.

We hope Mayor Beamish and Council will support Victoria's resolution to UBCM, and will send a letter recommending endorsement of this motion to:

Honourable Rob Flemming
Minister of Education
PO Box 9045, Stn Prov Govt,
Victoria BC
V8W 9E2

Honourable John Horgan
Premier
PO Box 9041 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E1

Thank you to the Town of Gibsons for your ongoing support of libraries on the Sunshine Coast. Please contact me if you require further information about this advocacy effort.

Sincerely,



Heather Evans-Cullen
Library Director



Janet Hodgkinson
GDPL Board Chair



June 4, 2019

Sustainability²
TimberWest 2018 Sustainability Report

I am pleased to share our 2018 Sustainability Progress Report with you. As you will see, our efforts have focused on the four key areas of safety, environmental leadership, First Nations partnerships and community support.

Whether it is striving for carbon neutrality, creating First Nations scholarship programs, supporting habitat enhancement, delivering safety training or investing in coastal community initiatives, our priority is to continually improve on our performance. That is why we believe it is important to not only report on the key highlights from 2018, but also outline our commitments for 2019.

In late 2018, we announced that TimberWest and Island Timberlands affiliated our forest management, planning, operations and sales functions as Mosaic Forest Management. As such, going forward our progress report will include Mosaic's overall performance and commitments across the affiliated lands.

Sustainability is about more than measuring and reporting; it is about setting a standard for how decisions are made and being accountable to our communities, our employees and our shareholders.

We look forward to continuing on this journey with you.

Jeff Zweig
President & CEO
Mosaic Forest Management

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Mosaic Forest Management

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Canada V6E 2E9

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mosaicforests.com

DOMENICO IANNIDINARDO
RPF, RPBio, P.Eng
Vice President Forest & Sustainability and Chief Forester

T 250.716.3778
C 250.715.7387
Domenico@MosaicForests.com
201 - 648 Terminal Ave.
Nanaimo, BC
V9R 5E2

Timberland Manager for



mosaicforests.com

Hi Bill

With compliments

Have a great summer. Domenico

TimberWest

2018 Sustainability Progress Report

TimberWest.com

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-  TimberWest.com/news



TimberWest
Managed by Mosaic Forest Management

Sustainability²

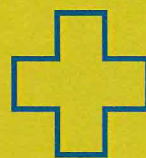


Sustainability is at the core of our business.

We have operated on the land base for over 100 years through multiple growing cycles. The continued health of our forest is a function of applying leading science and a strong commitment to doing right by our staff, partners and neighbours. This is embodied in our Values where we define an aspiration to be the **leader in sustainable timberlands management**. We will only be successful when we fulfill all of our Values.

OUR VALUES

We aspire to be the Asia-Pacific leader in sustainable timberlands management, optimizing long-term returns for our shareholders.



Safety & Wellness

Our highest priority.



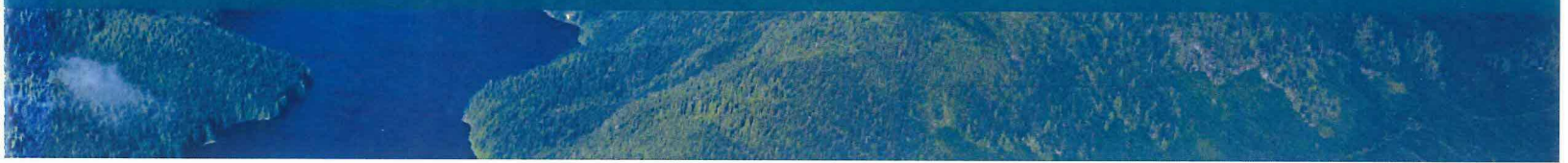
People

Inspired, empowered and engaged.



As affiliated companies under Mosaic Forest Management, TimberWest and Island Timberlands can do more to deliver a range of economic, social and environmental benefits for our many partners, stakeholders and communities across our lands.

— Jeff Zweig, President & CEO, Mosaic Forest Management



In November 2018, TimberWest and Island Timberlands affiliated under the management of Mosaic Forest Management. With the affiliation, more can be done to plan and invest for the future of a stable, sustainable and competitive coastal forest sector. That is **Sustainability²**.

TimberWest has committed to report on its sustainability progress for 2018; this report also highlights the future initiatives intended under the affiliation.

We believe in holding ourselves to account and putting into daily practice the values that underpin the success of TimberWest. Mosaic Forest Management inherits those same values, and therefore all future sustainability progress reports will be delivered through Mosaic Forest Management and include accountability and progress updates for the timberlands under its management.

Thank you to everyone who made 2018 a successful year.



Sustainability

Responsible, science-based environmental management.



Superior Performance

Long-term value creation through operational excellence, innovation and an unrelenting focus on continuous improvement.



Integrity

Respectful and honest in our relationships by always doing the right thing and holding ourselves to account.

2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS



0

MAJOR NON-CONFORMANCES
on independent environmental audit.

24%

REDUCTION
in burning on-site harvest residuals.



6.5 MILLION
SEEDLINGS PLANTED.

**\$500,000
DONATED**
to environmental
initiatives and local
communities.

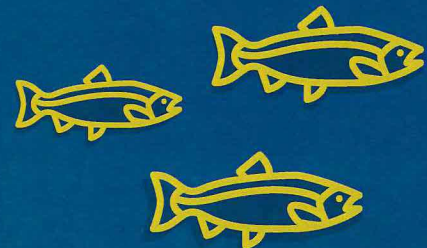


**OVER
800,000
JUVENILE
SALMON**

released from
hatcheries on
TimberWest lands.



**\$200,000
DONATED**
in scholarships &
training to support
First Nations
education initiatives.



FIRST FOREST COMPANY
in the world to obtain certification for
its entire supply chain carbon footprint.



Committed to Safety

Our highest priority is safety. Nothing supersedes it. We believe all injuries are preventable and that is our goal. Nothing short of ensuring everyone goes home safely every single day is acceptable.

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

» **OUR MEDICAL INCIDENT RATE INCREASED TO 2.74 FROM 2.01.** While below the Coastal average, disappointingly, it is not an improvement over last year. Our goal is to improve every year in the continual pursuit of ensuring everyone gets home safely every single day.

We are committed to do better.

» **SUCCESSFULLY DEPLOYED COLLISION AVOIDANCE TECHNOLOGY** across all TimberWest log handling facilities. RFID technology sounds an alarm when ground-staff are close to moving equipment.

» **PILOTED DRIVER FATIGUE DETECTION SENSORS IN LOG TRUCKS.**

» **PILOTED ROLLOVER RISK DETECTION SENSORS IN LOG TRUCK TRAILERS.**

2019 MOSAIC INITIATIVES

» **10% REDUCTION IN SAFETY INCIDENTS.**

» **DEPLOY LOG TRUCK SPEED MONITORING** and automated safety performance reporting across 200 log trucks.

» **2ND PHASE FATIGUE MANAGEMENT DETECTION PILOT PROJECT** with BC Forest Safety Council and FPInnovations.

» **2ND PHASE ROLLOVER RISK DETECTION SENSORS IN LOG TRUCK TRAILERS** with BC Forest Safety Council and FPInnovations.

» **DEPLOY COLLISION AVOIDANCE TECHNOLOGY** across 5 additional Mosaic log handling facilities.

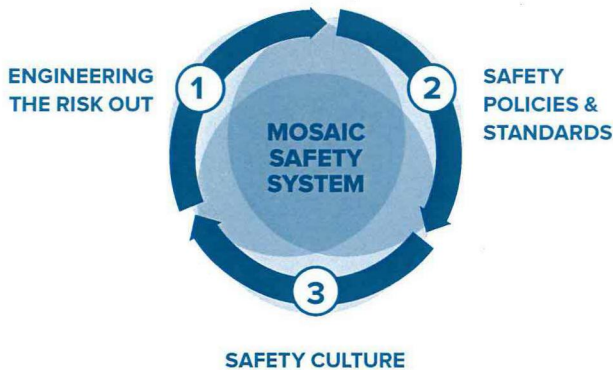
» **DEPLOY INTEGRATED WEATHER STATIONS ACROSS LANDBASE** with satellite communication links to accurately monitor fire and other weather-related risks.

I believe that the forest industry will continue to use increasing amounts of technology because it will continue to make forestry more efficient, and it's going to make our practices that much better.

— Dr. John Innes, Dean, Faculty of Forestry at UBC

MOSAIC'S SAFETY SYSTEM IS PREDICATED ON THE THREE PILLARS:

1. Engineering the risk out where possible.
2. Employing leading safety policies, standards and procedures.
3. Moving the safety culture from one of rules-based "compliance" to one of true "commitment" to zero harm, where every individual is devoted to their own safety and the safety of those around them.



Underpinning these pillars is an unrelenting dedication to improving safety performance for Mosaic staff and crews that work on Island Timberlands and TimberWest lands, as well as thousands of employees who work for our contractors. To do this, we benchmark against the best in the world, conduct our own research, analyze and deploy new safety technology, and learn from every incident, no matter how small.

SAFETY VISION & PRINCIPLES

We, the staff, contractors & partners of Mosaic Forest Management

- Value people's safety and wellness above all else
- Believe all injuries are preventable
- Consider safety a shared commitment
- Address every unsafe situation
- Regard open communication as key to our safety culture
- Strive to engineer the risk out
- Believe safety is critical to our overall success
- Work to continuously improve our safety and wellness

The principles we live by

- Be fit for work
- Be risk aware for every task
- Wear appropriate protective equipment
- Use the right tools/equipment for the job, in good repair
- Ensure competency for the task
- Stay out of the bight



Environmental Leadership



Environmental stewardship is at the cornerstone of our century-old business. We work hard every day to earn our international reputation as an environmentally responsible supplier of BC coastal timber.

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

FIRST FOREST COMPANY

in the world to obtain certification for its entire supply chain carbon footprint.



EXCEEDED OUR GOAL OF 20% REDUCTION

in burning on-site harvest residuals and achieved a 24% reduction; this amounted to twice as much recovered residual wood over the previous year.

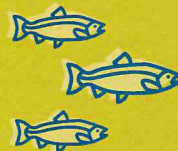


8 HECTARE FOREST

donated for conservation with the creation of Koksilah-Siddoo Park.

OVER \$100,000 DONATED

to local community stewardship projects.




OVER 800,000

juvenile salmon released from hatcheries on TimberWest lands.

6.5 MILLION SEEDLINGS PLANTED

across our land base.





Good measurement is the crucial first step to effective management. TimberWest is the first forest company we have provided with an organisational certification that goes beyond just the carbon footprint from its own operations, by also looking at the emissions associated with its supply chain energy use, the distribution of products to customers and long-term carbon storage.

— Hugh Jones, Managing Director – Business Services at the Carbon Trust

Managing our lands with care: All of our lands are 100% certified to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI)® 2015–2019 Forest Management Standard.

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

- » **REDUCED SLASH PILE BURNING BY 24%.**
- » **REALISED 22% REDUCTION** in environmental occurrences.
- » **ACHIEVED ZERO MAJOR NON-CONFORMANCES** on its independent environmental audit.
- » **SUPPORTED RESTORATION PROJECTS** at Oyster River Hatchery, Dove Creek, Tsolum River, 19 Creek and the San Juan River.
- » **CONTRIBUTED OVER \$300,000** in financial, in-kind and research support for environmental leadership and conservation initiatives.
- » **EXPANDED OUR WESTERN WHITE PINE ORCHARD** to provide more climate-change adapted species for the future.

2019 MOSAIC INITIATIVES

- » **MEASURE AND INDEPENDENTLY VERIFY THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF ISLAND TIMBERLANDS LANDBASE AND EXTEND THE CARBON REDUCTION STRATEGY.**
- » **REDUCE ON-SITE BURNING** of harvest residuals by a further 10%.
- » **SIGN TWO NEW AGREEMENTS** with community stewardship groups.
- » **IMPLEMENT A SINGLE LANDSCAPE LEVEL PLAN** for all Mosaic managed lands to benefit watersheds and wildlife.
- » **INCREASE FUNDING FOR MARMOT RECOVERY PROGRAM** by 33%.
- » **TAKE A LEADERSHIP POSITION ON SALMON RECOVERY PROJECTS** through sponsorship of the Pacific Salmon Foundation.



Partnering with First Nations



At TimberWest, we are committed to recognizing and respecting the rights of Indigenous peoples. Our goal is to be a respectful, trustworthy neighbour and to foster business relationships with First Nations, and continually work to deepen and strengthen these connections.

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

INITIATED THE SFI SMALL-SCALE FOREST CERTIFICATION PILOT

with K'ómoks First Nation managed timberlands, which includes their partnership with Qualicum First Nation.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BC BUSINESS COUNCIL AND THE CHAMPIONS TABLE,

provided forest industry work experience to an Indigenous Intern.



SIGNED TWO ADDITIONAL AGREEMENTS WITH FIRST NATIONS.




\$105,000 DONATED

to support First Nations' culture, education and community events.

MORE THAN \$200,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AND TRAINING TO SUPPORT FIRST NATIONS

education initiatives in forestry trades, diploma, degree programs and work experience.





When SFI® approached us to consider this small-scale forest management certification, we knew it was something we wanted to implement, and we knew TimberWest could lend their expertise.

— Nicole Rempel, Chief of the K'ómoks First Nation

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

- » **ANNOUNCED FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND \$100,000 ENDOWMENT PROGRAM** for Indigenous forestry students in collaboration with the UBC School of Forestry.
- » **ACHIEVED \$2.7 MILLION OF SPEND WITH INDIGENOUS CONTRACTORS.**
- » **9 CEDAR LOGS DONATED TO FIRST NATIONS.**
- » **SPONSORED SECOND ANNUAL FIRST NATIONS CULTURAL ART SHOWCASE PROGRAM** *Reclaimed: Culture and Life* featuring First Nation artists from the major language groups on the Coast at the Royal BC Museum.
- » **SUPPORTED BUSINESS INITIATIVES,** educational and training opportunities, and work placement experience for 12 First Nation groups.
- » **PROVIDED FIREWOOD TO SEVERAL FIRST NATION GROUPS** across Vancouver Island: Cowichan Tribes (all 3 long houses), Halalt, Stz'uminus, Pacheedaht, Wei Wai Kum, Homalco, Namgis, Klahoose.

2019 MOSAIC INITIATIVES

- » **SEEK PROGRESSIVE ABORIGINAL RELATIONS CERTIFICATION THROUGH THE CANADIAN COUNCIL FOR ABORIGINAL BUSINESS FOR ISLAND TIMBERLANDS.**
- » **COLLABORATE ON LIDAR DATA ACQUISITION** and drone training with interested First Nation partners.
- » **ONGOING CULTURAL SUPPORT** through log donations for First Nation groups.
- » **WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FIRST NATIONS** to provide data for Emergency Response planning.
- » **PROVIDE TWO ADDITIONAL WORK PLACE OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIGENOUS INTERN LEADERSHIP PROGRAM** in partnership with the BC Business Council and the Champions table. The program is designed to build capacity in Indigenous communities, employment diversity, and providing essential workplace mentorship and training.



Supporting Communities



We provide responsible organizations with access to our private timberland and support our neighbours on initiatives important to the communities in which we live, work and play.

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

ESTABLISHED a long-term commitment to provide community firewood to Quadra Island seniors.



\$500,000 in donations to over 100 community initiatives.

Hosted more than **8,500 PEOPLE** at TimberWest campsites.



\$90,000 DONATED

through matched staff donations towards the United Way, the Heart and Stroke Foundation Big Bike event, and BC Wildfire Relief efforts.



MENTORED AND TRAINED 8 SUMMER STUDENTS


from across Canada with hands-on skills development in sustainable forest management.



COLLECTED 5.6 TONNES OF ILLEGALLY DUMPED GARBAGE

as part of our Earth Day Clean Up with the Regional District of Nanaimo, the Nanaimo Mountain Bike Club and 80 volunteers.





TimberWest is a committed supporter of The Great Trail and their community. Their continued support will allow both locals and visitors to enjoy the incredible landscapes that the Cowichan Valley Trail has to offer.

— Valerie Pringle, Co-Chair of the Trans Canada Trail Foundation Board

2018 TIMBERWEST ACHIEVEMENTS

- » **LOG DONATIONS** for Royal BC Museum carving project *Crossing Cultures and Healing*, Logger Sports events in Port McNeill, Campbell River and Lake Cowichan.
- » **THROUGH COUVERDON'S JUBILEE HEIGHTS DEVELOPMENT** we have donated park trails, wetlands, playfields and an elementary school site to the City of Campbell River.
- » **SIGNED TWO LONG-TERM PUBLIC RECREATIONAL ACCESS AGREEMENTS** with the BC Bike Race and the BC Wildlife Federation.
- » **DONATED \$200,000 TO THE TRANS CANADA TRAIL** for the Cowichan Valley Trail Rail Connector.
- » **CONTRIBUTED \$8.5 MILLION IN MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TAXES**, up 4% from 2017.

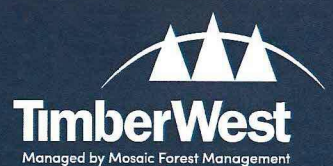
2019 MOSAIC INITIATIVES

- » **ONGOING FINANCIAL SUPPORT** for local community groups.
- » **TWO ADDITIONAL** long-term public recreational access agreements.
- » **CREATE A ONE-STOP ACCESS ONLINE PORTAL** for information about gate openings, campsites and other access opportunities on Mosaic lands.
- » **ESTABLISH ONE NEW CAMPSITE** to complement the existing 11 campsites already available to the public.
- » **PILOT A REGIONAL APPROACH TO ACCESS** with one regional district to identify and develop new opportunities.
- » **PRODUCE A SINGLE DONATION PLATFORM** for non-profits to easily submit applications.
- » **DEVELOP A FLAGSHIP PARTNERSHIP** with a community-based organization with far-reaching benefits.

A group of hikers is seen from behind, walking along a dirt trail through a lush forest. The hikers are wearing blue jackets and carrying backpacks. The forest is filled with tall evergreen trees and dense undergrowth. In the background, a misty mountain range is visible. A large, bold, yellow 'TimberWest' logo is superimposed over the center of the image.

TimberWest

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Gibsons General Mailbox

From: Prevention Initiatives <consult@bcombudsperson.ca>
Sent: June 20, 2019 11:55 AM
To: Gibsons General Mailbox
Subject: News from the Ombudsperson's Prevention Team

News from the Ombudsperson's Prevention Team

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years
1979-2019



News from the Ombudsperson's Prevention Team

Fairness 101 Online Course Now Available!

The Ombudsperson's Prevention Team is happy to introduce our online training program, *Fairness 101: An Introduction to Administrative Fairness*. This free, 1-hour online course provides participants with an overview of the principles of administrative fairness and teaches learners how to recognize and apply these principles in their work. It focuses on how to be fair when making and communicating decisions that directly

impact members of the public to ensure excellence in service delivery and prevent complaints from escalating.

This introductory course, based on our popular in-person *Fairness in Practice* workshop, is a key component of our office's prevention programming and serves as a foundation for all public sector employees, regardless of their role.

For more information, or to register visit <https://learn.bcombudsperson.ca/>.

Training and Education

The Prevention Team offers in-person training and education to help public bodies in B.C. embed fairness in the work they do. We deliver workshops that cover a range of topics including best practices in fair service delivery and complaint handling.

Fall 2019 workshop dates will be announced in July for Victoria, Richmond and Prince George. Watch for registration information and be sure to sign up early.

We can also tailor a training session specific to your organization's needs. If you would like to schedule a presentation, please provide at least one month of advance notice. We are a small team, but we will do our best to accommodate you.

Policy and Program Advice

We are here to provide advice and feedback to ensure your policies and procedures are fair. From making enforcement or eligibility decisions, to establishing review and appeal processes, we are here to help reduce potential complaints. With over 40 years of experience in complaint handling, we are also available to help develop or enhance complaint resolution processes for your organization. We have worked with various organizations, review authorities and tribunals to update their procedures.

Publications and Guides

Check out our [website](#) to access our guides and [Quick Tips](#) educational resources to help you be fair in your work. In addition, watch for news on our upcoming publication:

Fairness by Design: An Administrative Fairness Self-Assessment Guide. This guide will offer a set of fairness standards and a self-assessment checklist to help public bodies build fairness right into their programs and services.

If this e-mail was sent to you by a colleague and you're interested in signing up to receive updates from the team, please e-mail us at consult@bcombudsperson.ca to be added to our mailing list.

Prevention Initiatives Team
Office of the Ombudsperson
947 Fort Street
Victoria, B.C. Canada

Toll free: 1.800.567.3247
Phone: (250) 508.2950
Fax: (250) 387.0198

consult@bcombudsperson.ca

This message was sent to you because info@gibsons.ca is subscribed to the Prevention Initiatives Team mailing list.

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Mayor and Council

From: 22(1) FOIPPA >
Sent: June 20, 2019 7:42 AM
To: Mayor and Council
Cc: nicholas.simons.MLA@leg.bc.ca
Subject: Supportive housing. Old RCMP building

We have received a flyer pointing out various concerns regarding supportive housing.

The writers make a good case.

The location is so close to the schools why on earth can Habitat for Humanity not be offered the land? Kids=schools?

Please listen.

22(1) FOIPPA

Sent from my iPad

The National · The National Today

Politicians behaving badly: Rash of rudeness marks fading sense of civility in government



Newsletter: A closer look at the day's most notable stories

[Jonathon Gatehouse](#) · CBC News · Posted: Jun 21, 2019 2:30 PM ET | Last Updated: 3 hours ago



Footage from a London gala Thursday night appears to show Foreign Office Minister Mark Field, left, grabbing a climate change protester. (Reuters)

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TODAY:

- Civility seems to be in short supply in politics everywhere these days.
 - People weary of waiting for companies and governments to take serious action to curb contributors to climate change are taking their battle into the court system.
 - Missed *The National* last night? [Watch it here.](#)
-

Uncivil society

Politics is supposed to be an art of persuasion, but a lot of legislators seem to be falling back on cruder methods these days.

This morning, British MP Mark Field [was suspended from his job as a junior Foreign Office minister](#) following a physical confrontation with a female Greenpeace protester at a ritzy banquet in London last night.

A group of women, dressed in matching red ball gowns and wearing sashes emblazoned with the words "Climate Emergency," crashed a speech by Britain's Finance Minister Philip Hammond.

[Video of the event](#) shows the tuxedo-clad Field reaching out and shoving one of the women against a pillar as she tried to pass his chair. He then leapt up and grabbed her by the back of the neck and frog-marched her from the room as she objected that it was a "peaceful protest."

Footage from a London gala shows Foreign Office Minister Mark Field grabbing a climate change protester. 0:19

In the aftermath, [Field issued a statement claiming that he had been "genuinely worried" that the woman might have been armed](#), and apologizing for his actions.

Theresa May, the country's outgoing prime minister, reviewed the footage and suspended Field

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As the opposition spoke, Premier Jason Kenney walked around the government benches handing out earplugs — [reports differ on whether they were bright orange or hot pink](#) — and telling his MLAs that they were so "you don't have to listen to the comments from the NDP."

The United Conservative Party government defended the stunt as "harmless and light-hearted," but opposition and labour leaders were not amused.



Alberta Premier Jason Kenney, seen here in Montreal on June 12, raised eyebrows Thursday when he handed out earplugs during an all-night debate. (Ivanoh Demers/Radio-Canada)

Of course, decorum could be much worse.

Fistfights broke out in the **Afghan parliament** on Wednesday, as legislators [came to blows in](#)

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This week, supporters of Mir Rahman Rahmani, the man who won the internal vote, tried to forcibly put him in place — only to see their rivals destroy the speaker's desk and chair, and fling the pieces out into the hall.

Tensions also boiled over in South Africa's parliament this week, as MPs pushed and shoved each other [during an orientation and welcoming session for newly elected members](#).

Things got physical following a series of insults and taunts between government and opposition members. Although legislative punch-ups [are becoming commonplace in the country](#).

Hong Kong has also seen an outbreak of politician-on-politician violence. In mid-May, hard feelings over a proposed extradition law blew up into [a shouty scuffle in the legislative assembly](#), a prelude to the massive protests in the streets that continue today.

The United States, however, is arguably now the world leader in impolite politics.

Former White House advisor Hope Hicks, [who now works as the chief spokesperson and corporate communicator for Fox](#), spent eight hours stonewalling the House Judiciary Committee yesterday, [failing to answer 155 direct questions](#) on everything from the Mueller report to where her West Wing desk was located.



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Theiler/Reuters)

And this morning, [the House Intelligence Committee said it would issue a subpoena for another Trump associate](#), Felix Sater, after he failed to show up for a scheduled interview.

All of which pales in comparison with the current situation in Oregon, where Democratic Gov. Kate Brown has sent the State Police out to round up Republican senators [who fled the Capitol to try and delay the passage of a climate action plan](#).

The minority Republicans are dead set against new cap and trade measures that are meant to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions, and want to put them to voters in a referendum before they are passed into law.

Several appear to have crossed state lines in an effort to evade the cops.

And at least one sounds deadly serious about resisting arrest.

"Send bachelors and come heavily armed," Sen. Brian Boquist told reporters on Wednesday, before he peeled out of town. "I'm not going to be a political prisoner in the state of Oregon. It's just that simple."

So far, all of the missing Republicans remain at large.

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 - ***You may also like our early-morning newsletter, the Morning Brief — start the day with the news you need in one quick and concise read. [Sign up here](#).***
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New front line in climate change fight

People weary of waiting for companies and governments to take serious action

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Change Law [database](#) to see that courtrooms are a new frontier of climate activism.

"There's this growing wave of climate litigation all around the world, because communities who are often frustrated with the politics are going to the courts," says Keith Stewart, a senior energy strategist with Greenpeace Canada.

Greenpeace's Keith Stewart is watching closely as climate lawsuits are launched all around the world. 0:54

With more than 1,000 cases globally, the legal system is being leveraged in a variety of ways and by a diverse mix of plaintiffs.

In some cases, like the [City of New York vs. BP PLC](#), local governments are seeking damages from fossil fuel companies for climate change-related costs.

In others — like [Friends of the Irish Environment vs. Ireland](#) — the allegation is that fundamental human rights are being violated by government inaction.

In [Peru](#), it's an individual on the offensive. In Quebec, the [class action lawsuit](#) represents every resident aged 35 and under.

Climate litigation is trend we at *The National* have been watching [for some time](#), and the CBC News *In Our Backyard* series provided a great opportunity to dig into the who, why and how of climate change as a justice issue. That story — with reporter Duncan McCue — will air tonight, and you can read his feature here:

- **READ: [Why environmentalists are taking their climate fight to Canadian courtrooms](#)**

Through interviews in Toronto, Montreal and Victoria, Duncan digs into why some activists think litigation is a critical tool in the fight against climate change, and why others say it's simply not the best approach. Like mayor Lisa Helps of Victoria.

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Victoria's mayor Lisa Helps says she is committed to fighting climate change, but that lawsuits aren't the way to do it. (Jill English/CBC)

"As Canadians, we have a responsibility to have productive dialogue, rather than throwing stones and starting lawsuits," she told us. "A climate action lawsuit would be a giant swath of legal resources ... there are much more important things we need to do with our limited time and limited resources."

That includes initiatives from improving public transit, to creating bike-friendly streets, to retrofitting buildings.

Municipal action is something else we wanted to explore for *In Our Backyard*, so we also went to the place aspiring to be the world's greenest city — Vancouver — for a panel discussion

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This story is part of a CBC News series entitled [In Our Backyard](#), which looks at the effects climate change is having in Canada, from extreme weather events to how it's reshaping our economy:

- EDITOR'S NOTE: [Why CBC News is doing a series on climate change](#)
- EXPLAINER: [What is climate change?](#)
- INTERACTIVE: cbc.ca/inourbackyard
- READ: ['It's a problem for society': Climate change is making some homes uninsurable](#)
- READ: [How climate change is thawing the 'glue that holds the northern landscape together'](#)
- READ: [Manitoba's new 'utility scale' solar farm aims to spark First Nations interest in green energy](#)

Quote of the moment

"We were cocked & loaded to retaliate last night on 3 different sights when I asked, how many will die. 150 people, sir, was the answer from a General. 10 minutes before the strike I stopped it, ... not proportionate to shooting down an unmanned drone."

- U.S. President **Donald Trump** explains, [via Twitter](#), why he backed off a planned military strike against Iran last night.



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U.S. President Donald Trump in the Oval Office on Thursday with Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, centre, and National Security Advisor John Bolton, both of whom have been portrayed as more hawkish in their stance toward Iran than the president. (Mandel Ngan/AFP/Getty Images)

What The National is reading

- President Donald Trump faces new rape allegation ([NYMagazine](#))
- Russia's \$180 billion plan to own the Arctic ([CBC](#))
- Novichok victim: "We're being kept in the dark" ([Guardian](#))
- UN food agency suspends delivery to Yemeni capital ([CBC](#))
- No let-up as extradition bill protestors lay siege to Hong Kong police HQ ([South China Morning Post](#))
- At least 30 dead in fire at Indonesia matchstick factory ([Reuters](#))
- Being transgender at Goldman Sachs ([NYTimes](#))
- Walmart uses AI cameras to spot thieves ([BBC](#))
- Man who faked blindness for eight years is caught after driving ([Sky News](#))

Today in history

June 21, 1976: Lloyd Robertson leaves CBC for CTV

"It's not the money," **Lloyd Robertson** says of his decision to switch networks. But with a 10-year, \$1 million deal in hand, that was surely part of it. In a revealing interview with *Take 30*, the anchorman doesn't bother to hide his frustration with "overlapping union jurisdictions" that conspired to keep him behind a desk in the studio, rather than out in the field hosting and

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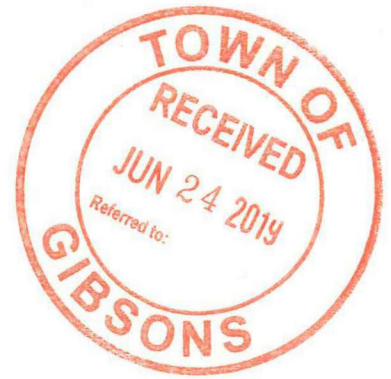
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Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

June 21, 2019



His Worship Mayor Bill Beamish
Town of Gibsons
PO Box 340
474 Fletcher Rd S
Gibsons BC V0N 1V0

Your Worship:

I had such a great time with everyone during my recent visit to the Sunshine Coast and enjoyed meeting the great team behind the charming town of Gibsons. There are so many interesting projects going on, and you must be proud to represent such friendly and conscientious people who give back to their community so earnestly.

Thank you so much for the book titled *Views of the Salish Sea* by Howard MacDonald Stewart, and *The Beachcombers at 40* by Marc Strange and Jackson Davies. I also love the nostalgic TShirt of the Beachcombers television show. Please extend my thanks to Jackson Davies for signing his book and for the note inside. They will all serve as mementos of the friendly community of Gibsons.

Again, thank you and best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

The Honourable Janet Austin, OBC
Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

*Thanks so much for
your kind hospitality!*

Mayor and Council

From: 22(1) FOIPPA >
Sent: June 21, 2019 3:54 PM
To: PAM.GOLDSMITH-JONES@PARL.GC.CA
Cc: Nicholas Simons; Mayor and Council
Subject: Supportive Housing.

I, 22(1) FOIPPA of 22(1) FOIPPA Road in Gibsons, would like to express my concern regarding the proposed supportive housing in the the old RCMP building on School Road.

I am very supportive of housing for the homeless, but I strongly disagree with the suggested site.

This building and housing is not appropriate in a residential neighbourhood.

I also feel strongly that it will be a health and safety hazard for the elementary and high school children. The proposed apartment is within approximately 100 meters from an elementary school.

Gibsons Elementary School will have young children walk by a building where drugs are used as well as accompanying paraphernalia lying about.

In our community we also have active but vulnerable seniors living close by and using the pathways that will be within a short distance from the housing.

A 4 story building is completely out of character for our community, and does not meet the Official Community Plan.

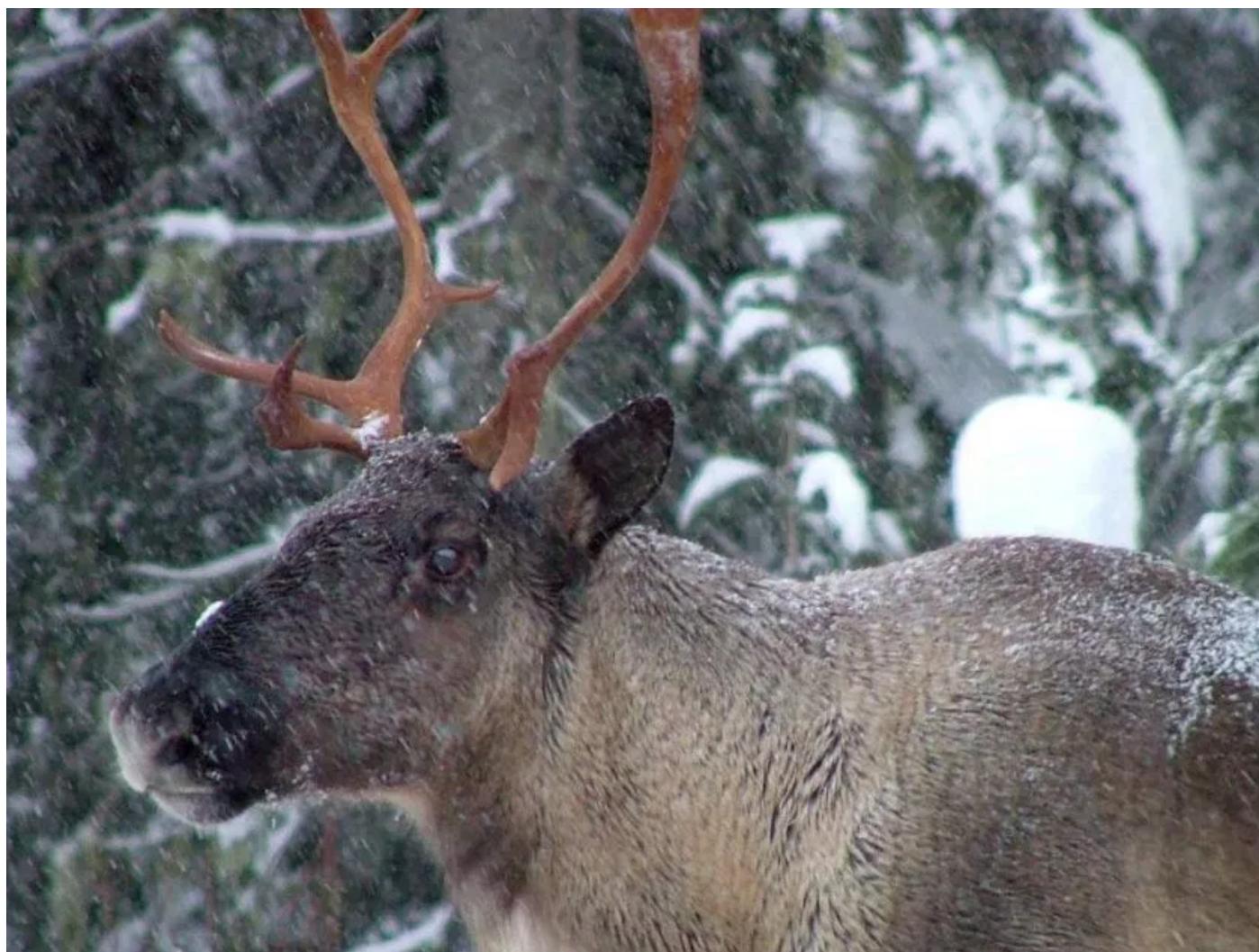
Please keep me posted when meetings for re- zoning applications are scheduled.

Yours truly, 22(1) FOIPPA

Vaughn Palmer: Botched caribou plan leaves divisions that can't be easily healed

OPINION: After hearing that the plan was in more trouble with the community than he'd realized, the premier has hedged his bets.

VAUGHN PALMER Updated: June 21, 2019



A member of the Southern Selkirk caribou herd moving north through the Selkirk Mountains. *GARRY BEAUDRY / THE CANADIAN PRESS*

VICTORIA — Premier John Horgan's caribou rescue plan for the Northeast remained in need of a rescue of its own Thursday, after the release of a damning report from his personal liaison, Blair Lekstrom.

"As worthy as the goal of caribou recovery is to all of us, the method that has led us to this point was, simply put, a mistake," wrote Lekstrom. "There has been a feeling of broken trust and I hope to be able to present a path forward that helps us build trust."

The plan and a partnership agreement with two First Nations were negotiated in secret by the provincial and federal governments over a period of 18 months, then presented to the public as a fait accompli.

The secrecy, coupled with a round of take-it-or-leave-it public consultations, fuelled suspicions that protection of caribou habitat meant widespread job losses in forestry and closure of the backcountry to snowmobilers and others.

Horgan recruited Lekstrom, a former B.C. Liberal cabinet minister and current councillor in Dawson Creek, after admitting ("my bad") the New Democrats had botched the public handling of the plan.

The premier hoped Lekstrom could get the plan back on track in relatively short order.

"What we want to accomplish in the next six weeks is to dial down the concern in the community and get back to that harmonious family atmosphere you have in the Peace country," he told reporters April 15.

Lekstrom made the end-of-May deadline with the report released Thursday, including 14 recommendations for getting things back on track.

But he was unable to report that harmony had been restored in the Peace country.

Instead the relationship between the non-Aboriginal community and First Nations remains troubled. "I'm not going to say it's broken, but it has a crack right now," Lekstrom told reporters in Vancouver.

Lekstrom's report detailed his own difficulties trying to bridge the gap.

As Horgan's personal liaison, he was able to discuss the implications of the rescue plan with about two dozen representatives of local government, community, industry, environmental and other interests.

After listing all those consultations, the report adds: "Unfortunately, a meeting with West Moberly First Nations and Saulneau First Nations was not able to be secured."

Those two being the First Nations that were parties to the behind-closed-door negotiations that produced the rescue plan and the partnership agreement.

RELATED

B.C. imposes interim moratorium on resource development to protect caribou (<https://vancouversun.com/pmnn/news-pmn/canada-news-pmn/b-c-imposes-interim-moratorium-on-resource-development-to-protect-caribou/wcm/8be40066-fc17-4cd4-a70b-cddfd68d76f3>)

Vaughn Palmer: Premier does damage control after 'clumsy' work on caribou rescue plan (<https://vancouversun.com/opinion/columnists/vaughn-palmer-premier-does-damage-control-after-clumsy-work-on-caribou-rescue-plan>)

Robert Bateman and Vicky Husband: Like B.C. Liberals, NDP failing to protect caribou (<https://vancouversun.com/opinion/op-ed/robert-bateman-and-vicky-husband-like-b-c-liberals-ndp-failing-to-protect-caribou>)

Listen to In The House: What does Ottawa's TMX approval mean for Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's chances to win B.C. seats in the upcoming federal election? Plus, Rob and Mike look at how the B.C. government subtly shifted its tone on the project.



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via Stitcher (<https://www.stitcher.com/podcast/the-province/in-the-house-with-michael-smyth>)

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Lekstrom hoped a meeting with West Moberly and Saulneau could sort out a disagreement over the impact of the plan on forest jobs and mill operations.

West Moberly Chief Roland Willson and Saulneau Chief Ken Cameron were both on record as denying the plan would mean mill closures or a loss of jobs.

“I accept that both chiefs felt they were correct in their statements based on the information that they had, but that is not what I was hearing from either industry, the provincial government, or the federal government,” wrote Lekstrom. “All have indicated that there will be job losses occur as a result of (the plan). I felt there must be some disconnect somewhere in the information being shared.”

He was never able to get it sorted out because he never got to sit down and talk with the two Indigenous leaders.

“We were unable after numerous attempts to try and secure that date in that meeting,” Lekstrom told reporters. “Yes, it was somewhat disappointing. I think the key as we move through this process is to ensure engagement takes place.”

The two First Nations may have been put off by an appalling, racist backlash on social media, as Lekstrom admitted and which he also deplored.

Horgan also noted that West Moberly and Sauleau had already secured a signed partnership agreement, which the New Democrats are pledged to uphold, come what may on the consultations.

“Sauleau and West Moberly have an agreement that they’ve reached with two orders of government and they, I assume, felt that discussions with Blair — beyond those that they had in the past as friends and neighbours — was not necessary,” said the premier.

“We have spoken with them since the report’s been received and they remain anxious to protect caribou. I’m confident that now that the report has been issued and our path forward is clearer, that we’ll have a better opportunity to reset the dialogue in the community.”

On those expectations, Horgan explicitly endorsed only one of the Lekstrom recommendations — a call for a temporary moratorium on new resource development in the most sensitive areas of caribou habitat.

He then announced that Lekstrom would be kept on for at least the summer to try to continue his outreach to the community.

But after hearing that the plan was in more trouble with the community than he’d realized, the premier hedged his bets.

His “temporary” moratorium will be extended for as much as the next two years to give the New Democrats “maximum space” for continued discussions on the plan.

Nevertheless, he hopes “in a short period of time to be in a position where the two orders of government — federal, provincial — Indigenous communities and non-Indigenous communities will have a way forward that meets the needs, most importantly, of the caribou but also strikes the balance the community genuinely wants to get back to.

"It's a two-year period (but) we don't anticipate it'll be in place that long," he added to the distant sound of a can being kicked down the road.

vpalmer@postmedia.com (mailto:vpalmer@postmedia.com).

TRENDING IN CANADA

0.

Pine beetles and fire forestry sector | Var

B.C.'s Interior timber supply is shrinking.



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This Week's Flyers



Hover for Flyer



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Reschedule Vancouver fireworks if air quality poor? Not so fast

The city shouldn't be adding any more ingredients to the "toxic soup" during wildfire season, says Kitsilano resident Judith Maxie

GLENDALUYMES ([HTTPS://VANCOUVERSUN.COM/AUTHOR/GLENDALUYMES](https://vancouver.sun.com/author/glendaluymes)) Updated: June 21, 2019

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When wildfire smoke settles over English Bay this summer, as experts predict (<https://vancouver.sun.com/health/local-health/will-this-be-another-summer-of-wildfire-smoke-and-poor-air-quality>) it will, there's not much Vancouver can do about it.

But the city shouldn't be adding any more ingredients to the "toxic soup," says Kitsilano resident Judith Maxie, who wants council to reschedule fireworks events if the air quality is poor.

"You don't have to be a scientist to see that tossing all those fireworks into the soup isn't a good thing," she said Thursday. "This is something we can actually change."

Maxie doesn't want to ban fireworks altogether — "over the years we've loved attending them," she said — but wants the city to hold events like the [Honda Celebration of Light \(https://hondacelebrationoflight.com/?utm_source=loknow&utm_medium=googleads&gclid=CjwKCAjw3azoBRAXEiwA-_64OgCDxZA_dhX5I6vGUkLeICz5lo6pZPIIqilzNePP8ocjJss91USffxoCuqkQAvD_BwE\)](https://hondacelebrationoflight.com/?utm_source=loknow&utm_medium=googleads&gclid=CjwKCAjw3azoBRAXEiwA-_64OgCDxZA_dhX5I6vGUkLeICz5lo6pZPIIqilzNePP8ocjJss91USffxoCuqkQAvD_BwE) at a different time of year, or put a contingency plan in place in case it's smoky during the annual [Canada Day fireworks \(https://www.canadaplace.ca/events/canada-day/fireworks/\)](https://www.canadaplace.ca/events/canada-day/fireworks/).

Dr. Christopher Carlsten said he considers fireworks pollution "a significant issue," particularly for people who are sensitive to poor air quality. A number of case reports have shown an increase in asthma attacks and irritation in people with lung disease during fireworks events.

"There's not a lot of good defences for them in a health sense," said the Vancouver physician. "If we're just talking about health, I'd say don't do it." But the University of B.C. professor and head of respiratory medicine admitted that argument doesn't factor in the "cultural equation" or the enjoyment derived from the spectacle.

Carlsten, who holds the Canada research chair in occupational and environmental lung disease, said much of the research on fireworks pollution has been done in countries where festivals last for days and fine particulate pollution accumulates at ground level.

"It's quite clear that fireworks do affect air quality, but in Canada the events do tend to be short," he said.



Vancouver's Honda Celebration of Light show. 'It's quite clear that fireworks do affect air quality, but in Canada the events do tend to be short,' says Dr. Christopher Carlsten, a UBC professor and head of respiratory medicine. *FRANCIS GEORGIAN / PNG FILES*

University of B.C. public health professor Dr. Michael Brauer said Vancouver's fireworks shows happen high above the ground, which can help the particulate dissipate sooner, especially if wind conditions are favourable.

"It's a transient increase," he said of the rise in fine particulate pollutants associated with fireworks. "For most people, it shouldn't be a concern, but for those with asthma or heart and lung concerns, it would be best to minimize exposure."

Metro Vancouver air quality advisor Geoff Doerksen said pollution from fireworks is "short-lived and dissipates quickly," and most years it doesn't reach the ground. Any localized impacts to air quality tend to return to normal levels within a few hours.

Doerksen advised people who are concerned to avoid viewing areas and close their windows if they live in the area.

In a statement, the City of Vancouver said it did not receive any complaints about air quality during last year's fireworks events and "is not considering cancelling or rescheduling fireworks that occur on Canada Day or at the Celebration of Lights."

The summers of 2017 and 2018 were the worst on record (<http://www.metrovancouver.org/media-room/media-releases/air-quality/581/air-quality-expected-to-improve-by-2035-despite-more-vehicles-on-the-road>) for smoky skies across B.C.

In Metro Vancouver, there were 22 days last July and August under air-quality advisories, three more than in the summer of 2017.

The last two summers have far exceeded the number of advisories issued in any other year since 1996, the first year for which data is available. Several years, including 2016, had zero air-quality advisories.

In 2015, a U.S. study published in Atmospheric Environment (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1352231015301369>) found that levels of fine particulate matter are elevated in urban areas by an average of 42 per cent during the 24-hour period starting with a fireworks event.

"That was a national average across 315 monitoring sites; it actually varies from place to place and year to year," lead author Dian Seidel, a senior scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, told Postmedia at the time.

One monitoring station located near the site of a display registered a 370-per-cent increase in fine particles.

Meanwhile, a study led by researchers from the University of Montreal (http://www.medsp.umontreal.ca/IRSPUM_DB/pdf/21516.pdf) took recorded PM2.5 concentrations as much as 1,000 times normal on single readings within the smoke plume.



Dr. Christopher Carlsten.

Readings from monitoring stations set up at “breathing level” near the ground showed PM2.5 concentrations about 50 times normal levels during the display. Elevated concentrations of fine particles were detected as far away as 14 kilometres, suggesting the particles remain in the atmosphere for “a long period of time,” probably days.

With Postmedia files

RELATED

Particle pollutants spike after fireworks shows, studies show

(<https://vancouversun.com/news/staff-blogs/particle-pollutants-spike-after-fireworks-shows-studies-show>)

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As Canada's habitats disappear, conservation needs to start on our doorstep

Many of Canada's threatened species live in its most populated provinces. Saving the pockets of green space that surround us could help preserve it

IVAN SEMENIUK > SCIENCE REPORTER

PUBLISHED 3 DAYS AGO

27 COMMENTS



The South Cameron woodlot is one of the last remaining enclaves of wild habitat in Windsor, Ont., and several threatened species make their homes there. Kaitlin Kennedy, 31, shown in the woodlot with her 10-month-old daughter, Quinn Middleton, launched a petition to protect it from development after the province lifted its 'significant

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Located in Windsor, Ont., the woodlot consists of 0.6 square kilometres of mature trees and undergrowth where water pools in springtime and where threatened species such as Butler's garter snake and willowleaf aster can sometimes be spotted. Surrounded on all sides by suburban homes and city streets, it is a tiny remnant of the lush hardwood forests that blanketed the region centuries ago.

In March, Windsor's mayor, Drew Dilkens, announced that the Ontario government had lifted a "significant wetland" designation from part of the woodlot, effectively freeing it up for development into high-end residential properties. In a Facebook post, Mr. Dilkens thanked Ontario Premier Doug Ford, whom he had personally lobbied for the change.

Ms. Kennedy, who works for a local pharmaceutical company and has a graduate degree in biology, couldn't believe what she was reading. Why would a municipality with only 8 per cent tree cover and an environmental plan that prioritizes the need for more green space give up one of its last remaining pockets of wild habitat – not to mention destroy a natural buffer for storm water in a region where heavy rains and flooded basements are endemic?

"A decision based on land use is not looking at the big picture," she said. "It's important to protect the natural landscape."

Many residents agreed. Ms. Kennedy launched an online petition to preserve the woodlot that quickly amassed nearly 10,000 names. James Morrison, the city councillor whose ward includes the site, has also taken up the fight. As many as 200 property owners hold a piece of the woodlot, he said. To save it all, the city will need to buy them out – a scenario that the mayor said would cost millions.

At this point, the fate of the woodlot is unclear as the city proceeds to map the area and sort out who owns what. But the case illustrates a larger issue at the heart of efforts to conserve nature in Canada.

On one hand, the country is huge – nearly 10 million square kilometres – including the vast boreal forest and the sweeping Arctic tundra beyond. And while studies suggest that much of this northern wilderness is inadequately protected, it remains, for now, relatively intact.

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the native habitat has been plowed under to make room for intensive agriculture or paved over by urban growth.

The data back up this assessment. Of the more than 700 species of plants and animals that are listed or recommended for listing under the federal Species at Risk Act, the largest numbers are found in the most populated provinces. British Columbia, which has the most diverse range of ecosystems owing to rainfall and elevation, tops the list at 295, more than 100 of which are found within Vancouver alone. In terms of geographic distribution, threatened species map almost exactly onto the most densely settled or farmed areas of the country.

“This is where we will either win or lose the fight to conserve the majority of Canadian species – and where we as citizens have to take responsibility,” said Jeremy Kerr, a biologist at the University of Ottawa who specializes in biodiversity loss.

Vanishing habitat is the reason most species end up listed. In southern Canada, much of the habitat that once existed is now private land where the federal species law does not apply, except where it pertains to aquatic species and migratory birds.

All of this puts little-known places such as the South Cameron woodlot at the fulcrum of Canada's conservation efforts.

At a national level, it turns out that saving species is not something that can be accomplished only by setting aside wilderness areas in remote parts of the country that few people will ever see.

For conservation to succeed, Canadians need to find ways to better integrate human spaces with the wilderness that is on the doorstep.

“If we really want to protect nature, we need to protect it all around us and in between us,” said Lenore Fahrig, a landscape ecologist at Carleton University in Ottawa. “And people need to understand there's potential for that everywhere.”

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Land Use

Heavily settled/agriculture
Resource extraction
Intact wilderness/
least affected

0 500 1,000
km

Species at risk

High: 62
Number of threatened
species populations
Low: 1

0 500 1,000

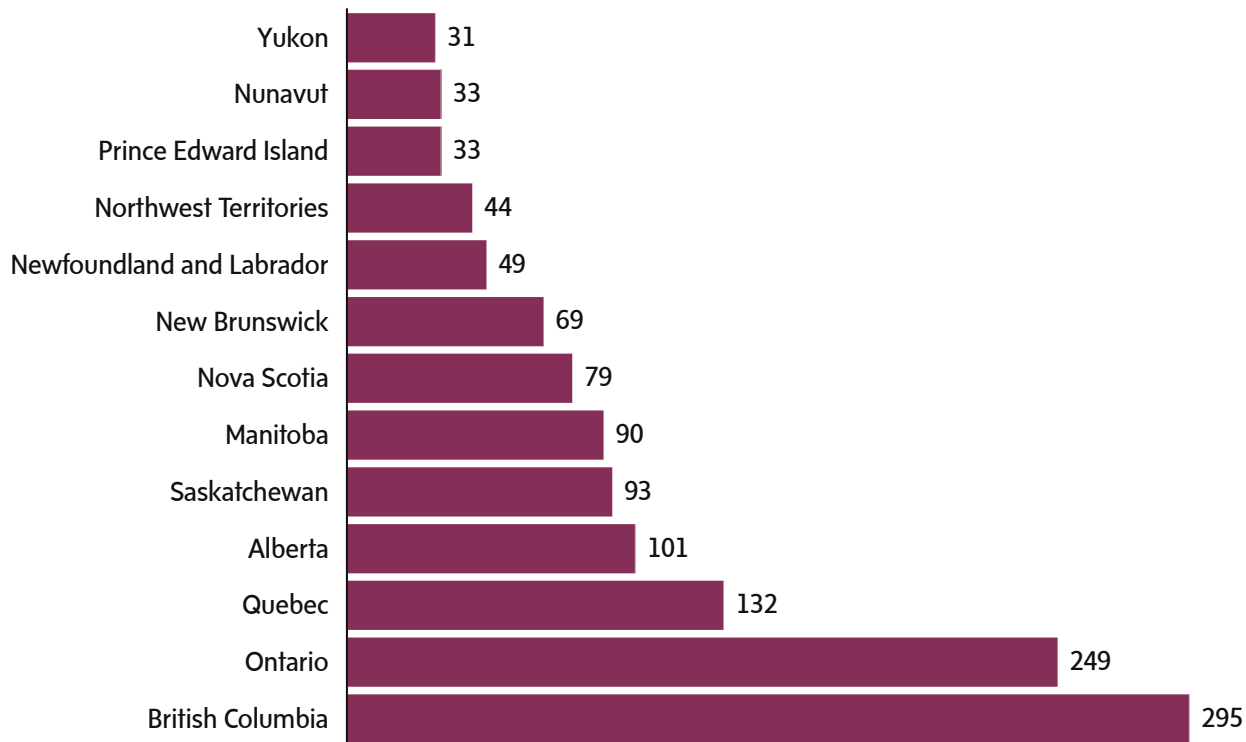
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Numbers of threatened species populations that are listed, or recommend for listing, by province or territory.



THE GLOBE AND MAIL, SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF ENDANGERED WILDLIFE IN CANADA

DATA SHARE

Canada is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, which includes the provision, adopted in 2010, that member countries designate at least 17 per cent of their land area for habitat and species protection by the end of 2020. In response to the looming deadline, the federal budget last year included a \$1.3-billion allocation to accelerate conservation.

Not surprisingly, much of the new funding has been aimed at the least developed parts of the country, including northern and Indigenous lands where the federal government is looking to set aside enough natural space to meet the target. Places that are under consideration for protection tend to feature size and connectivity, and give species room to move and to support large populations of wildlife.

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In April, Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna announced the \$100-million Natural Heritage Conservation Program, which is aimed at landowners who are seeking to donate or manage their property for its ecological benefit. The program offers one dollar for every two that is raised or donated for conservation through third-party organizations, including the Nature Conservancy of Canada and other land trusts that seek to buy up and preserve parcels of native habitat. Although the federal government has offered similar assistance in the past, in this case, the program is aimed specifically at places where species at risk are found.

Collectively, the program's objective is to protect an additional 2,000 square kilometres toward Canada's 17-per-cent target. In terms of overall area, this does not amount to much. What matters more is where the money is applied, simply because there is so little habitat left where it is needed most.

Dan Kraus, senior conservation biologist with the Nature Conservancy, is working on an assessment for all of southern Canada that will help identify areas of critical habitat where species conservation can be most effective. Priority places include those that can connect parcels of native habitat and reduce the chance that a species will be extirpated (eliminated from Canada) when it becomes hemmed in to just a few vulnerable locations.

"I think we're recognizing now that isolated parks and protected areas are not enough to capture the biodiversity of an entire region," he said.

But while emphasizing connectivity may help threatened species be more resilient, Dr. Fahrig says that it should not be taken as a reason to disregard small pockets of nature that are not connected to anything. On the contrary, such places could be more important than their size and isolation suggest because they offer a final redoubt for some populations of plants and animals in a particular region.

To some extent, this runs contrary to the emphasis on protecting large, undivided natural spaces. The debate is known by its acronym, SLOSS, for "single large or several small." Dr. Fahrig maintains that while it's always better to conserve more habitat than less, it needn't be

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Because of the sheer amount of natural habitat such a scheme would bring to human-dominated landscapes, “I think that would go a lot farther than searching for specific places that we think are bigger or most connected,” she added.

The idea is not far-fetched, said Faisal Moola, an environmental policy expert at the University of Guelph who was involved with the development of Canada’s first urban national park in Toronto’s Rouge River Valley. He added that cities should be leveraging their local geography to create networks of green space at the scale of individual lots and neighbourhoods that connect to larger corridors and spaces for nature on a regional scale.

“We need to create incentives for private landowners to commit more of their personal property to biodiversity-friendly forms of urban development,” Dr. Moola said.

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is now part of the nation's first urban national park, the largest of its kind in North America.

While awareness is growing about the need to conserve habitat beyond the boundaries of national parks, it is also the case that in populated regions of Canada, small pockets of habitat are continuing to vanish without notice.

Jenny McCune, a plant ecologist at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, recalled a study conducted in 2017 in rural eastern Ontario that involved visiting woodlots that had been surveyed some 20 years earlier for rare and endangered plants.

“In a bunch of the ones that we went to, there was no forest there anymore,” she said.

The reason, she added, is simple economics. In many areas, the cost of buying prime farmland is greater than the cost of clearing a stand of trees and removing the stumps. What is missing are incentives to keep natural habitat intact. The same applies to more urban areas.

The relatively high price of land in populated areas means the Nature Conservancy has to prioritize purchases it makes on a limited budget. But even in those places, the approach still requires landowners to get on board with conservation. Often, the prerequisite is an emotional attachment to a property that goes beyond its commercial value.

For example, over the past six months, the Conservancy has announced donations of land in Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Manitoba, all of which meet the criteria of the Natural Heritage Conservation Program. All were given in memory of family members connected to those sites. In other cases, the donors have continued to participate by looking after the natural spaces they have elected to preserve.

John Caraberis, a Nova Scotia businessman who has donated land in the Pugwash River estuary and persuaded others to do the same, said that for him, the calculation was a simple

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But setting aside donated or purchased land for conservation still leaves another problem: what to do in places where land can't be left alone because it's involved in agricultural production?

For Bryan Gilvesy, chief executive officer of ALUS Canada, the answer is to make farmers part of the solution. His not-for-profit organization (its acronym stands for Alternate Land Use Services) pays farmers to repurpose the marginal land they might otherwise cultivate and, instead, put it to work providing ecosystem services.

"The farmers are taking that acreage and managing it for an environmental purpose," Mr. Gilvesy said. The effort now involves some 23,000 acres across Canada, the equivalent of a small national park.

In southwestern Ontario, for example, the program has contracted farmers to allow meadows to grow on lands that are near rivers and streams. These areas absorb runoff from nearby fields and take up excess nitrogen and phosphorus from fertilizer that would otherwise end up promoting algae blooms in Lake Erie. At the same time, the meadows create natural habitat for pollinators and other species.

"The beneficial insects show up in large numbers and high diversity within the first year," said Andrew MacDougall, a conservation biologist at the University of Guelph who has measured the impact of the program on the landscape. In subsequent years, he said, the tall grasses develop a root network that acts as a nutrient sponge and then begins locking carbon into the soil.

Though the total amount of working farmland that can be allocated this way is small, it can have an outsized effect by restoring habitat for a relatively low cost. It also points to a future era of "precision farming," in which areas that have ideal soil composition for cost-effective food production are identified and cultivated, while neighbouring areas that are not worth the economic and environmental cost of additional fertilizer and pesticides are left in a natural state.

Dr. Fahrig said her research suggests that wilderness areas need not be large to promote

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worked farmland, rather than grouped into a single clump to make room for large areas of single-crop cultivation.

And old farmhouse lies next to a creek in Mount St. Patrick, Ont. Some Southwestern Ontario farmers are signing on to a program to let meadows grow on land near rivers and streams to help the ecosystems there.

DAVE CHAN/THE GLOBE AND MAIL

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many cases, has not permeated the legal and political framework that determines land use in local and regional governments across the country.

In some instances, the tax system works perversely against conservation, says Peter Arcese, a conservation scientist at the University of British Columbia. He notes that along B.C.'s coastal lower mainland, property owners can receive a tax reduction for keeping land agricultural – for example, by grazing cattle – but the incentive would not apply if the landowner instead allowed native forest to regrow on the property.

Dr. Arcese, who has studied tax-shifting schemes that benefit nature, said the system is a relic from the colonial era when land in its natural state was viewed as unproductive. What is needed, he said, is a change to the tax laws in B.C. that extends the notion of productivity to storing carbon and the other ecosystem services a landscape can provide.

Provincial governments, because of their jurisdiction over natural resources, typically have more direct control than Ottawa over the fate of species and habitat in much of the country, and their record is mixed.

Earlier this month, the government under Ontario Premier Ford passed an omnibus housing bill that loosens rules on species protection, and reduces the power of local conservation authorities to protect and enhance habitat if municipal governments don't co-operate. While it is too early to say how the changes will play out, Deborah Martin-Downs, a biologist who heads up the Credit Valley Conservation Authority west of Toronto, is concerned that the bill's emphasis on land use risks "taking us back to where we were 30 or 40 years ago."

Dr. Moola said governments at all levels need to be thinking about a three-step process that begins with saving whatever habitat is left, restoring habitat that exists but has been degraded by invasive species and human impact, and then looking to increase habitat wherever possible.

For too long, he said, the developed parts of Canada have been viewed as a landscape of regret that people travel away from in order to experience nature.

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Back in Windsor, Kaitlin Kennedy said she feels motivated to keep the South Cameron woodlot intact both for the services it provides the city and for its value to future generations, including her own one-year-old daughter.

Mayor Dilkens told The Globe and Mail he is focusing on conservation in other parts of the city. Any private owner who wishes to pursue development in the woodlot will still need to meet all provincial and [Essex Region] Conservation Authority requirements, he said. "This won't be easy to satisfy in this area, but it's not impossible."

Richard Wyma, who heads up the Essex Region authority, which includes Windsor, said the personal connection that residents feel toward the woodlot will ultimately determine what happens to it. He added that natural spaces that are close to home serve a purpose beyond their ecological value. By keeping nature present in peoples' lives, they make broader discussion about the environment and its benefits seem less remote and abstract.

"The number one thing is to get out and explore these areas," said Mr. Wyma. "It's really important that people form an attachment to these places, because if they're not using them, then that's when the problems come."

Ivan Semeniuk on biodiversity: More from our archives

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CHAIR



Sarah Batut, Partner, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP, Vancouver, BC. Sarah has comprehensive experience in real estate transactions including acquisitions and sales, subdivisions (including airspace subdivisions), development of mixed-use, commercial and residential projects and commercial leasing. Sarah also has experience in various corporate and commercial practices. She is on the Executive Board of the Vancouver Bar Association, and is a member of the CBA's Real Property Section, the International Council of

Shopping Centers and the Commercial Real Estate Women's Network. Sarah is a regular presenter for PBLI.

FACULTY



Allyson Baker, Partner, Clark Wilson LLP, Vancouver, BC. Allyson's practice focuses primarily on the areas of infrastructure and strata property. When working through these issues, Allyson tries to convert complex concepts into simplified terms, which allows her clients to make informed decisions that bring success. Her goal is to draft her clients' documents in a way that minimizes potential problems during the implementation of her clients' endeavours. Allyson also has over 15 years of experience as a litigator, and

knows what is involved and what is at stake in going to trial. With the amendments to the Strata Property Act allowing for winding up with a reduced owner approval threshold, Allyson and Clark Wilson LLP have been working a number of strata corporations as they work their way through the winding up process. Allyson is a member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Canadian Council for Public Private Partnerships, and a board member for the Condominium Homeowners Association and the Developmental Disabilities Association of Vancouver-Richmond. She is also a co-editor of the CLE Strata Property Act Practice Manual and author or co-author of the chapters regarding rentals, insurance, employment and duty to repair.



David Curtis, Partner, Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP, Vancouver, BC. David practises in the areas of litigation and dispute resolution, with a primary focus on the construction industry. Clients seek David's counsel primarily on his construction litigation expertise, as well as with mediations and commercial arbitrations. He also has experience in commercial litigation cases in the Supreme Court of British Columbia and the Court of Appeal for British Columbia. David also practises in the area of energy law, where he acts

in applications to the British Columbia Utilities Commission and other tribunals involving the regulation of thermal energy systems, district energy systems, electricity transmission, compliance with mandatory reliability standards, and natural gas.



Alex Fane, Partner, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP, Vancouver, BC. Alexander Fane works with clients on a variety of legal matters related to complex real estate development projects with specific experience in navigating the requirements of the *Real Estate Development Marketing Act* (British Columbia). He represents a broad range of clients from developers to governmental agencies and health authorities. Mr. Fane is the co-chair of the Canadian Bar Association Real Property Subsection and has written several

articles on the evolution of the *Real Estate Development Marketing Act* (British Columbia). He has been recommended in the area of Property Development in the *Canadian Legal Expert Directory*.



Mark V. Lewis, Partner, Bennett Jones LLP, Vancouver, BC. Mark Lewis' real estate practice focuses on transactions and development work but also includes leasing and construction financing matters. His experience includes work on complex residential, seniors housing, commercial, industrial and resort developments. He regularly advises developers on disclosure compliance issues for the sale and marketing of residential real estate. He is ranked in *Chambers Canada* for Real Estate in British Columbia and is consistently

recommended for Property Development in *The Canadian Legal Expert Directory*. Since the introduction of the BC Real Estate Development Marketing Act in 2005, Mark has authored the Development Marketing chapter of CLE BC's Real Estate Development Practice Manual, and joined the Manual's editorial board in 2017. Mark has served on the board of the Urban Development Institute Pacific Region (UDI), and chaired UDI's Legal Issues Committee, since 2012.



Sarah McCalla, Associate, Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP, Vancouver, BC. Sarah McCalla practises dispute resolution and litigation. She assists clients and senior lawyers on a variety of matters, including commercial litigation, forestry issues, and municipal planning. She has appeared before the Provincial Court of British Columbia and the Supreme Court of British Columbia after law school. During law school, Ms. McCalla volunteered

with the Law Students' Legal Advice Program and Pro Bono Students Canada. She is the recipient of scholarships and prizes in advocacy, environmental law, family law, fisheries law, and labour law.



Andrew Ramlo, Vice President Market Intelligence, Rennie Group, Vancouver, BC. Known as one of Canada's most respected demographers and planning consultants, Andy Ramlo has over two decades of experience conducting evidence-based demographic, economic, and housing market research. As VP Market Intelligence for Rennie, Andy and his team provide data-based insight, analysis, and strategy to the team internally, and externally to a range of private and public sector clients as well as the broader real estate industry. Prior to his role at Rennie, Andy was Executive Director of Urban Futures, where he worked with many of the country's leading investors, retailers, and developers.

In 2010 Andy was recognized as one of Business in Vancouver's Top 40 under 40 for his vital contributions to the local business community, and he is currently the President of the Planning Institute of BC.



Vicki Tickle, Partner, McMillan LLP, Vancouver, BC. Vicki is a partner in McMillan's Restructuring and Insolvency Group and has practised in the commercial insolvency field in Australia, England and Canada. Vicki works with a wide range of clients, including lenders, insolvency professionals, challenged companies, suppliers, directors and officers, and other stakeholders, both in Canada and internationally. Vicki works actively to promote and encourage women working in the insolvency and restructuring

area and is the immediate Past Chair of the Western Canada Network of the International

HOT TOPICS IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

The commercial real estate sector is complex and dynamic. Economic realities require new and creative approaches to sourcing, development and structuring in order for participants to stay competitive and innovate for growth. At the same time, the legal and regulatory environments are evolving and compliance is becoming more nuanced. To stay ahead of the curve, advisors, developers and other industry participants must keep informed of current trends and opportunities, as well as changes in the governing law.

This one-day program brings together an esteemed group of experts to guide you through the legal and regulatory tangle and offer creative strategies to stay competitive in an aggressive market. Participants will gain a better understanding of the current climate and learn practical and proactive strategies to successfully navigate their commercial real estate projects.

KEY AREAS ADDRESSED:

- Developments in case law and legislation, including the *Land Owner Transparency Act*
- Recent amendments to the *Real Estate Development Marketing Act* and related issues
- Considerations for property development on First Nation lands
- *Strata Property Act* considerations
- Contractor insolvency issues and Builders Liens
- Issues surrounding crane swing and shoring easements
- Considerations arising from the current market

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

- Real Estate Lawyers and their Paralegals
- Commercial Real Estate Developers and their Advisors
- Strata Owners and Operators
- Municipal Officials
- Financial Advisors

Women's Insolvency & Restructuring Confederation (IWIRC). She is recognized by *Best Lawyers* in Canada (2019) as a leading lawyer in the area of Insolvency & Financial Restructuring Law.



Shauna Towriss, Partner, Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP, Vancouver, BC. Shauna Towriss is a partner in her firm's Real Estate & Development Group. In her practice, Shauna helps clients grow and achieve their business goals by securing the space where they conduct business and doing the legal work related to obtaining the funding that allows them to do so. She offers extensive experience in assisting clients in nearly all facets of commercial real estate including acquisitions, dispositions and financing or re-financing of office, retail, apartment and hotel properties on behalf of a range of owners, from individuals and syndications to institutional investors.



Jean Yuen, Shareholder, Boughton Law Corporation, Vancouver, BC. Jean practises primarily in the area of Aboriginal Law, with a special emphasis on First Nations economic development. She has extensive experience in advising on land issues arising under the *Indian Act*, *First Nations Land Management Act*, the *Sechelt Indian Band Self-Government Act* and certain treaty First Nations legislation. As well as economic development matters, Jean routinely advises on

First Nations governance and property taxation matters and assists First Nations in the drafting of laws, policies and codes and in negotiating road tenure, protocol, accommodation and impacts and benefits agreements. A substantial part of Jean's practice involves commercial leasing, both in relations to First Nations lands and fee simple lands. Jean presents regularly on First Nations land issues and is the author of the chapter, "Development on First Nations Lands" in the British Columbia Real Estate Development Manual published by CLE.

HOT TOPICS IN REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2019

9:00 Welcome and Introduction by PBLI

9:05 Chair's Welcome and Introduction

Sarah Batut
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

9:10 Legal Update

Shauna Towriss
Cassels Brock & Blackwell LLP

- Case law update
- *Land Owner Transparency Act*

9:50 Questions and Discussion

10:00 Refreshment Adjournment

10:15 Real Estate Development Marketing Act (REDMA) Refresher

Mark V. Lewis
Bennett Jones LLP

- Recent updates to REDMA
- Condo and Strata Assignment Integrity Register and Policy Statement 16
- Policy Statements 5 and 6 – practices and pitfalls
- Marketing phased developments
- Cases of interest

11:00 Questions and Discussion

11:10 Development on First Nation Lands

Jean Yuen
Boughton Law Corporation

- Development of designated reserve lands under the *Indian Act*
- Development of reserve lands under *First Nations Land Management Act*

11:50 Questions and Discussion

12:00 Networking Lunch

1:00 Strata Property Act Update

Allyson Baker
Clark Wilson LLP

- The 80% requirement
- Litigating challenges: How have the courts responded?
- Current issues

1:45 Questions and Discussion

1:55 Contractor Insolvency Issues and Builders Liens

David Curtis
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Vicki Tickle
McMillan LLP

- The impact of contractor and subcontractor insolvencies
- Managing claims of builders liens

2:40 Questions and Discussion

2:50 Refreshment Adjournment

3:05 Crane Swing and Shoring Easements

Alex Fane & Sarah McCalla
Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP

- City requirements
- Negotiating with neighbours: Proactive tips & tricks
- *Janda Group Holdings*: What a nuisance!

3:50 Questions and Discussion

4:00 Market Update

Sarah Batut
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP

Andrew Ramlo
Rennie Group

- State of the market and impacts on development
- Municipal and Provincial interventions
- Rental housing measures

4:45 Questions and Discussion

4:55 Chair's Closing Remarks

5:00 Program Concludes

INFORMATION

Four Ways to Register:

1. Telephone us: 604-730-2500 or toll free 877-730-2555
2. Fax us: 604-730-5085 or toll free 866-730-5085
3. Mail your registration form with payment
4. Register at www.pbli.com/1524

Registration: The registration fee is \$770.00 plus GST of \$38.50 totalling **\$808.50** covering your attendance at the program, materials, a light breakfast, a networking lunch and refreshments throughout the day. In-person attendees have the option to receive their materials electronically in advance of the program, or in a hard copy binder on the day of the program. If an in-person attendee requests both hard copy and electronic materials, an additional \$50 charge will apply with applicable taxes. Webinar attendees will always receive their materials electronically.

Early Bird Discount: Register by August 19th, 2019 and receive a \$100 discount on the registration fee (\$670.00 plus GST).

Group Discount: Register four persons from the same organization at the same time and you are entitled to a complimentary fifth registration. Early Bird and Group Discount cannot be combined.

Payment: You may pay by VISA, MasterCard or cheque. Cheques should be made payable to the Pacific Business & Law Institute. Registration fees must be paid prior to the program.

When and Where: Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. The program starts at **9:00 a.m.** UBC Robson Square is located at the basement level of **800 Robson Street** in Vancouver, BC. Please visit <http://www.robsonsquare.ubc.ca/find-us/> for directions.

Materials: The faculty will prepare papers and/or other materials explaining many of the points raised during this program. Please contact us at registrations@pbli.com if you are unable to attend the program and wish to purchase a set of materials.

Your Privacy: We will keep all information that you provide to us in strict confidence, other than to prepare a delegate list containing your name, title, firm and city for our faculty and the program delegates. We do not share our mailing lists with any non-affiliated organization.

Cancellations: Full refunds will be given for cancellations (less a \$60.00 administration fee) if notice is received in writing five full business days prior to the program (**September 11th, 2019**). After that time we are unable to refund registration fees. Substitutions will be permitted. We reserve the right to cancel, change or revise the date, faculty, content, availability of webinar or venue for this event.

Course Accreditation: Attendance at this course can be listed for up to **6.5 hours** of continuing professional development with the Law Society of BC.

Registration Form Pacific Business & Law Institute

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Please recycle



Pamela Goldsmith-Jones

Member of Parliament
West Vancouver - Sunshine Coast - Sea to Sky Country

June 13, 2019

22(1) FOIPPA

22(1) FOIPPA

Gibsons, BC
V0N 1V9

Dear 22(1) FOIPPA

Thank you for your letter outlining your concerns regarding the plans for the old RCMP site on School Road in Gibsons.

The site belongs to the Town of Gibsons, to be used for supportive housing. I understand your concern and I know that Gibsons Council will take this into consideration.

RainCity Housing has an excellent reputation in the Lower Mainland for its attention to the community and public safety. I am also forwarding your letter to Mayor and Council.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "P. Goldsmith-Jones".

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, MP
West Vancouver-Sunshine Coast-Sea to Sky Country

cc: Mayor and Council, Town of Gibsons

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