

Mike S. Webb

From: Jeff Weightman
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2015 1:17 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Fwd: Letter to the Editor

Sent from Samsung Mobile

----- Original message -----

From: Marion Cumming
Date: 03-03-2015 12:57 PM (GMT-08:00)
To: Dan Ebenal
Cc: Jeff Weightman
Subject: Letter to the Editor

Krista Henry's letter to the Editor (Oak Bay News, February 27th) is headlined "Deer distract community from real issues". In my experience, compassion is not limited to a choice between vulnerable people and a focus on caring about animals. We can do both. That is actually exemplified by DeerSafe, as supporters I'm aware of are actively involved as workers, volunteers and donors with organizations, services and charities dedicated to the issues Ms. Henry is admirably devoted to.

Another letter writer on the same page offers her view: "A lot of good could come from the problem of the deer." In spite of divergent views, we are all learning to find ways of living with wildlife in our community, as Oak Bay will never be completely sanitized of animals other than pets. My hope is for contraception rather than killing. Marion Cumming, Oak Bay

Mike S. Webb

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 2:52 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Contact Us - Submission

The following message was received through the form at '<https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management>'. Neither the name nor the e-mail address can be confirmed as accurate.

.....

Your Name:
Leslie Campbell

Your Email Address:
[REDACTED]

Message:
Please provide number and methodology (asap) used re:

Deer Population Count

In collaboration with Oak Bay staff, the CRD recently completed an urban deer count to fulfill the final requirement of the provincial general permit for nuisance wildlife. The count provides one measure of the deer population. ...

--or direct me to where on site. Thanks kindly.

[REDACTED]

Submitted at: 2/25/2015 2:51:55 PM
Submitted via: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management>
User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; U; Intel Mac OS X 10_4_11; en) AppleWebKit/533.19.4 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/4.1.3 Safari/533.19.4
User Host Address: 24.69.78.151

Mike S. Webb

From: Geoff McGuire [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 17, 2015 11:22 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Re: Greetings neighbours

Thank you for getting back to me on this matter. Will be interesting see how it unfolds. I guess the suggestion that the "meat,hide,hooves and antlers be given to the local first Nation's" (after processing no less), bothers me the most. My wife and children are of Metis decent and find this pathetically insulting and embarrassing. I'm sure that wasn't your idea Jeff.

Cheers and good luck.

Geoff

On Tue, Feb 17, 2015 at 10:18 AM, Deer Management <deermanagement@crd.bc.ca> wrote:

Dear Geoff,

Thank you for your email. We appreciate your thoughts and input. Oak Bay is participating in a one year pilot project with the CRD to undertake management options from the Regional Deer Management Strategy in a number of areas, including conflict reduction such as deer resistant plantings, fencing and anti-feeding bylaws, population reduction, deer vehicle collision mitigation including speed reduction, roadway brushing and signage, and public education of deer and their behaviour.

Oak Bay sought a permit from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations which was approved by both the Provincial Wildlife Biologist for our region and the Provincial Wildlife Veterinarian. Provincial Staff recommended that the most humane method for this type of management option is capture and euthanize for an urban area. Contractor training is a stipulation of the Provincial permit, and is conducted by the Provincial Wildlife Veterinarian, staff and a consultant. The Conservation Officer Service falls under the authority of the Ministry of Environment and to date this Ministry has not indicated an interest in taking a leadership role in addressing this matter. The Provincial Wildlife Biologist and Provincial Wildlife Veterinarian indicate that capture and relocate is too stressful on the blacktail deer species and the mortality rate is too high to be considered humane. The deer are habituated to urban areas and are not equipped survive in the wild, which the Provincial experts say also contributes to it being inhumane.

Thank you again for your email. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further please contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Jeff

Jeff Weightman, MCIP, RPP

Project Manager, Regional Deer Management Strategy

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

From: Geoff McGuire [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 6:03 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Greetings neighbours

Though we live in Fairfield we do have many deer wandering about. We are close to Government house which probably has a dozen or so. Anyway, just a couple of things I'd like to mention regarding the issue:

First I'm not necessarily opposed to it, but I am concerned with some of the ideas regarding how the cull is to be carried out. Let me be clear that I really enjoy watching a photographing deer, usually in the wild. That also hunt deer and feed my family as my ancestors did. Back to the cull.

-The idea of "giving the meat,hide,hooves and antler's to local first-Nations" is ridiculous, insulting and overall racist. As an aboriginal person I would be insulted.

-Why the cost of "training" the contractor? Please tell me they won't have to be local aboriginal-only.

-The suggestion of some that "contraception" would work is retarded. What's next, counselling?

-If you would consult with the Provincial Wildlife biologists they might have some ideas after all they decide how the hunting allocations are set for the entire province.

-It was a mistake in my opinion to let things come to this instead of over time removing a few here and there. What is the cost of Government C.O's to tranquilize a deer or two at a time and transport it west of Sooke? Surely it would be less than \$1,000.00 per deer!

As much as I respect deer they are no "smarter" than those rabbits were at UVIC. They are basically gold fish with fur.

My suggestion is to back off on the whole idea of a cull for now. The anti-cull people will celebrate for a while and go on to other issues. Once things have quieted down have the Government C.O's quietly when necessary go around and cull a few. Do this continually over the next few years and the deer should thin out. They will also tell you that removing the breeding does is the best way. The children will get along just fine until it's their turn.

Consult with the Provincial experts. Forget about hiring contractors to do it in one fell-swoop.

Cheers

Geoff McGuire



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Thank you.

Mike S. Webb

From: Geoff McGuire [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 13, 2015 6:03 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Greetings neighbours

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My suggestion is to back off on the whole idea off a cull for now. The anti-cull people will celebrate for a while and go on to other issue's. Once things have quieted down have the Government C.O's quietly when necessary go around and dart a few. Do this continually over the next few years and the deer should thin out. They will also tell you that removing the breeding does is the best way. The children will get along just fine until it's their turn.

Consult with the Provincial experts. Forget about hiring contractors to do it in one fell-swoop.

Cheers
Geoff McGuire
Fairfield

Mike S. Webb

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:54 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Contact Us - Submission

The following message was received through the form at '<https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management>'. Neither the name nor the e-mail address can be confirmed as accurate.

.....

Your Name:
Pat Lewis

Your Email Address:
[REDACTED]

Message:
I am not in favor of the planned deer cull and am particularly disturbed by knowing that the does are pregnant at this time of the year and the indiscriminate killing of the deer will therefore involve the killing of unborn fawns. Why is this acceptable?

Submitted at: 2/3/2015 11:53:38 AM
Submitted via: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management>
User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko)
Chrome/40.0.2214.93 Safari/537.36
User Host Address: 154.5.209.202

Mike S. Webb

From: Pat Lewis [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, February 03, 2015 11:45 AM
To: Deer Management; victoria@spca.bc.ca
Subject: deer cull

Greetings - I am not in favor of the cull as planned and appreciate that the BCSPCA are again focusing attention on it's performance. It is particularly disturbing to me that because the does are pregnant at this time of the year the indiscriminate cull therefore involves killing unborn fawns. Why is that acceptable?

P Lewis

Mike S. Webb

From: Michael [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 31, 2015 1:06 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: lazy

Oak Bay

you should be ashamed of yourselves. killing 25 deer? why not sterilize 25 deer instead? if i had the authority and proper equipment i would help do this myself. you have taken the lazy and cruel option and i am sickened. i guess old rich oak bay snobs always get what they want. i'm a 20 year oak bay resident and saw it myself. maybe the mayor wants to go down there and see these animals killed in person and see what it's like. wrong move

Michael G

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Mike S. Webb

From: Birthe M. Levie [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2015 9:22 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer "cull"

Unlike the CRD, this Alberta town is currently looking seriously at ALL deer management options, including deer numbers.

<http://www.westernwheel.com/article/20150121/WHE0801/301219968/-1/whe0803/town-looking-at-deer-management-options>

There's still time the CRD to do the same.

Respectfully,
B. Levie

Mike S. Webb

From: Thomas Johnston [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 24, 2015 12:59 PM
To: obcouncil@oakbay.ca; Deer Management; oakbaymayor@oakbay.ca; hazel@hazelbraithwaite.ca; tomcroft@telus.net; michelle@michellekirby.ca; kevin@kevinmurdoch.ca; taraney@shaw.ca; eric@ericzhelka.ca
Subject: Oak Bay Council and Mayor are on the appropriate track with deer management.

I am writing this letter as a Oak Bay resident and voter. There has been letters to the editor in various newspapers and various protests to suggest Oak Bay Council and Mayor are on the wrong track when it comes to deer management. I wish to express my opinion that I strongly feel Oak Bay Council and Mayor are on the proper track and has so far shown wise judgement when it comes to deer management.

There are no predators in Oak Bay this is a unnatural situation and the numbers will continue to climb, if nobody does anything now in the very near future it will become incredibly obvious something has to be done for the health and safety of deer and humans, and economic sustainability of Oak Bay. This is in unnatural situation and unfortunately the only option to make it a natural situation other than releasing various predators is to become a predator to force a natural situation.

My understanding is the province will only allow the current trap and shoot method if the province in the future permits a different supposedly more humane method/none kill method Oak Bay Council and Mayor should look into it at that point, but Oak Bay Council and Mayor should stay the course for now.

I can definitely say there was absolutely zero deer in South Oak Bay for at least many many years, prior to roughly 2007.

I've resisted being opinionated on this up until now as I did not want to be feeling responsible for the deer cull, but I see it is the only way to get a natural situation is to cull(at this point at least).

Many of the vocal opponents are not from Oak Bay or even the CRD and are more hobbyists than anything. I see very little constructive criticism coming from the vocal opponents.

Oak Bay resident and voter,
Thomas Johnston

Mike S. Webb

From: Sam Vekemans [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 12:48 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: INSTALL 'CAUTION DEER CROSSING' signs, and speed bumps!

YOU ARE A HORRABLE HUMAN BEING FOR KILLING THE DEERS!!!!

WHAT HAVE THE DEERS DONE TO YOU????

ARE YOU THAT STUPID THAT YOU DON'T REALIZE THE VALUE OF RESPECTING NATURE???

MOTHER NATURE WILL HAVE HER REVENGE ON YOU.

THERE WILL BE EARTHQUAKES, MORE COUGAR KILLINGS... AND WORST OF ALL, IT ALL EFFECTS THE WILDLIFE!!!

People visit Victoria because it's nice here... but if you kill the deers, then you will be destroying part of the natural ecosystem!!!!

DON'T BE A STUPID HORRABLE HUMAN BEING WITH MORE MONEY THAN YOU CAN COUNT

The simple solution is to INSTALL 'DEER CROSSING' signs and have more wooded areas and STOP WITH GROWING GRASS!!! IT HELPS KNOWONE!!!! ALLOW AND RECOMMEND THAT PEOPLE PLANT FOOD AND FLOWERS ON THEIR PROPERTIES OR ALLOW FOR PROPERTY OWNERS TO LEASE OUT THEIR LAND TO PEOPLE WHO KNOW HOW TO GROW FOOD & PLANTS!

YOU ARE A HORRABLE HUMAN BEING FOR KILLING THE DEERS!!!!

OAK BAY RESIDENCES DRIVE SO SLOW THAT IT WOULDN'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!! SPEED BUMPS ARE EASY TO INSTALL!!!

Mike S. Webb

From: Ann Bryant [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2015 11:29 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: photo
Attachments: big deer on Deal.jpg

Hi,

I wonder if you might show a picture like this in some of your literature one day... other than a doe or a fawn.

I have seen bucks running around near our place. They often run or jump right out from behind hedges, so you have no chance to see them first.

This isn't a recent photo, this one was taken last year on Deal St and Margate while walking with my dog. I don't always have my camera on me.

This deer was hidden by a bush so I didn't see him until I was right beside him. There were actually 2 other deer with him, he was very big and moved towards us so we backed off.

Thank you,

Ann Bryant
[REDACTED]

Mike S. Webb

From: J V [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 10, 2015 11:03 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hello there,

I've been a resident of Oak Bay for the past 2 years. During this time, I have had zero problems with the deer in the area, I usually only see them when I go for walks eating grass across the street. My question to you is, instead of KILLING the deer, have you or anyone else considered relocating the deer? If so, what would the reasons be for not being able to move them, vs murdering them?

Thank you,

Jen

Mike S. Webb

From: Jeff Weightman
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2015 10:41 AM
To: crdreception; Mike S. Webb
Cc: Deer Management
Subject: RE: Contact Us - Submission

██████████ ██████████

Thanks.

From: crdreception
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2015 10:40 AM
To: Jeff Weightman; Mike S. Webb
Subject: FW: Contact Us - Submission

Hello,

Please see the email below.

Thanks, Karen

From: ██████████ ██████████
Sent: Tuesday, January 06, 2015 10:38 AM
To: crdreception
Subject: Contact Us - Submission

The following message was received through the form at '<https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=crd-reception>'. Neither the name nor the e-mail address can be confirmed as accurate.

.....

Your Name:
Corie Kielbiski

Your Email Address:
██████████

Message:
Please watch this thought provoking video filmed by a local resident at the DeerSafe Rally last Saturday. Deer culls DO NOT work. Please consider non-lethal methods to approaching this.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YTtYQJG8gDuY>

Submitted at: 1/6/2015 10:37:33 AM
Submitted via: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=crd-reception>
User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Windows NT 6.1; WOW64) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML, like Gecko)
Chrome/39.0.2171.95 Safari/537.36
User Host Address: 96.50.13.189

Mike S. Webb

From: Amy Lee [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, January 03, 2015 3:27 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer in Oak Bay

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Deer Mayor Nils Jensen or whom it may concern,

I urge you to consider that we SHARE this island with these animals. We co-habit, and just because we build on their territory doesn't entitle us to get rid of them. A cull isn't, in fact, the only answer. It is actually an asinine temporary solution. Deer reproduce. Is the plan to cull every spring? Because that would be a solution. This one time slaughter of 25 deer isn't. Please whatever you do, don't embarrass yourself by covering up the real issue by painting a story of consequent "issues" like household pets being injured and next are the elderly and children. That is nothing but cowardice. Of course elderly aren't next. That's a stretch for you to make that jump and quite embarrassing. Animal interaction is natural and should be treated as such, not as a crime. Pet owners need to be responsible. Just because no one owns these deer as pets doesn't mean they should be dealt with senselessly and unfairly. Animals kill each other and while this deer didn't kill the dog, it did wound it which is also a natural interaction. I'm assuming you know all of this as you weren't born yesterday.

Please resist the temptation to cowtow to the small group of wealthy individuals who are having their landscaped, manicured lawns trampled through. You were re-elected on that basis, but trust me, you will gain much more favour at this point by looking for an alternative permanent solution that may cost more and have to be budgeted for. Maybe you can create a fund and get your snobby elitist supporters to pay in you'll have deer free lawns in no time. In all sincerity, I hope you have the balls to do what's right.

Thank you,
Amy Rolfe

Sent from my iPhone

Mike S. Webb

From: steen.jessen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2014 12:25 PM
To: editor@oakbaynews.com
Cc: Mike S. Webb; Deer Management
Subject: Too Many Deer!

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Sir,

On Friday forenoon last week my wife and I were driving home from the Fairfield Thrifty store south along Fairfield/Beach Drive and we had to stop on the 100 block of Beach drive as two very large bucks were rutting on the road and sidewalk. We had to back up and were stopped for over a minute as were vehicles coming from the other direction. They eventually moved into one of the larger properties on the south side of Beach Drive. One of the bucks had an eye injury – the site was bleeding profusely. Good thing there were no pedestrians present at the time! This is only one of many incidents/encounters we have had with deer in our immediate neighbourhood. Our back garden is fenced – our only concern is personal safety for pedestrians and dog walkers. We need to proceed with the cull before someone or someone's dog gets injured or killed and I do not believe that Oak Bay should go this alone. At the very least Saanich should also be involved – the deer are everywhere.

Referring to the letter "Numbers don't add up," I believe a much cheaper solution may be available. Hire one or two licensed Professional bow/crossbow hunters to eliminate the critters at night when the "Bambi Brigade" is not watching. It would likely be much cheaper and a more humane method to kill the deer.

Regards,

Steen Jessen
Oak Bay

Mike S. Webb

From: Rudy Dobovicnik [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 19, 2014 7:51 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer in Oak Bay

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Hello, for the past 20 years I have operated a landscape company in the greater Victoria area. During this time I have seen the deer population grow exponentially. The damage to gardens is incredible and the areas I don't have to worry about deer have vanished completely. There is obviously a great divide in the community as to the process of addressing the problem. Both sides of the issue have valid concerns, but there is a major factor that no one talks about. The fact that each deer may carry hundreds of ticks into urban populations. My daughter contracted Lyme disease 10 years ago (on Salt Spring island) and is still recovering today. Doctors are not trained to diagnose Lyme disease and consequently are misdiagnosed as many auto-immune diseases like MS, ALS etc. I believe the deer pose a serious health threat to people and pets. I believe they also attract predators like cougars into urban settings. I therefore support a program to remove the deer from urban areas. At the same time, I feel euthanizing these animals including bears and cougars is outdated. My suggestion would be to create a wildlife park on an island or reserve, capturing the animals, then once a month or so ship them to the reserve, including predators. To recoup some of the expense one could even build a lodge as a tourist attraction. Maybe a happy medium there.

Mike S. Webb

From: Duane Marriner [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 12:04 PM
To: Deer Management; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: CRD Regional Deer Management Strategy Update November 20, 2012

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Please provide an update.

The herd in Gordon Head is growing. Every year it gets worse. 8 at my back door, 6 at my front door and one looking up at me when I come out as if to say buzz off.

These are feral deer, like rabbits and rats they are not friendly and proliferate according to a mathematical population growth model.

They can become reservoirs of viruses. This is how ebola works in West Africa. The bush meat industry in West Africa was responsible. There is the potential for car and motorcycle accidents, tics and Lyme disease. We can't believe this has been allowed to get out of hand for some time now.

From: Deer Management [mailto:deermanagement@crd.bc.ca]
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2012 4:59 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients:
Subject: CRD Regional Deer Management Strategy Update November 20, 2012

Good Afternoon,

The Regional Deer Management Strategy (RDMS) recommended by the Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) will be discussed by the CRD Planning, Transportation & Protective Services Committee (PT&PSC) on November 28, 2012 when public delegations will have an opportunity to speak to Committee.

Under prior direction of the PT&PSC, CRD staff convened a meeting among inter-jurisdictional partners on October 3, 2012. Staff representatives from CRD municipalities and Electoral Areas, and Provincial government (Federal government and First Nations were unable to attend) met to determine what it would take to implement the CAG recommended management options and to then report back to the PT&PSC this fall. Input on the CAG's recommendations is detailed in the November 28, 2012 staff report and attachments and is summarized as follows.

Recommended options are separated into those with potential to be implemented and those that are considered to be impractical or unfeasible (mainly due to public safety and resourcing). For those that have potential, next steps of different levels of government and actions needed to begin implementation are identified. In the case of population control measures, provincial approval is required but conflict reduction measures need to be in place prior to qualifying for such approval. Conflict reduction measures are largely within the jurisdiction of local governments.

The report recommends that the CAG recommendations and the November staff report be circulated to municipalities for feedback regarding their support for the recommendations, their willingness to implement measures under their jurisdiction and what the ongoing role of the region would be, if any.

The RDMS will return to the PT&PSC early in the new year, once all municipalities have had an opportunity to review and comment.

For more information and delegation registration to address the Committee, please go to www.crd.bc.ca/deermanagement.

Thank you for your ongoing interest in this topic.

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Thank you.

Please consider the environment before printing this email.

Mike S. Webb

From: steen jessen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2014 11:28 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer Incident

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Good morning Mike,

On Friday forenoon last week we were driving home from the Fairfield Thrifty store south along Fairfield/Beach Drive and we had to stop on the 100 block of Beach drive as two very large bucks were rutting on the road and sidewalk. We were stopped for over a minute as were vehicles coming from the other direction. They eventually moved into one of the larger properties on the south side of Beach Drive. One of the bucks had an eye injury – the site was bleeding profusely. Good thing there were no pedestrians present at the time!

We need to proceed with the cull before someone gets injured and I do not believe that Oak Bay should go this alone. At the very least Saanich should also be involved – the deer are everywhere.

Regards,

Captain Steen Jessen
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Mike S. Webb

From: Christopher Thackray [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 9:11 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Aggressive deer in Oak Bay

Categories: Yellow Category

Good morning,

I am a cyclist (I commute to UVic every morning). My route through the Uplands (a safe cycling route) means deer are a frequent encounter. Over the past several weeks I have been threatened a number times by aggressive bucks – they approach me (head down) on my bike at very close range. I take care to avoid them, but today was the last straw. I barely missed being lanced - thankfully a car got between me and the approaching buck just in time. A few more feet closer and I could easily have been run through. If you saw the news item on CHEK TV <http://www.cheknews.ca/aggressive-deer-attacks-oak-bay-dog/>, you can see the serious injury bucks can inflict. A small child would not stand a chance. Neither would a cyclist colliding with those antlers. It's only a matter of time. Culling these animals is the only appropriate course of action. The petty sensitivities and hypocrisy of some citizens is preventing responsible action. I urge you to act decisively to prevent harm to the people of this community.

Christopher Thackray
[REDACTED]

Mike S. Webb

From: steen jessen [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2014 2:28 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer Encounter

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hi again Mike,

Another dodgy event – very large buck, two does and two fawns on Beach Drive just north of Sylvan Lane. The buck was aggressive and I would guess he has an injury to one of his rear legs judging by his limp. I was walking my dog and it was an uncomfortable situation. Believe this group is resident in our neighbourhood. Not looking forward to rutting season!

Regards,

Captain Steen Jessen

[REDACTED]

Mike S. Webb

From: Mike S. Webb
Sent: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 9:58 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: FW: visitors
Attachments: 2346_001.pdf



From: Lyn Coles
Sent: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 9:57 AM
To: Mike S. Webb
Subject: visitors

[article](#)

Mike S. Webb

From: Mike S. Webb
Sent: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 9:58 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: FW: letter
Attachments: 2348_001.pdf

██████████ ██████████

From: Lyn Coles
Sent: Tuesday, November 04, 2014 9:57 AM
To: Mike S. Webb
Subject: letter

-Lyn

Mike S. Webb

From: Dutchie Dutchie [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 02, 2014 12:15 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Way too many deer in Oak Bay

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Hello,

I am a resident of Oak Bay, but since my name is very recognizable, I would appreciate if my name could be withheld from public documents. However, I am comfortable should anyone from the CRD or Oak Bay Municipal government wish to speak to me about my views on deer management in my neighbourhood. My name is [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and I have been living at [REDACTED] (home owner) since moving to the island from Ottawa in October of 2012.

This morning I awoke to another deer incursion in my garden. It has been an ongoing battle since I first arrived which started very gradually. When I first moved in and saw the deer in our neighbourhood, on our lawns and gardens, I thought, how cute! Almost every evening I would see them come down the middle of our road while visiting one garden after the other and I just thought it was the most beautiful sight! I thought it was incredible that I had moved to another city in Canada which had deer and to me it's a perfect example of how "quaint" Victoria is. Well, I no longer think that way. I am a gardener at heart and had re-landscaped my yard while living in Ottawa. I was so looking forward to the longer growing season here, increasing my knowledge of plants in this zone, and living in the "City of Gardens".

I no longer think that way...

I was naive to think that all I had to do here was to plant deer resistant plants. That was where I started. Like Ottawa, I re-landscaped my front

yard starting the next spring. I took the winter months to design my garden keeping in mind that I should only plant deer resistant plants. Following my strategy and yard design, I planted four small trees after taking down a huge tree that dwarfed the house and yard. Two of the trees were small varieties of magnolias and two were dogwood. Soon after planting these deer resistant trees, I noticed that some leaves were missing on all of them and I thought, "Oh, that's just nature and once the deer realize that they don't like the taste of them, they'll go away". How wrong I was. Instead of going away, they kept eating the new shoots; and when they destroyed one of them by rubbing antlers on it, I decided that it was my turn to put up those horrible looking nets and stakes....my yard looks terrible because of all the unsightly netting and stakes. And I am not alone. I have two other neighbours who are also fighting these deer who seem to take great pleasure in ruining our hard work in making Oak Bay look like a nice residential neighbourhood (for people, NOT deer). In Ottawa there are deer IN THE COUNTRY, but I have never seen one in a residential neighbourhood; neither in any other major city in Canada (even when Ottawa was the same size as Victoria-- about 20 years ago-- there were no deer in residential neighbourhoods. Edmonton, nope, no deer; Calgary, nope, no deer; Brockville, nope, no deer; Cornwall, nope, no deer; Halifax, nope, no deer; well, you get the idea). I am therefore flummoxed as to why deer are an issue here? How do the other cities in Canada keep the deer away from urban gardens? What are they doing that we are not?

In any case, not only have I used deer resistant plants (someone forgot to tell the deer that they are not supposed to eat them), I have used that stinky spray, and am now contemplating an aluminum, 8 foot tall fence for the front yard; similar to those in Uplands. I know that it is against the bylaw to have such a tall fence in the front yard, but the City of Oak Bay is not leaving us with many other choices. I have staked all my trees, shrubs, plants, and still the deer do damage. I tried to reseed my lawn

and it was nigh impossible to keep the lawn level because of the deer tracks and gouges every morning....

I used to joke with my neighbours about the deer. I used to say that the reason we have so many (there are at least two herds of about 7 or so) is that after a hard day of golfing up on Uplands Golf Course, they are just coming down our street for their dinners. I no longer joke about it because they have caused much damage and continue to be a nuisance.

Please get rid of the deer. They do not belong in a city. They belong in the wild and I really don't understand why we even tolerate them on this peninsula. If we don't get rid of them once and for all, we will become the City of Fences rather than the City of Gardens. It's too expensive to keep fighting the deer and now I understand why some of the people I talk to have given up gardening in their front yards and keep to the backyard where they can build barriers that keep deer out.

Regards,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the sender.

Mike S. Webb

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2014 6:50 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Contact Us - Submission

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

The following message was received through the form at '<https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management>'. Neither the name nor the e-mail address can be confirmed as accurate.

.....

Your Name:
Mary Lesperance

Your Email Address:
[REDACTED]

Message:
I just learned of the dog that was mauled by a buck in Oak Bay. There are deer and bucks in my neighbourhood (Fairfield) who do not fear humans or even cars! I do not feel safe on my property when there is a buck in my yard. Is the CRD waiting for a child to be mauled or even killed before they will do something about the deer in our neighbourhoods???

Submitted at: 10/21/2014 6:49:41 PM
Submitted via: <https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management>
User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10_6_8) AppleWebKit/534.59.10 (KHTML, like Gecko) Version/5.1.9 Safari/534.59.10
User Host Address: 24.69.78.61

Mike S. Webb

From: Jane or Jeremy Palin [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 20, 2014 12:22 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer in Oak Bay

[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

I have read that a deer count was conducted in Oak Bay for 5 days during June 2014. It may not have been scientific but at least it is a start in gathering data.

I have been unable to find the results of this count. ie. **How Many Deer Were Counted?**

Thank you.

Jane Palin, Oak Bay
[REDACTED]