

DEER SUBMISSIONS

EMAIL: deermanagement@crd.bc.ca

IN ORDER OF ARRIVAL

January – March 2014

Corey Burger

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, January 22, 2014 12:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; Deer Management
Subject: thanks to Oak Bay on deer issue

To: Mayor Nils Jensen, Oak Bay
Copy Mayor Frank Leonard, Saanich and CRD Deer Management

I'm a Saanich neighbour and want to thank Oak Bay and you for tackling the deer management issue. It's a complex problem, and I understand Oak Bay and the Capital Regional District studied the environmental and safety concerns and options before making the decision to cull.

Thank you for showing leadership early on, rather than hoping the problem would go away or that someone else would deal with it.

I live just below Camosun's Lansdowne campus. On a walk in December on a street just below the college, I crossed paths with a herd of five young bucks. They were all very thin, and hardly paid attention to me as they continued to scrounge for food. At various times of the year, most often early fall, there's a large buck who takes up residency in my back yard. And I give him a wide berth.

This isn't nature – cities are constructed for people. Urban neighbourhoods and streets aren't the natural habitat of deer or their predators.

Thank you again for taking action. Plans may need to be revised as new information and resources become available, but I appreciate Oak Bay for acting.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Corey Burger

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, February 27, 2014 11:44 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.

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Your Name:
Mark Steele

Your Email Address:
[REDACTED]

Message:
Geoff Young : May I address the deer population issue with you ?

I have outdoor experience , living in an area where wildlife and people co exist , and I would like to give you some pointers on actions available to you which you may not have considered .

Wild deer can and are often relocated successfully , to areas where they flourish . I can arrange this for you , and save you the cost and gore of a deer cull . [REDACTED]

Submitted at: 2/27/2014 11:43:43 AM
Submitted via: https://www.crd.bc.ca/contact-us?r=deer-management
User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; MSIE 10.0; Windows NT 6.1; WOW64; Trident/6.0)
User Host Address: 216.13.173.60

Corey Burger

From: Giles Deshon [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, March 02, 2014 7:36 AM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Get the Deer out of Oak Bay

I am a concerned local resident, fully in support of Oak Bay's attempts to remove deer from Oak Bay. It must be the first duty of any civic authority to protect its people from wild animals. If a lion were free in Oak Bay, there would be no debate or committee about what to do about it.

I fully support the killing of the deer, and completely support the involvement of First Nations in this process to give respect to the killed animal and to use as much of its meat, fur and body as possible.

I have lived in Oak Bay for only four years, yet I have seen a huge increase in the deer population on my street, [REDACTED]

Two years ago I walked into my fully fenced back yard with my daughter, then aged two, to find a young buck in our back yard. I was able to walk my daughter up to a balcony with a railing, while I chased the deer out of the yard, leaving just its extensive droppings all over my lawn, where my two young children and the neighbourhood kids play. My daughter continues to remind me of this incident to this day. She is scared to go into her own backyard.

I am a gardener and the destruction by the deer, not only eating but also trampling delicate flowers, is quite extraordinary. I resisted spraying for a couple of years, but now I too make my garden stink so that I can enjoy watching the plants grow. Please remove the source of the problem so that I can get back to enjoying my back yard without the stench of deer spray. Every weekend I can smell the spray because someone close by is trying to protect their garden.

I have recently received a booklet entitled Living With Deer. It has been many years since I have read such one sided political propaganda. While I have many concerns about this publication, some blatant inaccuracies stand out:

- 1) I do not wish to erect a solid 8 foot wooden fence around my entire property, and it would be impractical and illegal to erect such a fence on my front property line including a gate for my driveway. This suggestion is simply idiotic. Further, how does it help my kids playing street hockey or in a neighbour's yard?
- 2) I planted a completely new garden filled with "deer resistant" plants, and have found that this is true: a hungry deer will eat anything. Many species of plant that are supposedly deer resistant have been eaten or trampled.
- 3) The deer are everywhere in my neighbourhood. All of my neighbours have had issues with them and the deer often walk down our street and defecate on my front and back lawn.
- 4) Deer might not attack cyclists, but I have almost hit deer while driving, running and cycling near my house. I have a very bright bicycle light but it is not as bright as a car light. When running I almost ran right into the antlers of a buck. I do not drive fast but a deer running out in front of a car gives no chance to either the driver or the deer.
- 5) Deer are protective wild animals who occasionally panic. Many neighbours have experienced aggression while walking their dogs on leash.

6) Deer carry Lyme disease. Also, it is not healthy to have their droppings on my lawn, where my family plays.

It is just a matter of time until a child, dog or adult is gored, trampled or killed. Oak Bay might consider its legal liability in such a circumstance if the city does nothing to protect its residents from these wild animals who belong in the wild, not in our city.

Regards,
Giles Deshon



Corey Burger

From: Dianne Kenny [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 03, 2014 8:59 PM
To: Deer Management
Subject: Deer in Oak Bay

Hello:

I am writing to your program to pass on something that may or may not have been considered in the debate around the deer management in Oak Bay, and to encourage you to ensure it is explored.

A recent CBC radio program called "The 180" interviewed a veterinarian in Bragg Creek Alberta about a potential approach to dealing with a growing population of feral horses in Alberta. She suggested an approach that involved temporary birth control for the horses, where the horses would be shot with a dart that falls out quickly, but gives enough of the birth control to work for a couple of years. This veterinarian has been involved in working with such a program for dealing with packs of feral dogs on first nations reserves in Alberta. She responded to a general inquiry this weekend that I made and confirmed that the program could be used for deer.

I am sending you this email, having no idea whether such a program has been part of the deliberations in Oak Bay, and to urge you to ensure it is considered if it hasn't been. It seems to me that the idea has potential to assist in slowing down the population explosion of deer in Oak Bay, and would probably be less controversial than culling.

Her name is Dr. Judith Samson-French and you can reach her at the Banded Peak Veterinarian Hospital in Bragg Creek at [REDACTED]

Thank you for considering this email.

D. Kenny
[REDACTED]