



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2018 STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

In the Decker Room  
8020 Nesters Road, Whistler, BC V0N 1B8

#### PRESENT:

Co-Chair, AWARE/C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative, C. Ruddy  
RMOW Environmental Coordinator, T. Symko  
RMOW Bear Smart Program Assistant, L. Harrison  
Carney's Waste Systems, P. Kindree  
RMOW Bylaw Services, C. Baker  
Conservation Officer Service, B. Mueller  
RMOW Council, S. Maxwell  
Member at Large, M. Toom

#### PUBLIC:

Whistler Wildlife Protection Group, I. Minic-Lukac

#### REGRETS:

Co-Chair, RMOW, H. Beresford  
Member at Large, N. Dudley  
Whistler Blackcomb, A. DeJong  
Get Bear Smart Society, N. Fitzgerald  
RCMP, P. Hayes

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by S. Maxwell  
Seconded by C. Baker

**That** Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of May 9, 2018.

CARRIED

#### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by C. Baker  
Seconded P. Kindree

**That** Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee minutes of April 11, 2018

CARRIED

## Updates

### RMOW Bylaw Service

- Bylaw Services is completing proactive patrols of construction sites. Last year they found many violations of food waste in open construction bins however this year they are finding most construction sites have waste management plans, appropriate waste bins and signs and are very aware of the bears.
- There have been issues with dogs and bears on the golf course lately. Bylaw Services is now been doing bike patrols on the golf course and educating about why dogs need to be on leashes. The golf course opens soon which means there will likely be fewer people and dogs walking through the golf course.

ACTION: L. Harrison and C. Baker to send a thank you note to the Canadian Homebuilder's Association regarding proactive waste management efforts at local construction sites.

*B. Mueller arrived at 8:35 am*

### Conservation Officer Service

- The biggest issue this month was the seven squatter camps in the forest between Lost Lake and the day lots attracting a bear. Five of the squatter camps were left from last fall and two were active. All squats have now been cleaned up and the active camps have been evicted. The bear was not known to the COS however it is responding positively to being hazed.
- Tour operators are starting to operate around Callaghan Rd. Some tour operators are getting too close and COS will be patrolling to provide education/enforcement.
- On May 8, 2018 there was an unconfirmed reporting of a grizzly bear sow and two cubs in the Mackenzie trails area in Pemberton.

ACTION: L. Harrison to consider outreach to hotel concierges about promoting bear smart viewing practices.

*M. Toom arrived at 8:43 am*

### Carney's Waste Systems

- Tough Mudder is happening in Whistler June 16-17, 2018 and the event team has a new Solid Waste Manager. Carney's has made them aware of concerns surrounding bears and solid waste.

### C2C Grizzly Bear Initiative/AWARE

- Working with RMOW on signs to go up around trails.
- AWARE and C2C are planning a Bears, Beers and Backcountry event with Steve Rochetta (Provincial Ecosystems Biologist and grizzly bear specialist).
- C2C is planning a shared learning session about grizzly bears with Steve Rochetta. This learning session will be for people not involved with bear conservation in the Sea to Sky, including

groups such as the Trail Planning Working Group, the Forest and Wildlands Advisory Committee and the Recreation and Leisure Advisory Committee.

**PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

Alpine Trail Kiosk Sign

- Reviewed the draft RMOW forest and alpine trail signs
- Questions surrounding who the 1-855-GO-GRIZZ number reports to.
  - Some information is duplicated on the sign and it should be streamlined.
  - It would be nice to have different signs at specific trailheads based on whether or not dogs are allowed on that trail, etc.

ACTION: T. Symko to pass on comments from WBAC about the content on the Alpine Trail draft sign.

Bear Smart Program Assistant

- Reviewed BSPA 2018 work plan
- Has been trained up on the Restaurant Program and is in contact with the Restaurant Association of Whistler to get restaurants involved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Reviewed status of past actions

Action	Meeting Date	Status
L. McIvor to follow up with Emma DalSanto and Communications Department to offer assistance again on the garbage on buses initiative.	January	In progress. L. Harrison has created signage to go up at all bus stops about being allowed to bring garbage on buses. L. Harrison will continue to look for ways to promote this project.
L. McIvor/H. Beresford to touch base with Parking Lot Committee and RMOW Communications Department.	January	In progress. Parking Lot Committee is happy for signs to go up however now need to find the budget for these signs. L. Harrison is going to look into GBS taking the lead on this and then they will be able to get funding from WB EnviroFund.
T. Lunn discussed opportunity for RMOW to share bear management approach at upcoming License Inspectors	February	Unknown. T. Lunn no longer working with RMOW after end of March. C. Baker to follow up (May).

and Bylaw Officers Association of BC zone meeting or annual conference in 2019.  T. Lunn investigate how to get on zone meeting agenda.		
Bears 1-pager for rental properties	February	L. Harrison will work on this. Collaborate and coordinate messaging with AWARE's Eco-Citizen awareness initiative.
RMOW to consider existing and needed efforts to promote proper composting practices	March	Not started.
Follow up on suggestion to promote the Tourism Whistler Sustainable Events Guidelines and bears section within the Solid Waste Management Plan template	March	T. Symko will look into this.
Send thank you to the Canadian Homebuilders Association on behalf of the WBAC for keeping construction sites in Whistler attractant free.	May	L. Harrison will work on this with support from C. Baker.
Look into permitting for bear viewing tours and removing permits if operators are not operating under a set of guidelines that keeps bears and people safe.	May	C. Baker will look into this.
Talk to concierges and Visitor Centre about information going out if people would like to view bears on their own.	May	L. Harrison will work on this.
Review Alpine Trail Signs draft and recommend edits to streamline content;	May	T. Symko to work on this.

look into GO-GRIZZ phone contact.		
Review RMOW draft Solid Waste Bylaw revisions to ensure bear issues addressed, with particular attention to special events.	May	T. Symko to work on this.
Look into the potential of an RMOW internal staff referral system for special event applications.	May	T. Symko will look into this.
Investigate how SLRD manages special events (E.g. triggers for permits, etc) with respect to integration of bear smart content	May	T. Symko to work on this.
Talk to Kerry Ing regarding an RMOW reporting app for issues in the community and ensure that there is a bear component.	May	L. Harrison will look into this.
Investigate potential for shared online site for key WBAC resources, accessible by all group members	May	T. Symko to work on this.

**TERMINATION**

Moved by P. Kindree

**That** the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee terminate the May 9, 2018 Whistler Bear Advisory Committee meeting at 10:45 a.m.

CARRIED

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CO-CHAIR: C. Ruddy

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RECORDING SECRETARY: L. Harrison