



# WHISTLER

## MINUTES

**REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016 STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.  
In the Decker Meeting Room  
Public Works Building, Whistler, BC V0N 1B4**

### PRESENT:

Heather Beresford, RMOW, Co-Chair  
Sylvia Dolson, GBS, Co-Chair  
Simon Gravel, Conservation Officer Service  
Brittany Mueller, Conservation Officer Service  
Paul Kindree, Carney's Waste Systems  
Sgt. Rob Knapton, RCMP  
Arthur DeJong, WB  
Sue Maxwell, RMOW Council  
Nicole Fitzgerald, Member at Large  
Colin Hedderson, Member at Large

Claire Ruddy, AWARE, Public

### REGRETS:

Lindsay DeBou, Bylaw Services

### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by B. Mueller  
Seconded by R. Knapton

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee agenda of January 20, 2016.

CARRIED

### ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by R. Knapton  
Seconded by S. Maxwell

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the regular Black Bear Working Committee minutes of December 16, 2015.

CARRIED

## PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

### CONSERVATION OFFICER SERVICE (COS) UPDATE

#### 1. Updates

- No sightings since December. CO Schumacher off until February.
- Bear at Tube Park on December 18, 2015 was accessing garbage at Beaver Tails. Bear hazed repeatedly but would not be deterred from returning. Bear was put down based on behavior. WB has increased security on waste facilities at the Tube Park.
- No more cubs lately. All are currently housed.
- Report bobcat sightings to the RAPP line.

### RCMP UPDATE

- Cub hit by car near McDonalds in Pemberton on December 16.
- Nothing since.

### BYLAW SERVICES UPDATE

Bylaw Services and COS will meet to discuss working relationship

### CARNEY'S UPDATE

- Quiet
- WB called to upgrade facilities at Tube Park.

### WHISTLER BLACKCOMB UPDATE

- Tube park incident
- Milestones status discussed. CO Schumacher visited in December and requested garbage area needed to be more secure.
- Recommendation that Milestones join Bear Smart Restaurant program. Situation could be considered a work safe issue.

**ACTION:** COS will review file & follow up.

**ACTION:** Add Coast to Cascades Grizzly Bear Initiative to updates.

#### 2. RMOW

- H. Beresford working with RMOW Special Events team to develop waste management guidelines
- S. Dolson, N. Fitzgerald and C. Ruddy offered to review draft guidelines.

#### 3. GBS

- Interviews with nation-wide bear managers almost done
- Literature review almost done
- Both will be widely distributed by end of February

#### 4. 2016 Work Plan

Reviewed draft prepared by H. Beresford.

Proposed Projects:

- WBAC agreed with projects list, some refinements made to Project: Determine Source of Conflicts.

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- Discussion: Frank Ritcey (Provincial WildSafe BC Coordinator) has created a software program but may not capture what we're looking for.

**ACTION:** Contact F. Ritcey for more information on software program. (S. Dolson)

- Sue Senger, biologist for St'at'imc Nation had students doing predictive modeling based on past results.

**ACTION:** Contact students for information on their bear behavior modelling projects. Invite to give presentation to WBAC. (S. Dolson)

- Collect conflict information to identify human caused problems and patterns, not behavior based on berry crop productivity or to track bears. Goal is to use the information to focus communication strategies.
- Discussed sharing COS Occurrence Reports. Can't share live reports because of privacy issues, but COS can share a summary with RMOW Bear Smart Program Assistant in order to target public outreach.
- COS, Bylaw and RCMP to be more specific when recording types of attractants/problems.
- Revise steps in 2016 work plan to read: Review existing systems and data available; determine what WBAC can use and how best to analyse.

**ACTION:** COS will show current mapping available at February meeting.

Project: Update Whistler Bear Management Plan

- Review bear hazard assessment and incorporate into bear management plan

**ACTION:** Distribute current bear management plan to WBAC

Project: Develop Bear Smart community bear response plan

- Discussed areas proposed for inclusion. Nothing changed
- N. Fitzgerald volunteered to conduct research on education components.
- Communication flow chart is essential
- Form subcommittee (COS, GBS, RMOW) to draft the plan, focus on communications aspect to start. Include RCMP in first round.
- COS Inspector C. Doyle responsible for approving the plan once complete.

**ACTION:** Bear response plan subcommittee meet to draft communication flowchart before February meeting.

**ACTION:** N. Fitzgerald and COS meet to discuss research aspects.

**ACTION:** Share Communications strategy with new members-at-large

Workplan: Ongoing Tasks and Programs

- Discussion re: focus group to tackle problem of transporting garbage to compactor sites for residents without cars.

**ACTION:** H. Beresford to investigate if RMOW can mandate landlords to provide garbage service to tenants.

- Suggestion that a nuisance bylaw could cover improperly stored garbage.

**ACTION:** GBS to consider creating video aimed at training new residents and staff. Apply to WB EnviroFund.

- Outreach to new owners of Riverside Campground. S. Dolson will advise when management is ready.
- Coast to Cascades GBI is making a back country mountain bike safety video. Link to it.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- N/A
- Next Meeting – February 10
  - Agenda:
    - Updates
    - Review available information sources: Student Presentations (2); COS mapping, Wildsafe BC mapping
    - Bear Response Plan subcommittee share draft communications flowchart

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by S. Maxwell

That the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adjourn the January 20, 2016 Regular meeting at 10:26 a.m.

CARRIED

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CO-CHAIR: Sylvia Dolson