



WHISTLER

SELECT COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL:

TERMS OF REFERENCE

WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Council Adoption: February 8, 2022 File No. 8396

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE

To promote bear conservation, and the minimization and management of human-bear conflicts, in the Resort Municipality of Whistler (RMOW) and surrounding area and to advise Council on these matters.

COMPOSITION

1. The Whistler Bear Advisory Committee shall be composed of the following members:
 - a) RMOW – Environmental Stewardship (1), Bylaw Services (1), Councillor (1)
 - b) Get Bear Smart Society
 - c) Conservation Officer Service
 - d) Royal Canadian Mounted Police
 - e) Whistler/Blackcomb
 - f) Waste Industry Representative
 - g) Association for Whistler Area Residents for the Environment (AWARE)
 - h) Members-at-Large with preference for members with wildlife management experience (4)
2. Members-at-Large are to be appointed to renewable two year terms by Council and any changes to the membership will require Council approval.
3. The Chair position will be co-chaired by the RMOW Environmental Stewardship representative and any other permanent member of the committee, with staff support from the Environmental Stewardship department.
4. The Committee may convene sub-committees to deal with specific issues and invited participants are not required to be members of the Committee.
5. Quorum is 5 members in attendance.



RESPONSIBILITIES

6. The Whistler Bear Advisory Committee:
 - a) Provides a forum for sharing information and enabling coordinated response
 - b) Evaluates new community based solutions and maintains best practices for minimizing human-bear conflicts and prepares implementation plans for delivery;
 - c) Provides a coordinated approach to community outreach;
 - d) Ensures effective communication between the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee members;
 - e) Facilitates a coordinated approach to non-lethal bear management; and
 - f) Ensures a high priority is placed on compliance supported by adequate enforcement tools.

MEETINGS

7. The Whistler Bear Advisory Committee will meet on the second Wednesday of each month, excluding January. Additional meetings may be planned as required.
8. Members must attend at least two thirds of the annual meetings to maintain membership. The Whistler Bear Advisory Committee will review attendance annually in December to determine what action may be required.
9. Recommendations of the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee shall be made by a consensus of members in attendance at a meeting, provided a quorum is present at that meeting. If a consensus cannot be reached, a majority opinion will form the recommendation of the committee. Dissenting views will be noted and presented alongside the committee's recommendation.
10. The Whistler Bear Advisory Committee communicates with Council and makes recommendations through its monthly meeting minutes in all cases. The Mayor is the spokesperson for the committee, while member organizations retain their ability to speak directly to the media.
11. Meetings will be held in accordance with the Council Procedure Bylaw No. 2207, 2018.