

# WHISTLER

# MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF WHISTLER BEAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2022, STARTING AT 8:30 A.M.

# ZOOM

PRESENT	Mtgs. YTD (11)
Recording Secretary, Hillary Williamson on behalf of Tara Schaufele, RMOW Environmental Stewardship	7
Arthur DeJong, Council	11
Juan Pineda, RMOW Bylaw Services	9
Ivana Minic-Lukac, Whistler Wildlife Protection Group	11
Brittany Mueller, BC Conservation Officer Service	8
Taylor Green, Member at Large	6
Hanneke Snijder, Whistler Blackcomb	2
REGRETS	
Adrien Baudouin, Member at Large	4
Claire Ruddy, AWARE	5
Simon Gravel, BC Conservation Officer Service	0
Sgt. Nathan Miller, RCMP	0
Denise Imbeau, GFL Environmental - Waste Management	1

## **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Moved by A. DeJong Seconded by H. Snijder

**That** Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Agenda of December 14, 2022.

**CARRIED** 

## ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by A. DeJong Seconded by H. Snijder

**That** Whistler Bear Advisory Committee adopt the Regular Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Minutes of November 9, 2022.

**CARRIED** 

#### PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

# Updates

# Conservation Officer Service (COS)

A presentation by B. Mueller was given regarding the Conservation Officer Service activities and a discussion was held

- Things have slowed down except for one mature untagged bear that has been very active in Whistler Village and around Whistler Blackcomb staff housing.
- This is an ongoing issue, both RCMP and COS have been hazing this bear and COS have attempted trapping the bear with no success. COS and Bylaw have been delivering messaging and education to local businesses in Whistler Village.
- The bear has been demonstrating escalating behavior and if it does not leave the area soon then the outlook is not good.
- Hoping that the bear would have gone into hibernation but it continues to gain access to high value non-natural foods in the village which is likely contributing to the delayed hibernation.
- Wildlife Alert requested through RMOW website and social media channels as an extra reminder to the public to be extra vigilant in ensuring attractants are secured.

# RMOW Bylaw Services

A presentation by J. Pineda was given regarding RMOW Bylaw Services activities and a discussion was held.

- RMOW Bylaw services has been dealing with the same untagged bear accessing attractants around Whistler Village, all wildlife related calls have been for restaurants in the village or WB Staff Accommodation.
- Bylaw has been very persistent in following up and issuing tickets to staff accommodation strata's and restaurants. Bylaw was able to help get a few grease traps secured.

### Whistler Blackcomb

A presentation by H. Snijder was given regarding Whistler Blackcomb activities and a discussion was held.

- Looking into joining Commercial Bear Viewing Association and bringing in a training program for Whistler Blackcomb guides.
- Taylor is currently a guide with the association and is happy to help WB navigate the process and get a course going in this area.

# Whistler Wildlife Protection Group

A presentation by I. Minic-Lukac was given regarding Whistler Wildlife Protection Group activities and a discussion was held.

- WWPG did not deliver biking for bears program on the Whistler Golf Course this fall. Golf course had put up signs saying "no public access" which greatly reduced potential for human wildlife conflict.
- It is expected that the spring will be busier on the course for bears and the public so WWPG will resume the program at that time.
- No reports of human wildlife conflict in Whistler neighborhoods

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## **ACTION ITEMS**

- RMOW to issue a wildlife alert concerning the bear accessing attractants in Whistler Village.
- Hanneke Snijder will circulate Wildlife Alert to staff living in Whistler Blackcomb Staff Housing.

# **MOTION TO TERMINATE**

Moved by A. DeJong Seconded by H. Snijder

**That** the Whistler Bear Advisory Committee Meeting of December 14 2022 be terminated at 9:00 am

Chair, Taylor Green

Recording Secretary, Hillary

Hillary Williamson

Williamson