

November, 2010

The Village of Lions Bay  
**HUMAN-BEAR CONFLICT MANAGEMENT PLAN**  
“a grassroots initiative”

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# Lions Bay HUMAN-BEAR CONFLICT MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Maggie Paquet, Biologist and wildlife advocate, wrote the Bear Hazard Assessment (BHA) for Lions Bay. She crafted a sturdy foundation on which to build Lions Bay's Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan (BMP). Thanks to Maggie Paquet for a BHA with clear ideas and recommendations, which enabled the Village to develop an attainable Bear Management Plan.

Lawrence Ruskin is a long time Lions Bay resident and the first bear advocate, along with Douglas Miller from the late 1990's to early 2000, who mobilized an action plan to reduce the number of bears killed in the area. Thanks also to Lori Pilon, Village Administrator at the time, who initiated Bear Smart funding in 2004.



Lawrence Ruskin, Maggie Paquet, 2004

Thanks to the various Village governments that supported Bear Smart. Village Council from 2002 to 2005 (Mayor Douglas Miller, Councillors Joanne Ronsley, Elizabeth Jordan, Lisa Turpin, and Chris Page) endorsed the initial application for Bear Smart Community status, enacted a Bear Smart garbage bylaw, and contracted the Lions Bay Bear Hazard Assessment both in 2004, and then a first draft Bear Management Plan in 2005. During their term, Council submitted the Bear Management Plan draft to the Conservation Officer Service (COS) for feedback, and then adopted their recommendations. Village Council from 2005-2008 (Mayor Wax Wyman, Councillors Lisa Turpin, Linda Heneault, Birgitta von Krosigk, and Ken Wolder) adopted the Bear Smart Program in 2007 and initiated the Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee (BSC), as the next component towards Bear Smart Community status. Initial Bear Smart Committee members included Councillors Birgitta von Krosigk and Linda Heneault, Administrative Assistant Anne Page, and volunteer Norma Rodgers as Chair. Present Council (Mayor Brenda Broughton, Councillors Ruth Simons, Joanne Ronsley, Peach Akerhielm and Gordon Taylor) continue to support Bear Smart. In 2008 Councillor Ruth Simons joined BSC with now volunteer Birgitta von Krosigk and volunteer Norma Rodgers as Chair. BSC initiatives supported by present Council include a bear-resistant resident garbage bin program and waste bylaw violation enforcement. Thanks to all involved with the BSC, since the committee advises Council and staff about the Bear Smart program.

Special thanks to Christine Miller. Her assistance in bringing the Bear Smart message to Lions Bay adults and kids has been invaluable. She presented a Bear Smart Puppet show to Lions Bay Community School in 2007, taught visitors about bears at the Bear Smart table during the Lions Bay May 2008 Garden Show, gave Bear Aware power point presentations to Lions Bay Community School students in June 2008, May 2009, and displayed Bear Aware composting at both the Green Show in June and the Art & Garden Festival in August, 2010. After many Village school presentations to varying ages, when Christine encounters Lions Bay children in restaurants or shopping she is often greeted with excitement as the "Bear Lady".

Many thanks to the Conservation Officer Service in general for their support and especially to Sergeant Chris Doyle for his cooperative approach and efforts to help keep Lions Bay bears natural. Sgt. Chris Doyle is not only an active member of the BSC but also attends bear-related Village functions. Lions Bay appreciates funding received from the Ministry of Environment that has enabled the Village to work towards Bear Smart Community status.

## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| “Bear Smart”        | Provincially funded program through the Ministry of Environment that assists communities to educate residents about bear safety practices and how to reduce human-bear conflicts. |
| Human habituated    | Bears that no longer fear or avoid the presence of people.  |
| Human–Bear conflict | An encounter when the bear is aggressive or destructive so that it must be hazed, trans-located, or destroyed.  |
| Bear sighting       | Bear is observed but avoiding humans and not causing any disturbance.   |
| Food conditioned    | Bears that continue to forage on non-natural foods, especially human garbage, and as a result have learned to associate human areas with food.                                    |
| Non-natural food    | Foods made available to bears by people, and that are either not natural in a bear’s diet or taken out of wild context and planted in backyards or Village landscaping.           |
| Zero tolerance      | Violations of the garbage/recycling bylaw so that bears are repeatedly fed garbage despite warnings will result in fines.   |

## METHODS

This report has been written by Norma Rodgers and reviewed by the Bear Smart Committee (BSC) before being submitted to Council.

The writer became involved with black bear advocacy in Lions Bay during the late nineteen nineties when several bears were destroyed after breaking into homes to access food. Initially the writer began assisting bear volunteers in the Village by researching and writing articles about bear attractants and how to prevent the destruction of bears. In 2002, the writer became involved in the North Shore Black Bear Network, became the Lions Bay designate in 2004, became Chair of the Network in 2005 and continued as a Director of the Black Bear Society until late 2006.

In 2004, the Bear Smart program was adopted by Lions Bay Council, and they contracted Maggie Paquet to write the Human-Bear Conflict Hazard Assessment. Then in 2005, Council contracted Norma Rodgers to write the Lions Bay Bear Management Plan. The preliminary draft based on practices at that time contained procedures the COS determined inappropriate. These issues were not addressed until 2007, when Council instigated the Bear Smart Committee (BSC) with two Councillors, an Office Administrator, a CO and Norma Rodgers as Chair. The BSC mandate continues to focus on educating the Village about bears and eventually achieving Bear Smart status.

This Bear Management Plan has been written as a culmination and summary of the work the BSC has achieved. The procedures developed, programs implemented and materials purchased create a template for the future of Bear Smart in Lions Bay.



## INTRODUCTION

Lions Bay began the process towards becoming a Bear Smart community in 2000, before knowing about the Provincial Bear Smart program. Residents Lawrence Ruskin and Douglas Miller had responded to the destruction of several food-conditioned bears by beginning a campaign that educated residents about bears, and lobbied local government to enact bylaws that attempted to reduce attractants and deal with waste management issues relating to wildlife. By 2004 bear-friendly bylaws were enacted, more volunteers contributed to help bears, more bear safety information was available to residents, and many public garbage containers were bear-proof.



Sow with cub, 2001

In 2004, Lions Bay began the official process towards becoming a Bear Smart Community with an application to the Ministry of Environment for community funding. When funding was granted, the Village contracted Maggie Paquet to complete the Phase 1: Problem Analysis of the process by writing a Bear Hazard Assessment (BHA). The BHA analyzed local problems with bears, evaluated the existing bear management and resident education programs, and made recommendations to help Lions Bay achieve Bear Smart Community status.

The Village contracted the writer, Norma Rodgers, to prepare the first draft Bear Management Plan in 2005, as Phase 11 of the Bear Smart Community Program. In 2005 a 'first draft' Lions Bay Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan (BMP) was completed, combining recommendations from the BHA, with input from the Village Councillors and Administration, as well as volunteers and the COS. The BMP was adjusted several times before being approved by the 2002/2005 Council. The first draft was submitted to the Conservation Officer Service (COS) in 2005 and they offered various

feedback concerning issues that needed to be addressed. The main problems were volunteer operated bear response, lack of sustainability concerning resident education since there was no official Bear Smart Committee, and lack of bear-proof waste management plans.

In 2007, Village Council adopted the Bear Smart Community program and established the Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee (BSC) including Councillors, office staff, local Conservation Officers and volunteers. This committee has developed a sustainable education program for school students and residents, new signs with a sign posting procedures and waste management improvements. Between 2004 and 2009, Lions Bay received \$17,000 in Bear Smart grants that funded bear reports, bear-proof public garbage bins, educational materials and more bear alert signs.

2009/2012 Council continues to support Bear Smart issues and the BSC by providing a Councillor committee member and progressive waste management initiatives. All public and commercial dumpsters and bins are now bear-proof. Waste pick-up day has been changed to facilitate bear-resistant bins so that residents with storage difficulties have the option to buy a bin that can be chained outside.

The goal of this Bear Management Plan for Lions Bay is to summarize the human-bear conflict issues identified in the Bear Hazard Assessment, describe the bear education and waste management programs, and outline plans for implementation of future Bear Smart endeavours.

# RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE BEAR HAZARD ASSESSMENT

(summarized and updated by the writer)

## Education

Village to formalize relationship with the BSC, work together to develop public education.

Public education message to be consistent and emphasize that bears have the potential to become dangerous if conditioned to humans.

Village to post signs alerting residents about bear activity and what to do if a bear is sighted.

BSC to deliver a bear information presentation to the students, parents, and school staff near the beginning of the school year at least once every two years.

Village to encourage residents and property owners to prune (or remove) shrubs and trees in order to reduce the cover available to bears in neighbourhoods.

BSC to continue educating community residents on safe ways to carry out aversive conditioning towards bears on their own properties, such as by banging pots and pans, using an air horn, or generally scaring bears away, but always—and only—from a safe vantage point.

## Waste Management

Village to monitor compliance with waste bylaw.

The school should be advised to have a secure bear-proof dumpster.

The Village should ensure that waste bylaw includes:

- beehives and fruit trees be enclosed in bear-proof or electric fencing;
- barbecues be cleaned and stored so bears can't smell or get at them;
- birdfeeders be suspended out of the reach of bears
- not putting diaper pails outdoors or soiled diapers in garbage can
- not storing pet food and pet dishes indoors.

## Monitoring and Reporting Human-Bear Conflict

Village to work together with the BSC to document/monitor human-bear conflicts.

Village to contract and implement a Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan.

## Greenspace Management

Village to post information/warning signs about bears on backcountry trails leading out of village.

The entire play area of the elementary school should be enclosed in a sturdy fence.

When the Village of Lions Bay amends its OCP, add some specific language about preventing human-bear conflicts by managing non-natural attractants such as fruit trees, berry plantings, composts and barbecues. Also consider adding a provision to encourage the use or provision of bear-proof garbage cans and dumpsters, and secure fencing for all public children play areas.

As a Bear Smart community the Village would need to assess the impacts to wildlife when considering any development proposals.

## Interagency Cooperation

BSC to continue membership with the North Shore Black Bear Network

# The BEAR MANAGEMENT PROGRAM & PLAN

## 1. BEAR EDUCATION FOR RESIDENTS

### 1.1 Bear Smart Committee

Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee (BSC) was established by Council in 2007 to facilitate the Bear Smart Community Program. This committee has met almost monthly since its inception, and has accomplished many endeavours, summarized on annual Bear Smart Committee Reports to Council. (Appendix 1 - BSC Annual Report to Council, 2009) Some accomplishments include developing a sustainable education program for school students and residents, a comprehensive advertising campaign including participation in community events, new signs with a sign posting procedure, waste management initiatives, bear-resistant bin program, and also promoting the COS 24/7 bear line as first response for bear conflicts.

### 1.2 Bear Signage

Lions Bay now has a comprehensive signage system warning residents about bear activity. (Appendix 2 - Bear signs in Lions Bay) Each spring when the Village office receives a few bear sighting calls in an area, they contact Village Works to post a *Bears Active* sign at the entrance to that neighbourhood. These signs are 2' x 3' aluminium rectangles with a reflective bear shape outlining information about eliminating bear attractants, along with the Village office phone number to report bear sightings. As bear activity spreads throughout the Village, more *Bears Active* signs are posted in other areas and all the signs remain in place until the end of the season.



Bears Active Sign

When bear activity becomes problematic a *Bear Warning* sign is used. This is a bear-shaped plastic sign communicating safety information about bear encounters and the RAPP phone number to report bear incidents. The following criteria are used to determine the timing of posting a *Bear Warning* sign;



Bear Warning Sign

If bear reports indicate any one of the conditions below:

- bear reports in the school area,
- bear accessing garbage or other human attractants,
- bear breaking into structures or damaging property,
- bear getting assertive, approaching residents, or
- Resident requests sign because of bear concerns.

Once the office receives bear reports indicating one or more of these conditions, then Works is advised about the conflict area and where to post a *Bear Warning* sign. A week later if bear reports cease, office advises Works to remove the sign. If bear activity continues the sign is left in place.



### 1.3 Websites / Newsletters

The Village office manages an official website, LionsBay.ca. There is a Bear Smart page with permanent links to “Bear proof your Property”, (Appendix 3 - Article, Bear Proof your Property) “Moving Bear doesn’t solve the problem”, “The History of Bear Smart in Lions Bay”, “Hiking in Bear Country”, and “Cougar Information/Alert”, all provided by the BSC. There are also links to Metro Vancouver’s “What About Bears?” and North Shore Re-cycling’s “Composting in Bear Country”.

LionsBay.ca has a direct link to Lions Bay Garbage and Recycling Collection Bylaw 346, describing the various prohibitions concerning feeding wildlife, information about bear-resistant bins, wildlife-resistant composters and how residents can purchase bins and composters.

LionsBay.net was created in 2007 by local resident, Publisher Cheryl Wozny. Ms. Wozny updates an online interactive website and prints four Lions Bay Community News annually. The BSC routinely posts bear articles based on the current bear situation in the Village. There is also a link on this site with an archived selection of bear articles about bear safety and food attractants.

The BSC is very prolific in writing and distributing bear articles. In 2008 seven articles were posted on both websites including, “Respecting Nature”, “Living with Bears”, “Bears are Back”, “Please join Bear Watch” and “Discourage Bears”. In 2009 four more articles were posted, “Bear Proof your Property”, “Bear Bylaws”, “Hiking in Black Bear Territory” and “The Bears are Hungry”.

The Village also sends out a monthly calendar describing events and services, and periodic newsletters. During bear season, warnings about bear activity, wildlife food attractants, garbage handling and information about how residents can purchase bear-resistant bins are included in both publications.

### 1.4 Village Bear Information Distribution

The Village office often includes bear information in municipal mail-outs distributed to all households in Lions Bay.

#### **2008**

- March - Bear Smart information bear shaped fridge magnets with bear attractant information and the RAPP phone number to report bear incidents were distributed to all households with the utility invoices.

#### **2009**

- May - Bear Smart information fridge magnets and “What to do about Bears” (METRO Vancouver) brochures distributed with Village utility bills to all households in Lions Bay.

- October - “Making Compost in Bear Country” (North Shore Recycling) brochures distributed to all Village mailboxes during Waste Reduction week.

#### **2010**

- March - Bear Smart information fridge magnets and “What to do about Bears” (METRO Vancouver) brochures included in the new Village welcome packages to be distributed to all new residents.

- June - “What to do about Bears”, METRO Vancouver brochures sent with property tax notices.



Bear Smart fridge magnet

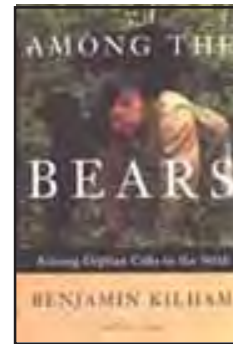
Village e-post has been developed as an electronic communication system that keeps 410 residents (out of 532 homes) advised about infrastructure, community forums, events and safety warnings. Within this system 'Bear Warnings' are posted if bear reports indicate the following activity:

- bear reports in the school area,
- bear accessing garbage or other human attractants,
- bear breaking into structures or damaging property, OR
- bear getting assertive, approaching residents.

### 1.5 Library

Lions Bay has a reading room organized and staffed by volunteers called the Lions Bay Library. There is an extensive collection of books but mostly fiction. With Bear Smart funding the BSC have bought a few bear reference and entertainment books each year to donate to the Library. The bear books donated so far are;

*Among the Bears*, by Benjamin Kilham  
*Bear Attacks: Their Causes and Avoidance*, by Stephen Herrero  
*Bear Smart Kids* by Evelyn Kirkcaldy  
*Bear-ology*, by Sylvia Dolson  
*A Whistler Bear Story*, by Sylvia Dolson & Katherine Fawcett  
*Never Bug a Bear*, by Carol McTavish  
*We Are Bears*, by Molly Grooms  
*Born To Be Wild*, by K. & K. Ward



Several times a year the Village coordinates events such as the Green show and Mayor's Levee, where volunteers advertise their groups and enlist additional resident support. The BSC and library volunteers liaise prior to these events so that the bear books are displayed.

### 1.6 Community Events

#### **2008**

• April – The BSC held a 'Living with Bears' information night in the Village Hall. The walls were covered with Bear Smart posters created by local students. Several tables held displays of bear artefacts like a bear hide, footprints and fake scat. Another table displayed books and an interactive quiz with prizes of stuffed bears and framed bear photographs by local wildlife photographer, Bill Keay. The presentation portion of the evening included audio-visual presentations by Sylvia Dolson from Whistler's Get Bear Smart Society and by Chris Doyle, Conservation Officer based in Squamish who is also a BSC member.



Bear Smart display  
Living with Bears, 2008

#### **2009**

• May - The BSC was situated at the door of the Lions Bay Garden Show in the Village Hall. There was a continuous loop DVD showing the dangers of bear food attractants and how to reduce the likelihood of human-bear interaction. Also on display was an active worm composting unit, several bear books, a local bear photo array, hand-outs about composting in bear country, give-away fridge magnets,

bookmarks and temporary bear paw tattoos. A display of residential bear-resistant bins attracted much attention and thirty people signed the sheet to receive more information about the bins.

## 2010

• February - The BSC had a table at the annual community event called Mayor's Levee where residents can sign up for volunteer organizations or pay annual civic dues. Many residents stopped by to discuss bear activity and seven signed up to be added to the Bear Watch volunteer list.

• June – The BSC had a three-table area at the inaugural Lions Bay Green Show, with information about attractants, Bear Aware composting and bear safety. Behind the tables as a backdrop there were 60 bear posters created by Lions Bay students. Thirty-five children completed the Bear Smart Quiz (Appendix 4 - Bear Smart Kids Quiz) with mostly correct answers, indicating bear education in the Village school is working well. Many residents and visitors stopped to pick up brochures, get bear paw tattoos, inquire about bear safety and composting, or talk about local bear sightings.



Bear Smart table, Green Show 2010  
photograph by Ruth Simons

• August – The BSC hosted the Village Hall venue for the Lions Bay Art and Garden Festival. At the Hall parking passes and garden tour maps were distributed from the Bear Smart Committee table. The BSC table also displayed four large photo canvases of Whistler bears taken by Sylvia Dolson that animal lovers greatly admired, as well as bear brochures and bear paw tattoos. Christine Miller of Bear Aware, with her display of bear friendly composting techniques, attracted a lot of attention from nature loving gardeners wanting to learn.

## 2. SCHOOL EDUCATION

### 2.1 School environments

The Lions Bay Community School (LBCS) teaches students from pre-school to grade three. From grade four to grade seven Lions Bay students attend Gleneagles Elementary School in Horseshoe Bay. Gleneagles School is bordered by treed neighbourhoods and LBCS is located in an even more densely forested area. The school playground is bordered by a treed streambed used as a wildlife trail. The Bear Hazard Assessment had several recommendations concerning the school properties. The BHA suggested that a sturdy fence be constructed around playgrounds and that dumpsters be bear-proof. The LBCS has a high chain link fence enclosing both the playground and the playing field, and the dumpster is bear-proof. In 2010, BSC prepared a summary of the Bear Hazard Assessment and Bear Management Plan items that pertain to the schools. Council sent the letter to School District #45 June 2010, with copies



Community School fenced playground

Management Plan items that pertain to the schools. In 2010, Council sent the letter to School District #45 in June and re-sent in November, with copies to the schools, (Appendix 5 - School Board Bear Smart letter) to make them aware of the Bear Smart recommendations.

## 2.2 Student Education

The teachers continue to educate children about bear safety and garbage handling. If the office receives information about bears close to the school they immediately phone the school to advise. The school also participates in Bear Watch to monitor bear sightings and activity in the Village.

The BSC has established direct lines of communication with Lions Bay Community School Administration to develop different ideas for the continued education program. Over the years the education program has changed and evolved.

### **2005**

- June - Pat Crawford, NSBBN's Educator, made two presentations geared to the different grade levels of the students. Her presentations entertained the students and questions were plentiful. The students prepared "Bear Aware" posters that were posted in the Village and also wrote letters, "What I learned from the Bear Awareness lady".

### **2006**

- March – The BSC developed a Bear in Mind poster contest with the help of vice-principal Cathy Ratz. The students were asked to create posters with sample captions like "Don't Attract Bears" and "Store Garbage Indoors". The students created some great posters. Eight prizes (bear purses, hats and puppets) were given for the most colourful and educational posters, and all participants received a bear tattoo. The posters were laminated and displayed at the Village office, post office, bus kiosks and several events as backdrops for the BSC.



- April - Norma Rodgers made Bear Smart presentations to 3 year olds and 4 years olds on separate days. During both presentations Kids Bear Smart bookmarks were given to the students. The BSC donated a copy of *Bear Smart Kids* by Evelyn Kirkcaldy to the pre-school.

### **2007**

- April – The BSC sponsored Christine Miller and Elise Roberts to perform a Bear Smart puppet show with the message that we should not feed bears human food or garbage. The elaborate set and puppets, with original script and music created by Ms. Roberts, entertained and informed the pre-school to grade 3 students. They enjoyed the interactive show and were eager to answer questions or supply information. Most students got up to dance and sing during the Bear Smart music.

### **2008**

- November - Norma Rodgers made a Bear Smart presentation to 3 and 4 years olds at the pre-school. A children's Bear Smart bookmark and photocopy of a bear attractants colouring page were given to each pre-schooler.



## 2009

• May – Bear Smart power point presentation by Christine Miller at Gleneagles School for two classes simultaneously (total of 52 students). Teacher packages with follow up material, bookmarks and feedback forms were provided.

• October - Christine Miller made a Bear Aware power point presentation for pre-school and primary students at the LBCS. They all enjoyed an interactive bear presentation and Ms. Miller was impressed with Lions Bay students' knowledge about bear safety. Teacher packages with follow up material, bookmarks and feedback forms provided.



Christine Miller, Bear Aware, at school, 2009

## 2010

• May – All students at LBCS were invited to participate in a bear art poster contest. They received blank 11" x 17" pages with three slogans pre-printed, "Bears eat Garbage", "Bears Love Fruit" and "Keep Bears Wild". The students used any medium including paint, markers, pencil crayons and paste-on collage. During the award ceremony every student received a stuffed bear and Bear Smart certificate. The posters are being displayed in the office and during community events.

• September – Norma Rodgers gave a Bear Smart presentation to 4 years old pre-school class about bear safety and food attractants. Each student received a bear attractants colouring page and bear paw tattoo.

### 2.3 School library

The following books have been donated to the Lions Bay Community School by the BSC over the past four years;

*We Are Bears*, by Molly Grooms  
*Born To Be Wild*, by K. & K. Ward  
*Bear Smart Kid*, by Evelyn Kirkcaldy  
*Bear-ology*, by Sylvia Dolson  
*Never Bug a Bear*, by Carol McTavish  
*A Whistler Bear Story*, by Sylvia Dolson & K.Fawcett



Bear Smart posters at the Green Show, 2010



### 3. WASTE MANAGEMENT

#### 3.1 Village Waste Management Program

The Village of Lions Bay contracts with Smithrite to empty public bins, commercial dumpsters and residential bins. Since both Smithrite and the Village want to avoid attracting bears to garbage, communication occurs during bear season about bear reports so that the pick up route can be adjusted to empty roadside garbage bins where bears are most active. The majority of garbage related reports result from the bear getting into garbage bins roadside on pick-up day. Over the last few years only a few bear problems were reported resulting from the bear accessing stored garbage, and those residents changed their garbage storage to prevent access.

#### 3.2 Residential Bear-Resistant Bins

Residential pick-up has occurred Wednesdays for decades in the Village. The 2009/2012 contract with Smithrite continued with a single man truck for Wednesday pick up. Current council wanted to move the Village towards a more Bear Smart garbage system using bear-resistant bins. After much consultation with residents and negotiation with Smithrite, residential pick-up was moved to Friday to accommodate semi-automated trucks that could pick-up Schaffer carts retrofitted by Rollins Machinery to be bear-resistant. (Appendix 6 - Bear-resistant bin poster) About 25 bear-resistant bins are now used by residents and the Village is continuing to sell them as interest and need arises.



#### 3.3 Public bear-proof bins

All public bins are bear-proof metal Haul-All models attached to concrete pads. Currently in 2010 some old bins are being replaced with a combination bear-proof re-cycling/garbage bin. These 14 public bins are permanently located at bus stops, parking lots, beaches, and trail heads. The staff is working on the development of a G.I.S. map of the Village which will show various local services and attractions, including the location of all public bear-proof bins and hiking/walking trails.

#### 3.4 Commercial bear-proof dumpsters

There is limited commercial enterprise in Lions Bay but commercial dumpsters are located at the store/post office, marina and Fire Hall. All the commercial dumpsters are bear-proof and there has never been an issue with wildlife accessing them. The Fire Hall dumpster has been designated for use if residents have difficulty storing household waste indoors or in a bear safe manner. Several articles concerning bear food attractants have advertised that residents with storage challenges can dispose of household garbage at the Fire Hall. There is a decal on this dumpster indicating it is for resident use but only for food waste.



### 3.5 Bylaw & violation enforcement

The Village of Lions Bay has had the current *Garbage and Recycling Collection Bylaw #346* in place since 2004. (Appendix 7 - Bylaw 346) This Bylaw states that residents are obliged to store garbage, recycling materials and other food attractants in a manner that is inaccessible to wildlife. The Bylaw prohibits garbage being placed roadside earlier than 5am pick-up morning, and describes a “wildlife resistant enclosure or container as a structure or container which has sufficient design and strength to deter access by dangerous wildlife.” Dangerous wildlife includes bears, cougars, coyotes and raccoons.

The Bylaw continues;

- “(a) Feeding dangerous wildlife and depositing or storing any domestic garbage, pet food, food waste, or other edible waste that could attract dangerous wildlife is prohibited.
  - (b) Bird feeders must be suspended on a cable or other device so that they are inaccessible by dangerous wildlife.
  - (c) Bee hives must be protected by an electric fence or otherwise be made inaccessible to dangerous wildlife.
  - (d) Outdoor fridges or freezers must be inaccessible to dangerous wildlife.
- No meat by-products or waste shall be put in compost piles.”

The fine for repeated garbage violations is \$320. Strict bylaw enforcement for garbage and recycling infractions is now in place beginning Summer 2010. Village staff maintains records of the warning letters, actions taken and violation tickets to track repeat offenders. (Appendix 8 - Bylaw 346 violation warning letter) Lions Bay’s waste management situation should continue to improve with the tightened enforcement brought about by a zero tolerance attitude towards bylaw violators, recently adopted by Council and Administration.

As well as the Village Bylaw violation procedures, repeat offenders identified by the Village or COS can

be fined through the *Provincial Wildlife Act*, “Section 88.1”. The Provincial Government prohibits attracting dangerous wildlife and Conservation Officers may issue Dangerous Wildlife Protection Orders if residents attract wildlife. Failure to remove indicated attractants within a specified time will result in a \$575 fine. Residents with repeat offences, that refuse to comply and continue to attract bears, can be reported to the area Conservation Officer. Combined documentation from Lions Bay Bylaw violations and bear occurrence reports will supply an attending Conservation Officer with sufficient evidence that he/she can issue a *Dangerous Wildlife Protection Order* ticket.



Bear in Bayview garden, 2010

#### 4.1 Bear Reports

Bear articles and mail-outs encourage residents to report bear problems to the COS RAPP number, and bear sightings to the Village office. Some residents have a reluctance to report directly to the COS, but bear conflicts reported to the office or bear volunteers are forwarded to RAPP.

When residents phone the Village office with a bear sighting, the information is compiled on a Bear Activity Report; the area, time and bear issue. (Appendix 9 - Bear Activity Report Summary 2009) This information is exchanged with the COS and BSC monthly or weekly depending on bear activity. It is important that office staff and BSC volunteers communicate various sources of bear information to consolidate into a comprehensive report of bear activity.

The BSC created a flow chart (Appendix 10 - Bear Smart Call Procedure flow chart) as a guideline when responding to residents calling the office about bears. The flow chart helps staff assess the appropriate response to different types of bear reports, from sighting only to a dangerous situation that needs to be handled by the COS. The flow chart also summarizes bear behaviour and attractant information to share with residents.



Cub in the ferns, 2001

#### 4.2 Bear Watch

Bear Watch was developed by the BSC as an e-mail network of residents that share bear activity information with other neighbours, to increase safety when bears are accessing human food or acting assertively. Bear Watch activity information also helps the BSC and office track bears in the Village, to share with the COS when necessary. The inaugural meeting of Bear Watch occurred August 2008 in Council Chambers with, greetings, questions, handouts and presentations by BSC members. Bear Watch members now total 70, with more interest continually. Included in membership are the Pre-school, Community School, Village Office and Works Manager. Since Works is advised about current bear activity they can monitor garbage and attractants while they patrol the Village. Works is also able to advise

about bear activity on the edges of the Village, as they maintain the water tanks.

## 5. GREEN SPACE BEAR MANAGEMENT

### 5.1 Official Community Plan

Lions Bay's Official Community Plan (OCP) was updated as a result of a lengthy consultation process with residents, Council and Village administration. OCP *Designation Bylaw 408, 2008* was adopted April 6, 2009. This OCP focuses on eight core themes including,

- Respecting nature and environment
- Ensuring a safe environment
- Meeting responsibilities in governance

Within the “4.2 Respecting Nature and Environment” section, the following excerpt addresses Bear Smart issues based on recommendations from the BHA, outlined to the OCP update committee by the BSC.

“Policies & Actions for Protection of Wildlife

- l) **Wildlife:** Manage the interface carefully between wildlife and development (e.g. garbage management, nesting areas) in a manner that avoids conflict.
- m) **Bear Issues:** In accordance with the 2007 recommendations from the Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee:
  - i) Prevent human-bear conflict by providing bear-proof public garbage containment, managing unnatural attractants, and educating residents about bears;
  - ii) Consider secure fencing for all children’s public play areas as future projects; and
  - iii) Support community and regional growth strategies that consider human-bear conflicts that may arise from loss of habitat and travel corridors and that ensure that new landfills or schools are not located at the perimeter of the Village or in high-quality bear habitat.”

### 5.2 Village area food attractants

There are several areas within the Village covered in invasive Himalayan blackberry bushes. These plants are non-native and quickly take over disturbed open areas once introduced. Unfortunately they produce berries in August that are very attractive to bears. The BSC has targeted some blackberry patches that may become potential human-bear conflict areas, such as near the school playground, around *Wade Park*, and near popular trailheads like *Pride Path*.

In 2009, Village Works attempted to remove the blackberry bushes near the school playground with a Flail mower machine. Another blackberry removal occurred in October/November 2010 for areas near school and trails. The process of removal will be monitored to determine whether this will be a viable ongoing remedy to remove blackberry bushes near parks and well-used pathways that are attracting bears.

### 5.3 Trails

The many trails connecting areas of the Village are continually expanded and very well maintained by a dedicated group of volunteer trailblazers. These trails have now been named to identify locations easier. There are also trails that begin in Lions Bay and lead into the forested mountains on Crown Land. The BSC created *Wildlife Alert* signs to be posted at these forest interface locations to raise the level of awareness and improve the habits of visitors to the wilderness surrounding Lions Bay.

A very popular trail described in many local hiking books is used by residents and visitors to the Village. The Lions Trail begins at the end of Sunset Drive, follows a municipal road past one water reservoir tank, continues up steep paths and eventually ends near the Lions’ peaks. At the trailhead Works built a kiosk next to a bear proof bin and dog waste bag dispenser. The kiosk displays a bulletin board for hiker messages and a 3’ x 4’ Bear Alert sign created by the BSC and financed with Bear Smart funding. The colour acrylic sign with a large bear photo describes bear behaviour, bear safety information and indicates the RAPP number to report bear encounters.



Trailhead bear sign, 2010





Small Trailhead sign

Smaller signs are posted at other trailheads with plans to eventually post signs with bear information on all the trails.

- Centennial Trail towards Brunswick
- Pride trailhead above Lions Bay Road
- Oceanview Road trailhead
- 39 Steps below school

Lions Bay Hiking Club liaises with the BSC to exchange bear activity information. The BSC compiled an article about hiking in bear territory and forwarded to hiking captain John Dudley to distribute. (Appendix 11 article; Hiking in Bear Territory) Mister Dudley is a Bear Watch member so that he can advise hikers about bear activity and advise Bear Watch when the hiking club encounters a bear or recent bear evidence.

Bear Spray was suggested by BSC to Works for the crew that tended the water reservoirs and access roads in the forest. Works Manager Chuck Partridge supplied outdoor crew with Bear Spray in spring 2010, so the BSC provided information about bear behaviour in the wild and instructions about bear spray usage.

## 6. INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

### 6.1 Conservation Officer Service

The Village has a very cooperative relationship with the Conservation Officer Service in general and in particular, Sergeant Chris Doyle stationed in Squamish. Sgt. Doyle is an active member of the BSC, advises about traps and bear relocations, attends meetings and public events. He appreciates the bear education program and bear-friendly bylaws in Lions Bay, which enable him to deal more effectively with bear problem situations. Lions Bay has received three Bear Smart grants, indicating the cooperative relationship with the Ministry of the Environment.



Chris Doyle, CO  
Living with Bears  
in Lions Bay  
2008

### 6.2 North Shore Black Bear Network / Society

The BSC participates in the North Shore Black Bear Network (NSBBN) by sending a delegate to some meetings and exchanging information. Lions Bay's continued participation with NSBBN provides numerous benefits, including access to contacts, bear research information and access to bear educational presenters. Information from other NSBBN communities, such as Port Moody and Coquitlam, concerning their bear-resistant bin program were instrumental in Lions Bay choosing the Rollins retrofitted bin for our bin program.

### 6.3 Get Bear Smart Society

Lions Bay has a page on the GetBearSmart.com website describing the Village Bear Smart program. Sylvia Dolson, Executive Director, has been a valuable resource. She contributes educational materials and extensive knowledge about bears to help further the Lions Bay Bear Smart program.



## 7. SUMMARY OF BEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN

### 7.1 Bear Smart Responsibilities

#### **Village of Lions Bay**

##### Waste Management

1. Provide a central bear-proof dumpster for residents with storage problems.
2. Maintain / purchase bear-proof garbage containers for all public areas.
3. Facilitate resident bear-resistant and bear-proof bin purchase.

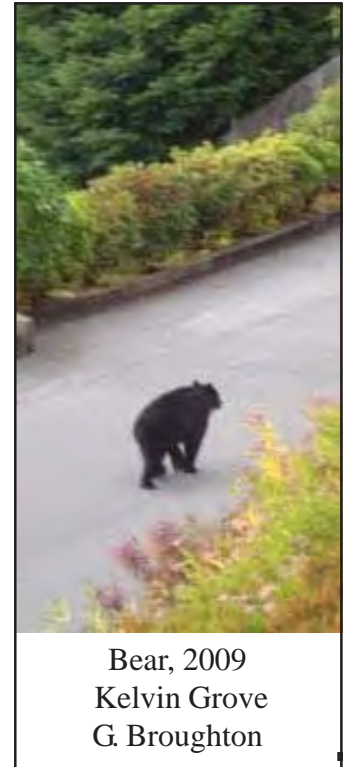
##### Bylaws / Enforcement

4. Provide communication to the public about waste bylaws.
5. Identify and penalize repeat waste management offenders.
6. Maintain bylaw violation statistics to monitor compliance.

##### Bear Reports / Education

7. Continue to include bear safety brochures with Village bills.
8. Communicate information about bear activity with BSC.
9. Remove blackberry bushes from problem areas when able.
10. Compile and distribute bear activity reports from bear calls.
11. Monitor bear reports to determine bear sign placement.
12. Works to post bear safety signs as needed.

#### **Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee**



Bear, 2009  
Kelvin Grove  
G. Broughton

##### Bear Education

13. Continue annual summary reports of committee activity and education.
14. Continue to research bear information and bear-human conflict reduction.
15. Continue to write bear articles and distribute bear information.
16. Continue to update pages for Lions Bay, Get Bear Smart websites.
17. Continue to expand school education program.
18. Continue to develop resident education program.
19. Continue to attend community events with the Bear Smart message.
20. Continue to expand Bear Watch.
21. Continue to archive BSC articles, minutes, reports, summaries so that if present members are not available others can continue the BSC.
22. Continue to act as resource in bear related matters to Council and other Village groups.

## 7.2 Bear Smart Goals 2010 – 2015

### **Village of Lions Bay**

#### Waste Management

1. Zero tolerance towards Garbage Bylaw violations.
2. Encourage residents to buy bear-resistant bins or bear-proof lockers.

#### Additions to Bylaw #346, as recommended by the BHA

3. (a) add “dirty barbeques” to garbage, pet food, food waste or other waste.
4. (d) add “soiled diaper containers” to outdoor fridges and freezers prohibition.

### **Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee**

#### Bear Education

5. Create and produce more bear safety signage as the needs arise.
6. Research bear brochures/information to include with Village bills.
7. Research and purchase more bear books to contribute to Libraries.
8. Write new bear articles to reflect the changing bear situations in the Village.
9. Attend all related community events to raise Bear Smart profile.
10. Monitor the school environment, dumpster and nearby blackberry patches.
11. Develop more bear education programs for school.
12. Ensure Community School students are bear-educated every second year.
13. Ensure more students at Gleneagles school get bear education.
14. Produce Bear Smart Rap song by children (already written and staged).
15. Promote bear-resistant bins and bear-proof lockers to residents.
16. Create reports that detail BSC activities, meetings, initiatives, spending.
17. Increase participation with NSBBN to connect with other communities.
18. Expand Bear Watch and increase bear education for members.
19. Add knowledgeable Bear Watch members to BSC.
20. Update BSC progress with Get Bear Smart website.



### 7.3 Bear Smart Financing Strategies

Since 2004, Lions Bay has received \$17,000 in Bear Smart funding with matching Village funds, primarily spent on the Bear Hazard Assessment, the Bear Management Plan, replacing public garbage bins with bear-proof containers, developing bear safety signage and education materials. Since Bear Smart funding is not available in 2010 or the near future, the education program will now focus more on volunteer time and sourcing free materials. The Village will continue to contribute labour from Works to post signs and clear blackberries/dense cover on trails, near the school and parks where practical. Also the Village Office will continue to supply administrative support to the BSC.

## CONCLUSIONS

Lions Bay is a small village of 532 homes with complex bear management issues. It's a beautiful place built along the shore of Howe Sound and up the mountain slopes. The community of 560 hectares in area is surrounded on three sides by mountainside bear habitat. The properties are densely treed and crisscrossed by forested corridors that give wildlife access to all parts of the Village. Even with this environmental challenge, Lions Bay benefits from some definite advantages in its quest towards becoming a Bear Smart Community.



Lions Bay is:

- governed by a very proactive and bear-friendly Village Council and Staff, who enforce waste management and bear attractant bylaws, promote a bear-resistant garbage bin program, promote Bear Smart composting, provide public bear-proof bins, provide a bear-proof dumpster for residents with storage problems, ensure that all commercial dumpsters are bear-proof, post bear safety signage, monitor bear activity, include the Bear Smart message in Village communications, contribute to the BSC and support bear-friendly education initiatives, &
- populated mostly with nature loving residents, who are motivated to learn how to lessen human beings' negative impact on bears, &
- educated by dedicated Bear Smart Committee members who volunteer their time to teach residents and students, develop the Bear Smart program for the Village and create bear information material.

This Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan assimilates some recommendations summarized in the Bear Hazard Assessment, with education programs and procedures developed by the BSC. The Village and BSC will consider the Lions Bay Bear Smart program a success when;

- garbage bylaw violations are rare as a result of zero tolerance,
- residents are not affected by the movement of bears through their community,
- nothing within the Village alters the bears' natural behaviour or eating habits &
- no negative human-bear encounters occur.

In the meantime while we work towards that ultimate goal, increasing the level of public awareness and tolerance towards bears, while reducing the number of bears that the community is responsible for trans-locating, is an ongoing objective. The bear management practices over the last ten years have resulted in no bears being destroyed in Lions Bay and the preference would be never to destroy another bear in the Village.

The Bear Smart Community Program: Background Report lists six components that focus on a Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan for completing Phase 11 of the program;

1. Implement human-bear conflict monitoring system.
2. Implement education program.
3. Implement bear-proof waste management system.
4. Implement and enforce Bear Smart bylaws.
5. Revise the Official Community Plan and Regional Growth Strategy.
6. Implement green space management program.

Lions Bay believes that all six items have been addressed and that Bear Smart status is achievable for this community.



Bear with tag on Bayview property, 2010

## List of REFERENCES

Davis, Helen M., Debbie Wellwood, and Lana Ciarniello. March 2002.

“Bear Smart” Community Program Background Report, B.C. Ministry of the Environment

McCory, Wayne. 2006. Bear Hazard Assessment Report; North & West Vancouver

Paquet, Maggie. 2005. Bear Hazard Assessment Report; Village of Lions Bay

## List of PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs taken by Norma Rodgers  
(unless otherwise attributed)

Bear on garden pathway, 2000  
Lawrence Ruskin, Maggie Paquet,  
discussing BHA, 2004  
Christine Miller with students at school, 2009  
Sow with cub on walkway, 2001  
Bears Active sign, 2010  
Bear Warning sign, 2010  
Bear Smart fridge magnet  
Bear Smart display ‘Living with Bears in Lions Bay’, 2008  
Bear Smart table Green Show 2010, photo by Ruth Simons  
Community School fenced playground, 2010  
Bear Smart posters in office, 2006  
Christine Miller, Bear Aware at school, 2009  
Bear Smart posters Green Show, 2010  
Bear-Resistant bins roadside, 2010  
Bear-proof combination bin at Brunswick bus stop, 2010  
Bear-proof dumpster at Fire hall, 2010  
Bear in Bayview garden, 2010  
Cub in ferns, 2001  
Trailhead bear sign/bin on Sunset, 2010  
Small trailhead bear sign, 2010  
Chris Doyle, Conservation Officer, ‘Living with Bears in Lions Bay’, 2008  
Bear in Kelvin Grove 2009, photo by Gordon Broughton  
Bear on Bayview Road, 2009  
Community School fenced playing field, 2010





APPENDIX 1

Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee

**Annual Report 2009**

**Budget & Recommendations  
for 2010**

# Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee

## Annual Report 2009

### Budget & Recommendations for 2010

Submitted to Lions Bay Council in December, 2009

#### Introduction

In the past year, the Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee (LBBSC) has continued its bear information and education program, both in the Village at large and at the local elementary schools. The successful working relationship with the Provincial Conservation Officer Service (COS) continued, procedures for monitoring bear activity within the Village were revisited and strengthened, and the Bear Watch volunteer network grew considerably. LBBSC met on a monthly basis and provided regular information reports to the Village Council.

#### Goals and Objectives

LBBSC aims to assist in realizing Lions Bay's goal of becoming an official Bear Smart community, perhaps becoming one of the first British Columbia communities to achieve full status.

The Committee continues to develop more volunteer participation and present a variety of education programs. A complete revision of the Lions Bay *Bear Management Plan* has been contracted to reflect current Bear Smart policies and practices, for completion early 2010. Village Council and Administration endorsement of the *Bear Management Plan* will be the final step before Lions Bay is eligible to apply for Bear Smart Community status and it is hoped that this goal will be reached in 2010.

#### Background

The Provincial Bear Smart Community Program, (which is coordinated and funded through the Conservation Officer Service) enlists support from local governments and residents to prevent human-bear conflicts. By encouraging resident education

programs, bear safety presentations to schools and wildlife friendly waste management practices, this community program prevents more bears from becoming conditioned to human food.

Lions Bay began the process towards becoming a bear smart community in 2000, before knowing about the Provincial Bear Smart Program. In the late 1990's several aggressive bears that were breaking into sheds, homes and outside freezers, were eventually destroyed. Residents responded to the destruction of garbage-eating bears with a campaign to educate residents about bears, and lobby our local government to enact bylaws to reduce attractants and deal with wildlife waste management issues. By 2003 bear-friendly bylaws were enacted, more information was available to residents about bears, and many public garbage containers were bear-proof.

Lions Bay continued to develop education programs for residents and buy more bear-proof public garbage bins, but the Bear Smart Community Program also requires communities to undertake Bear Hazard Assessments and Bear Management Plans to qualify for Bear Smart Community status.

In 2004, Lions Bay began the official process towards becoming a Bear Smart Community with an application to the Ministry of Environment for funding. When funding was granted, the Village contracted a Bear Hazard Assessment. Between 2004 and 2006, Lions Bay received \$13,000 in Bear Smart grants that funded bear reports, more bear-proof public garbage bins, educational materials and more bear alert signs.

In 2005 a 'first draft' Lions Bay *Human-Bear Conflict Management Plan* was completed, combining recommendations from the Bear Hazard Assessment and requirements for a Bear Smart Community, with local knowledge and experience from bear volunteers. The Plan was adjusted several times before being approved by the 2002/2005 Council. The 'final draft' of the *Bear Management Plan* resulted from amendments discussed during additional meetings. The 2005/2008 Council adopted the Bear Smart Community Program and established the Bear Smart Committee as a Select Committee with two Councillors as LBBSC members. 2009 Council continues to support Bear Smart and the LBBSC with a Councillor member and progressive waste management initiatives.

## **Methods**

The LBBSC used a number of different ways to disseminate information and to monitor success in 2009. These included, but were not limited to, the following:

### **Presentations and seminars**

Community

**Lions Bay Garden Show** – Lions Bay Village Hall. Tables at entrance of show with continuous display of DVD showing dangers of attractants and how to reduce likelihood of human-bear interaction, active worm composting unit on display, book display, photo display, hand-outs about bear-safe composting, give-away fridge magnets, book marks and temporary tattoos, display of bear-proof residential garbage bins, etc. (May 2009).

## School

Facilitated power point presentation by Christine Miller at Gleneagles School. One session completed with two classes simultaneously (total of 52 students). Teacher packages with follow up material, bookmarks and feedback forms provided. (May 2009)

Facilitated power point presentation by Christine Miller at Lions Bay Primary School. Pre-school and primary students enjoyed an interactive bear presentation. Ms. Miller was impressed with Lions Bay students' knowledge about bear safety. Teacher packages with follow up material, bookmarks and feedback forms provided. (Oct 2009)

Developed Bear rap song complete with music, lyrics, staging and costuming details; performance by Lions Bay children planned for 2010.

Developed bear art poster contest for Lions Bay children for implementation in 2010.

Established direct lines of communication with Lions Bay School Administration concerning bear sightings/bear activity.

Interacted with Lions Bay Parent Advisory Committee.

## **New and improved bear signage**

The Committee developed, ordered and arranged for installation of several signs increasing bear knowledge and safety throughout the Village area:

### 'Bears Active' signs

6 rectangular aluminum signs with bear attractant information are posted once there are several reports of bear activity in an area.

### 'Bear Warning' signs

8 bear-shaped plastic signs with safety information and the RAPP number are posted when there is a cluster of bear reports in a

neighbourhood to indicate that bears are hanging around the school, or accessing garbage/attractants, or getting assertive with residents.

#### 'Bear Alert' Trail signs

1 large rectangular acrylic Lions trail head sign showing a bear photo with bear behaviour/safety information, and the telephone number to the RAPP line. This sign was permanently posted at the top of Sunset Drive with a purpose built kiosk with a bulletin board and along with a bear-proof garbage bin.

4 smaller rectangular aluminum signs showing a bear photo with bear behaviour/safety information and the RAPP number have been permanently posted at trailheads.

#### 'Household waste' decals

6 decals advising residents to only use the bear-proof dumpsters provided for household garbage.

### **Regular articles in local media**

Articles were posted on the Village website and on local information website ([lionsbay.net](http://lionsbay.net)) as well as in printed copy of Village publications. Website content was regularly maintained and updated. Improved use of Village e-mail distribution system for bear alerts to residents.

2009 articles:

“Bear proof your property” (Feb 2009)

“Bear Bylaws” (Feb 2009)

“Hiking in Black Bear Territory” (Feb 2009)

“The Bears are Hungry” (May 2009)

### **Brochures, bookmarks, books and toy bears**

Distributions of flyers and bookmarks at events and public display stands. Donation of bear books “Bearology” by Sylvia Dolson and “Never Bug a Bear” by Carol McTavish to local schools and Village Library.

Bear Smart information fridge magnets and “What to do about Bears” (METRO Vancouver) brochures distributed with Village utility bills to all households in Lions Bay. (May 2009)

“Making Compost in Bear Country” (North Shore Recycling) brochures distributed to all Village mailboxes during Waste Reduction week. (October 2009)



The Committee made a bulk purchase of stuffed toy bears of various sizes to use as contest prizes, classroom gifts and similar efforts among Lions Bay's children. These toys have proven very popular and effective in reinforcing the knowledge of, and respect for, black bears – a reality in a mountain and forest community such as Lions Bay.

## **Reports to Council**

Regular reports to public Council meetings. Took questions and requests from Council back to committee as needed. On-going dissemination of the bear smart perspective at all Council meetings where pertinent. (Throughout the year).

## **Working with other committees**

LBBSC members were also members of other Village committees, and communicated the bear smart message where appropriate.

Liaison with other committees was actively sought and achieved, including the garden, trail and hiking groups. Topics included composting, bear attractants, bear safety and best location for new bear signs from the hiking experts.

Liaison and membership with the North Shore Black Bear Network provided LBBSC with bear information/waste management techniques from other communities such as North/West Vancouver and Port Coquitlam and bear groups such as the Whistler Get Bear Smart Society.

## **Volunteer network**

**Bear Watch** – the Bear Watch volunteer network continued to grow at a great pace, with approximately 50 members by the end of 2009. Bear Watch volunteers were given preferential rates for a successful Whistler bear tour in the Fall of 2009.

## **Information gathering & sharing**

Information sharing with neighbours and residents, in person, by e-mail and by telephone. (Throughout the year).

Continued using a bear report spreadsheet reporting system with detailed information regarding type, time and location of sighting. Spreadsheet was continuously updated and shared with COS. The information was shared with Bear Watch Volunteers, who in turn share information and education with other residents. The Committee stayed updated on the garbage bin study in Port Coquitlam and shared information with Village Council. As a result of this study, the Committee was able to recommend adoption of the Rollins residential

bin and offered a \$50 subsidy to residents who ordered a bin for their homes. Committee member Simons was also able to obtain detailed information about the goals and results of Squamish's Bear Smart waste reduction efforts.

The Committee received strong interest in the residential bear resistant garbage bins at the Garden Show in May. As a result eight bins for residents were provided at a reduced price available through a bulk purchase with a \$50 bin subsidy funded through Bear Smart.

## **Information management**

The Committee completed an Archive of documentation relating to Bear Smart activities for the 2007 – 2009 period and assisted in organizing Village files relating to Bear Smart.

## **Results and discussion**

The LBBSC held regular monthly meetings between February and November in 2009 and Committee members stayed in regular e-mail and telephone contact between meetings. The Committee has been made up of Norma Rodgers (Chair), Byron Andres and Chris Doyle (COS), Fran McNicol and Susan Loutet (Village Office), Ruth Simons (Councillor) and Birgitta von Krosigk (Village resident). This make-up has enabled the Committee to have direct and close links to the Conservation Officer Service and the Province, the residents of the Village, schools and local government (executive and administrative).

The Bear Watch program has been greatly expanded with approximately 50 active members, spread out geographically throughout the Village. The Bear Smart message has been continuously repeated in a variety of media, with updated and relevant information each time.

Many communities reported lower bear activity in 2009 compared to 2008 and Lions Bay appeared to follow this pattern. Bear sightings began earlier than last year, with the first bear sighting reported on March 26. Activity continued until September 21<sup>st</sup>, with an apparent final sighting on November 26th. COS reported receiving 67 calls from Lions Bay in 2009, compared to 91 calls in 2008.

The LBBSC orchestrated the purchase of two more public bear bins in 2009 and helped to reorganize the bin placement to maximize usage. Also a bear-proof dumpster at the Fire Hall is now available for residents with garbage storage problems to dispose of their garbage safely.

The Bear Smart Committee has worked with the Village Waste Management Committee to combine the goals of reducing:

- waste;

- green house gas emissions;
- bear accessible waste, and
- waste disposal costs.

The Committee supports the proposed move to semi-automatic residential bin pick up (including the associated switch of garbage day) and the anticipated increased numbers of bear resistant garbage containers in use by residents.

## Committee membership

The LBBSC anticipates that the Lions Bay Council will continue with the current Committee make up for 2010 and looks forward to on-going communication between Council and the Committee on bear-related issues. The active participation of office staff in committee activities and meetings has proven very helpful to maintain and improve information sharing and bear-related procedures.

The active advisory participation from COS on the Committee (Byron Andres and Chris Doyle) continued to be critical in maintaining the close relationship between the Committee's education and information efforts and the enforcement aspects of the COS.

## Program/Budget

Within an uncertain economic climate in the Province, it is not known at the time of writing this Annual Report whether the Village of Lions Bay will be fortunate to receive another Bear Smart grant for 2009-2010. As a result of this uncertainty, the Committee has presented the Village Council with two alternative budgets for the next year, one with and one without a Provincial grant.

## Budget 2010

|                      | <u>Cash</u> | <u>Labour</u> | <u>total</u> | <u>spent on</u>             |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| (with grant)         |             |               |              |                             |
| Provincial grant     | 5,000       |               | 5,000        | Residential bins, education |
| Village matching     | 4,200       | 800           | <u>5,000</u> |                             |
|                      |             |               | \$ 10,000    |                             |
| (without grant)      |             |               |              |                             |
| Provincial grant     | 0           |               |              |                             |
| Village contribution | 4,200       | 800           | <u>5,000</u> | Public bins                 |
|                      |             |               | \$ 5,000     |                             |

## APPENDIX 2

### **Bear Signs in Lions Bay**

updated October 2010

**Bear safety signage posting procedures  
warning residents about bears.**

# Bear Signs in Lions Bay

updated October 2010, nr

## Bears Active signs

(rectangular aluminium signs with bear attractants and the Village office phone number)

At the start of the season, after 2 reports of bear sightings within a week indicate bear activity in an area:

- Reception contacts Works to mount *Bears Active* sign at designated site for that area;  
Brunswick Beach entrance, Lower Kelvin Grove entrance, Upper Kelvin Grove entrance, Lower Village entrance, Upper Village entrance
- *Bears Active* signs remain in place until the end of the season

## Bear Warning signs

(bear-shaped plastic signs with safety information and the RAPP phone number)

*Bear Warning* signs are posted if bear reports indicate the following activity:

- bear reports in the school area,
- bear accessing garbage or other human attractants,
- bear breaking into structures or damaging property,
- bear getting assertive, approaching residents, OR
- Resident requests sign because of bear concerns.

- Reception contacts Works to post *Bear Warning* signs in the conflict area and abeys for a week to contact Works to remove sign
- Reception notes initial sign posting on Bear Report form
- If bear reports in the area continue after a week, Reception monitors continued bear activity to determine when to remove sign

## Bear Reporting Procedures

- Reception follows 'Bear Smart Call Procedure' flow chart instructions
- Reception maintains bear report
  - bear activity, traps set/removed, bear signage posting
- Reception distributes bear report to Chris Doyle (COS) and Bear Smart Committee weekly, lots of bear activity
- Reception distributes bear report to Chris Doyle (COS) and Bear Smart Committee monthly, low bear activity
- Reception/Office staff determines when bear activity warrants Village e-post
- Reception/Office staff track Bear Smart time and materials

## Works Bear Smart procedures

- Reception advises Works when and where to post *Bears Active* signs
- Reception advises Works when and where to post *Bear Warning* signs, and then when to remove
- Works removes all posted *Bears Active* signs at the end of November and stores

## APPENDIX 3

### **Article; 'Bear Proof your Property'**

Communicated by Community  
Newsletters & Websites



# **BEAR PROOF your property**

Lions Bay's Bylaw prohibits attracting wildlife.  
There are simple ways to comply and avoid violation fines.

## GARBAGE must be inaccessible to wildlife

- ensure sheds/structures that store garbage are strong enough to be bear-proof
- garbage stored in carports or outside hutches must be in bear-proof bins
- seafood remains are especially attractive to bears, they need to be frozen and kept inside until garbage pick up morning
- diapers attract bears as they contain smelly undigested proteins and should only be stored inside the home

## GARBAGE may not be placed near road until 5am pick-up morning

- don't put garbage out overnight

## FOOD ATTRACTANTS to wildlife must be removed

- pet food must be stored indoors
- bee hives must be enclosed by an electric fence
- barbeques need to be thoroughly cleaned or burned off after each use
- empty garbage bins need to be thoroughly cleaned to remove odours
- rodent poisons attract bears and need to be stored inside the home

## FRIDGES and FREEZERS stored outdoors are prohibited in Lions Bay

- move extra appliances to North Vancouver transfer station
- B.C. Hydro may pick up your old working appliance

## BIRDFEEDERS must be inaccessible to bears

- birdfeeders can be hung on a wire based suspension system
- only hang birdfeeders during day when someone is home to monitor
- only feed birds during winter months when bears are inactive

## FRUIT attractants need to be removed

- only compost citrus fruits during active bear season
- add lime and dry material to compost
- pick ripe fruit from trees and remove all deadfall promptly
- if you can't pick your fruit consider having the tree removed
- expect bears to raid your berry bushes unless behind an electric fence

## APPENDIX 4

### **Bear Smart Kids Quiz**

Used at community events  
with prizes for completing

# BEAR SMART KIDS QUIZ

Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee 2010

Please mark X in the box of your choice for each question

1. If black bears come back to your yard  
 Bears have found food in your yard and remember  
 Bears are naturally curious

2. Bears mostly use their good sense of  
 Eyesight  
 Smell



3. When there are several cubs in a black bear family  
 Cubs are all the same colour  
 Each cub may be a different colour (black, brown, cinnamon, tan, white)

4. Bear cubs leave their mothers  
 As soon as the family leaves their winter den  
 One and one half years old



5. Black bears in the forest eat vegetation  
 Less than 50% of their diet  
 Up to 90% of their diet

6. How much food does a black bear eat in a day?  
 The same as thirty burgers  
 The same as five burgers

7. A black bear standing on its hind legs is  
 Being aggressive and about to charge  
 Is curious and sniffing the air



8. If you come face-to-face with a bear  
 Back away slowly and speak softly  
 Run away as quickly as possible

9. If you are in the forest  
 Be very quiet because bears are looking for you  
 Make a lot of noise so bears will hear and avoid you

## APPENDIX 5

### **School Board Bear Smart Letter**

sent June 2010 and  
resent November 2010



THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

[www.lionsbay.ca](http://www.lionsbay.ca)

June 24, 2010

From: Lions Bay Council

To:  
School District No. 45  
School Board Offices  
1075 – 21<sup>st</sup> Street  
West Vancouver, B.C.  
V7V 4A9

**Re: Bear Safety in Gleneagles and Lions Bay Schoolyards**

West Vancouver and Lions Bay share prime black bear habitats as well as School District #45 School Board. Lions Bay Council wants to promote bear safety for our students at Gleneagles and Lions Bay, and we are writing to increase awareness about wildlife food attractants.

Lions Bay is in the process of becoming a Bear Smart community. The Bear Smart community process has been developed by the provincial government to reduce conflicts with bears and increase the safety of our neighbourhoods through education. Bear Smart funding provided educational materials and the Lions Bay's Bear Hazard Assessments (BHA).

The North Shore BHA, written by Biologist Wayne McCory, and Lions Bay BHA, written by biologist Maggie Paquet, both make the following recommendations for schools to mitigate bear hazards: (summarized by N. Rodgers)

- Inform schools in areas with bear activity about ways to bear-safe their premises including bear-proofing all waste containers, removing plants that provide food for bears such as thickets of Himalayan blackberry, removing ripe fruit from nearby trees, and teaching students not to leave food litter in and around the school grounds.
- Fence entirely around schoolyards and children's play sets that border on black bear habitats or travel corridors to reduce the risk of a (rare) predaceous attack by black bears, mountain lions, and even coyotes that frequent the North Shore.



- If fencing is improbable, then play sets can be more safely situated in a large open field, away from adjacent forest or shrub areas. Other bear safety considerations are brush removal and posting warning signs after bear activity is reported. The signage might state: 'Bears and other wildlife may be in the area. Please do not leave children unattended. Place all garbage in bear-proof bins or inside the building.

Lions Bay Council and the Bear Smart Committee also want to keep students safe to and from school. During bear season students should not carry food and walk to school unless accompanied by an adult.

Another Bear Smart component is student education about bear safety and attractants. Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee has been educating the students about bear safety with bear quizzes, poster contests and guest presenters. Christine Miller, who is a Bear Aware program coordinator and the North Shore Black Bear Society's educator, gave entertaining bear safety power point presentations to Gleneagles in 2008 and to Lions Bay students in 2006, 2008 and 2009. She is happy to arrange 2010/2011 bear presentations developed for different age levels depending on the student audience and can be contacted at [christinemiller@telus.net](mailto:christinemiller@telus.net). Christine Miller is a professional teacher and a valuable resource for teachers seeking information about bear safety instruction.

Thank you for helping to communicate bear safety information.

Lions Bay Mayor and Council

Village of Lions Bay

cc: Gleneagles School  
6350 Marine Drive  
West Vancouver, BC, V7W 2S5

cc: Lions Bay Community School  
250 Bayview Road  
Lions Bay BC, V0N 2E0

## APPENDIX 6

### **Bear Resistant Bin Poster**

Distributed with Village  
Newsletters and through Websites



# Bear & Wildlife Resistant Bins

The Lions Bay Bear Smart Committee recommends that residents purchase Wildlife Resistant Garbage Bins.

*The Village of Lions Bay recognizes that the Schaefer bin retro-fitted by Rollins is the best locally tested solution for keeping wildlife out of garbage.*



## THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

400 Centre Road, Lions Bay BC

604 921-9333 telephone

Lionsbay.ca

Bear Resistant Bins are available for purchase at the Village of Lions Bay Office for \$200.00 each.



## APPENDIX 7

### **Bylaw 346 Garbage and Recycling Collection**

Defines wildlife attractants  
violation and penalties.

## VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

### BY-LAW NO. 346

#### Garbage and Recycling Collection

**WHEREAS** Council deems it advisable to adopt a By-law to regulate the terms and conditions for the collection and disposal of garbage and recycling and the rates payable for these services; and

**NOW THEREFORE** the Council of the Village of Lions Bay, in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

#### **TITLE**

1. This By-law may be cited as “Garbage and Recycling Collection By-law No. 346, 2003”.

#### **PAST BY-LAWS REPEALED**

2. Waste Collection By-laws No. 226, No. 284, No. 305, No. 313, and No. 341 are hereby repealed.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

3. In this Bylaw:

“dangerous wildlife” means wildlife such as a bear, cougar, raccoon, or wolf;

“wildlife resistant container” means a secure fully enclosed container with a lid and latching device, of sufficient design and strength to deter access by dangerous wildlife;

“wildlife resistant enclosure” means a structure which has four enclosed sides, a roof, doors, and a latching device, of sufficient design and strength to deter access by dangerous wildlife;

#### **SYSTEM ESTABLISHMENT**

4. The Village hereby establishes and continues the equipping, maintenance and operation of a system of garbage and recycling collection.



## **OBLIGATION OF RESIDENTS**

5. Every owner or resident shall provide and maintain in good order and repair, standard garbage receptacles, circular in design with tight waterproof cover. The amount of garbage shall not exceed 154 litres in total and no receptacle shall contain more than 121 litres.
6. The receptacles required under this By-law shall at all times be securely housed to ensure that the contents do not attract wildlife.

The garbage can shall at no time be kept on or encroach upon or project over any street or lane.

7. No liquids or free water shall be put or placed in or allowed to run into or accumulate in any garbage receptacle, and all such receptacles shall at all times be covered with a watertight cover.
8. All garbage and recycling receptacles shall be placed by the householder within 10 feet of the road boundary in front of the householder's premises not earlier than 5:00 a.m. on the day the garbage is scheduled for removal.
9. All waste material which is not garbage, rubbish, kitchen waste, or recycling shall be placed in a safe place convenient for handling and the owner or occupier shall make the necessary arrangements with the garbage contractor for the disposal of such waste material and shall be responsible for all costs in connection with same.
10. Every owner or occupier of land is hereby compelled to make use of the garbage and recycling disposal system established and continued hereunder and shall pay for the collection of garbage, rubbish, waste, and recycling from premises as herein provided.

## **SERVICE PROVIDED BY VILLAGE**

11. Garbage, rubbish, waste, and recycling shall be picked up by the disposal service of the Village regularly each week and the regular pick up schedule may be altered by resolution of Council provided that ten days' notice of the change is given to the householder or business proprietor.

## **COLLECTION RATES**

12. Rates for the collection of garbage and recycling as per Schedule “A” attached hereto and forming part of this By-law are hereby imposed on the owners of land or occupiers of premises and are due and payable by the 31st day of March of each year.
13. A prompt payment discount shall be allowed, as set out in Schedule “A” if payment is made by the 31st of March of each year. The period the rates cover is from January 1 to December 31 of each year.
14. Any rate remaining unpaid on the 31st day of December shall be deemed to be taxes in arrears in respect of the property in respect of which the consumer dwells and shall forthwith be entered on the real property tax roll by the Collector as taxes in arrears.
15. The rates established hereunder shall commence effective January 1 of each year.

## **WILDLIFE RESISTANT CONTAINERS AND ENCLOSURES**

16. Every outdoor container or receptacle used for depositing or storing food waste or other edible waste that could attract dangerous wildlife shall be a wildlife resistant container, or stored in a place that cannot be accessed by dangerous wildlife.

This section does not apply to composting or on garbage days.

17. Every commercial, industrial, institutional and tourist accommodation building, and every multiple family residential development having three or more dwelling units, shall be provided with a garbage storage site located inside a building or within a wildlife resistant enclosure.
18. Garbage and recycling containers required for temporary special events, such as weekend sports tournaments, weddings, Fire Department Picnic, Hallowe’en and Canada Day are exempt from this requirement if emptied before 10:00 p.m.
19. Wildlife resistant containers and wildlife resistant enclosures must be kept closed and secure when waste is not being deposited and if damaged, must be repaired in a timely fashion.



## APPENDIX 8

### **Bylaw 346 Garbage and Recycling collection Sample Violation Warning letter**

Sent to residents who attract wildlife.



THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY

Mr. Resident  
PO Box XXX  
XXX Street  
Lions Bay BC  
V0N 2E0

2010-06-23

**Re: Infractions of Garbage and Recycling Collection Bylaw No. 346 - Warning**

On Tuesday June 23, 2010, a Village of Lions Bay Bylaw Officer visited the residents at XXX Street in Lions Bay Place investigating the intrusion of dangerous wildlife (bear) accessing unsecured garbage. As a result of this visit and as the registered property owner on file you are being made aware in writing, of the following Bylaw infractions and fines for the offences below.

Pursuant to Bylaw No. 346, regarding the Garbage and Recycling Collection;  
It is in contravention of the above mention Bylaw to:

Section 6) Failing to securely house wildlife attractants (\$300.00 fine)

Section 16) Storage of wildlife attractant in non wildlife resistant containers, single family residential (\$60.00 fine)

Please note, The Village takes all bear contacts very seriously and we now want to advise you of the risks and the penalties relating to bear contacts. Please ensure that all exterior stored garbage, recycling and foods are stored in approved wildlife resistant containers.

**If you are confronted with a bear situation that causes you distress or you feel threatened, please phone the Conservation Officers' Service 'RAPP' line that is accessible 24/7 at 1-877-952-7277.**

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Village Office



## APPENDIX 9

### **Bear Activity Report Summary, 2009**

Tracks bear activity in the Village

| VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY  |               |          |                                |  |                      |  |
|---|---------------|----------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| Bear/Wildlife Sightings for 2010  |               |          |                                |  |                      |  |
| RAPP Line: 1-877-952-7277 or 663-9453   |               |          |                                |  |                      |  |
| 1st of each month email this spread sheet to: Sgt Chris Doyle at: Chris.Doyle@gov.bc.ca |               |          |                                |  |                      |  |
| Street Address  | Sighting Date | Time     | Where                          | Size/Age of Bear                       | Features of Bear     | Activity/Attractants   |
| 45 Sunset Dr  | Feb 16/10     | 2am      | 45 Sunset Dr                   | very lg                                |                      | scratched at the cat door  |
| 45 Sunset Dr  | Feb 22/10     | 4:45 AM  | 45 Sunset Drive                | only heard it, signs of heavy drooling |                      | scratched at the cat door  |
| 229 Bayview Rd  | Feb 18/10     | 5:00 AM  | 229 Bayview Rd                 | large black bear                       |                      | ripped handle off bear-resistant bin, scared off by resident                       |
| 35 Oceanview Rd   | Apr 29/10     | 10:15 AM | top of Oceanview Rd            | very large black bear                  |                      |  |
| Works Yard  | Apr 29/10     |          | near top of Timbertop          | large black bear                       |                      |  |
| 229 Bayview Rd  | May 9/10      |          | trail above Sunset gate        | large black bear                       |                      |  |
| 229 Bayview Rd  | May 11/10     | 12:30PM  | Bayview heading to school      | large black bear                       |                      | walked through 229 & 239 Bayview   |
| 45 Sunset Dr  | May 18/10     | 3:00pm   | 75 Creekview                   | large black bear                       | tag in ear           | walked through fence, damaging fence   |
| LB School   | May 18/10     | 3:05pm   | School on Bayview              | large black bear                       |                      | walking through schoolgrounds  |
| Bayview   | May 25/10     | 5:30pm   | Bayview                        | large black bear                       | yellow tag right ear |  |
| 227 Bayview   | May 25/10     |          | Bayview                        | large black bear                       | yellow tag right ear | in yard  |
| Bayview   | May 25/10     | 6:15pm   | 255 Byaview                    | black bear                             |                      | in yard tried to grab bird feeder attached to winddow                              |
| Bayview   | May 25/10     |          | 335 Bayview Pl                 |  |                      | neighbours garbage strewn about their yard, bear scat                              |
| 120 Kelvin Grove W  | May 28/10     | 3:15pm   | 120 Kelvin Grove Way           | black bear                             |                      | in yard  |
| 110 Sunset Dr   | May 29/10     |          | 110 Sunset Dr                  | black Bear                             |                      | on lawn, dog chased bear away  |
| 227 Bayview   | May 29/10     | 7:45pm   | 227 Bayview                    | black bear                             |                      | on sundeck   |
| 242 Panorama Rd   | May 30/10     | 8pm      | 242 Panorama Rd                | black bear                             |                      |  |
| 35 Oceanview Rd   | May 28/10     | 8:22pm   | 90 Oceanview                   | black bear                             |                      | on deck & garden, then onto neighbours property                                    |
| Brunswick Beach   | May 30/10     | pm       | 33 Brunswick Beach             | black bear                             |                      | broke flower pots to get to hummingbird feeder, attempted break into storage shed. |
| Brunswick Beach   | May 30/10     | am       | Centennial Trail above highway | bear                                   |                      | fresh bear scat  |
| 100 Sunset  | May 31/10     | 3:20 PM  | 100 Sunset Dr                  | large black bear                       | tag in ear           | go into garbage Friday, now mulling it over.                                       |
| Brunswick Beach   | May 31/10     | pm       | 16 Brunswick Beach             | small bear                             |                      | knocked over garbage bins  |
| Brunswick Beach   | May 31/10     | pm       | Nth end BB                     | bear                                   |                      | got into birdfeeders   |
| 50 Sunset Dr  | June 5/10     |          | deck at 50 Sunset              | large black bear                       | "Goliath"            | damaged case of water bottles on deck  |
| Brunswick Beach   | June 7/10     | 9:30pm   | 1 BB                           | very large black bear                  |                      | knocked over compost bin, moved on   |
| Brunswick Beach   | June 7/10     | 9:30pm   | 18 BB                          | very large black bear                  |                      | entered house, eat muffins from fridge   |
|   | June 8/10     | 6:30am   | 180 Oceanview Place            | large black bear                       |                      | roming around Panorama & Oceanview, seen 3 times in last we                        |
| 395 Bayview Place   | June 8/10     | 2:50pm   | 395 Bayview Place              | large black bear                       |                      | going down driveway to Bayview Place & Bayview Road                                |
| 180 Oceanview   | June 4/10     | 8:00pm   | 180 Oceanview Place            | bear                                   |                      | neighbour walking dog-encountered bear & distraught. Mark dro                      |
|   | June 13/10    | 10:15pm  | 90 Isleview                    | waist size bear                        |                      | got into garbage on deck. Bear headed for Lions Bay Ave                            |
|   | June 11,12/10 |          | Brunswick                      | 2 small bears                          |                      | munching on grass on side of hwy at Brunswick                                      |
|   | June 12/10    |          | Brunswick                      | 2 cubs & mum                           |                      | seen by bus driver on upper side of hwy on trail                                   |
|   | June 13/10    | 9:15pm   | Brunswick Beach                | big bear                               |                      | seen on ground level deck  |
| 110 Sunset Dr   | June 13/10    | pm       | Brunswick Beach                | large black bear                       |                      | encountered bear at B beach, dog was barking & drove it away                       |
|   | June 21/10    | 1:30am   | 215 Panorama Place             | large bear                             |                      | found bear in kithcen into cupboards, fridge etc, chased off                       |
| 255 Oceanview Rd  | June 20/10    |          | 255 Oceanview Rd               | black bear                             |                      | came in front door, no damage  |
|   | June 22/10    | 8pm      | 340 Upper Bayview              | black bear                             | yellow tag           | bear in house, attracted by garbage outside  |
|   | June 22/10    |          | 335 Bayview Place              | black bear                             | yellow tag           | bear in house, to neighbour's garbage  |
| 20 Oceanview  | June 23/10AM  | AM       | 20 Oceanview                   | black bear                             |                      | broke through french doors   |
| 35 Oceanview Rd   | June 30/10    | 10:30am  | Spirit Trail                   | med black bear                         |                      | on Spirit Trail, dog was barking   |
| 460 U Bayview   | July 3/10     | 2pm      | 460 U Bayview                  | lg black bear                          |                      | walked thru yard   |
| 40 Seaview Pl   | July 18/10    | 7:47 AM  | 40 Seaview Pl                  | small bear                             |                      | in back yard ck berries & apple tree   |
| 45 Sunset Dr  | July 19/10    | 5:15pm   | 45 Sunset Dr                   | small black bear                       |                      | crossing thru yard   |
| 180 Highview Pl   | July 26/10    | 7:30am   | 180 Highview Pl                | sml black bear                         | tag in ear           | turning over logs in backyard  |
| 445 Mountain Dr   | Aug 13/10     | 7:30am   | cul de sac Mtn Dr              | lg black bear                          |                      | into garbage along street, Smithrite not p/u garbage yet 9:30am                    |
| 335 Bayview Rd  | Aug 13/10     | 2:30pm   | 335 Bayview Rd                 | black bear                             |                      | came from behind house, walking down driveway                                      |
| 30 Sweetwater Way   | Aug 28/10     | 2:00pm   | 30 Sweetwater Way              | medium black bear                      |                      | bear in plum tree in back garden   |
| 4 Brunswick Beach   | Aug 27/10     | 8:04pm   | beach at Brunswick Beach       | bear scat                              |                      | bear scat only   |
| 65 Tidewater Way  | Sept 3/10     | 8am      | 65 Tidewater & Pking lot       | large black bear                       |                      | eating berries in her garden & pking lot (has been around 2 wks                    |
|   | Sept 29/10    | pm       | 205 Kelvin Grove               | bear                                   |                      | bear in compost in yard  |
| Kelvin Grove Way  | Oct 3/10      | 10:26pm  | end Kelvin Grove Way           | bear                                   |                      | bear in driveway then wandered up Kelvin Grove Way                                 |
|   | Oct 8/10      | 12:30 PM | Bayview Rod                    | bear                                   | 3 yr old             | wandering along road into forest by school Norma notified scho                     |
|   | Oct 8/10      | 12:30 PM | School                         | bear                                   |                      | as above-email from school-bear was looking in the windows                         |
| 400 Mountain Dr   | Nov 8/10      | 10:30am  | 400 Mountain Dr                | lg black bear                          |                      | lying on grass & eating berries  |
| SIGN POSTED   | Nov 11/10     | evening  | lower school parking lot       | bear                                   | 3 yr old/yellow tag  |  |

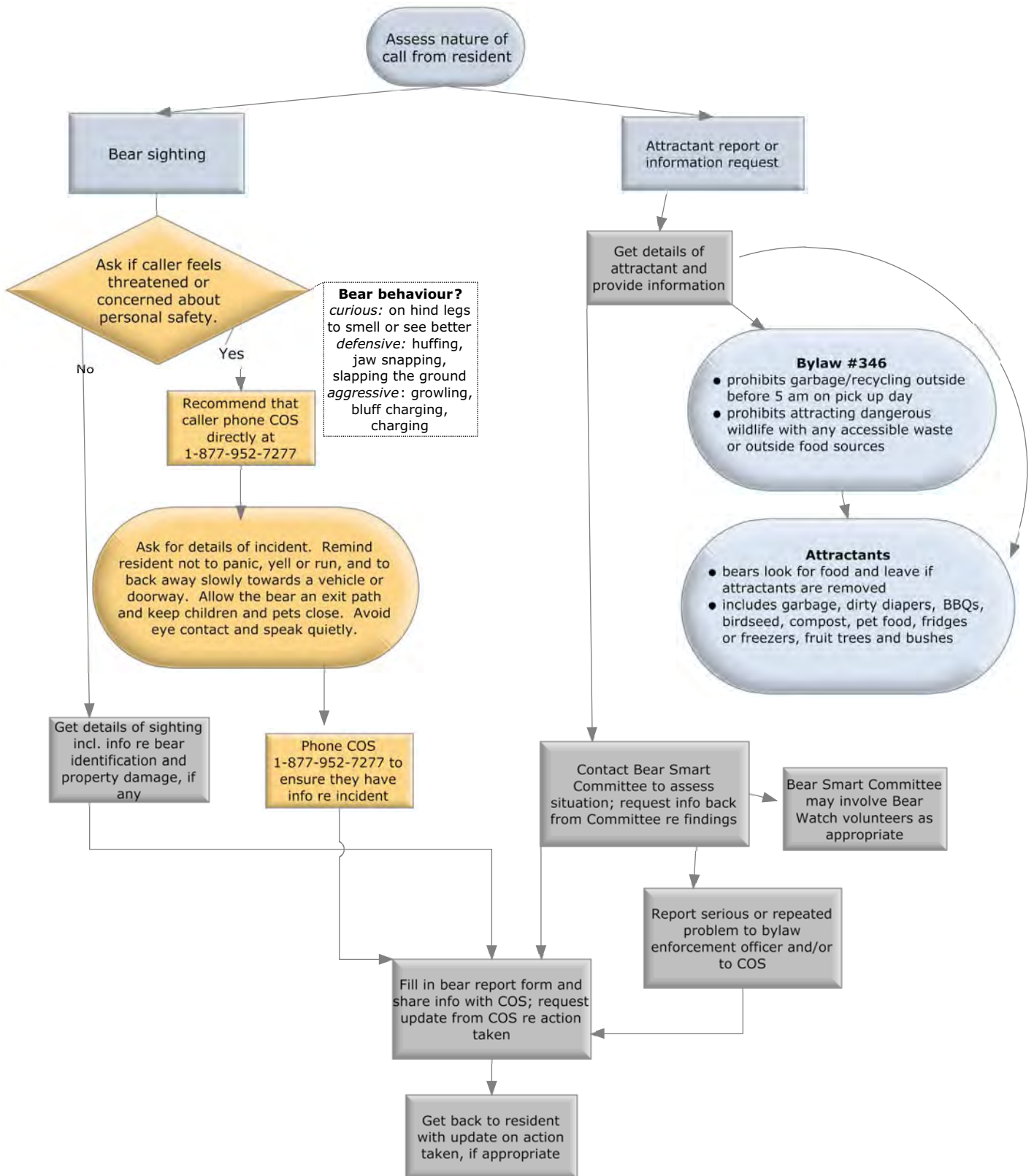
## APPENDIX 10

### **Bear Smart Call Procedure Flow Chart**

Describes the information for residents reporting bears to the office

# Lions Bay Bear Smart Call Procedure

(last revised Aug/09)



## APPENDIX 11

### **Article; 'Hiking in Bear Territory'**

Distributed to the Hiking Club  
and linked to Village website.

## Hiking in Black Bear territory

Hikers and trail blazers in the Lions Bay area could increase their safety by educating themselves about black bears before venturing into bear territory.

### **Avoid Black Bear Encounters**

- Hike in a group, most bears will leave the area if they are aware of your presence.
- Stay on established trails and hike only in daylight.
- Keep children close at hand and within sight
- Use extra caution when travelling near rushing water or into the wind. A bear may not be able to hear or smell you coming.
- Stay in the open as much as possible

**Be alert! Watch for signs.** Tracks, droppings, diggings, torn-up logs, and scratched trees may indicate that a bear is nearby.



### **Black Bears signs, tracks, droppings, and scratches**

© Parks Canada

**Use caution when travelling near natural bear foods.** Berries, fish, and carrion (dead animals) are all food sources for bears, which they may defend.

**Keep dogs under control.** Dogs may infuriate a bear, inciting an attack. Your dog may then run to you with the bear in pursuit!

**Watch for cubs.** Bears may become aggressive if they feel their young are threatened. Never pass between a mother and her cub(s).

**When hiking in deep snow avoid black bear denning sites.** Black bears usually choose den sites close to valley bottoms. The bears dig cavities in old growth trees, under stumps or beneath brush piles. In second growth forest areas, dens are more often located in ground cavities.

**When creating new trails try to avoid blind corners,** right angle turns or short sightlines. Increased visibility will allow hikers to watch for wildlife that may be nearby.



## **If You Encounter a Bear**

### **Keep calm.**

Think ahead, and plan how you would respond if you encounter a bear.

### **Don't run. Bears can easily outrun you.**

Running may trigger an attack. Pick up small children and stay in a group.

### **Give the bear space.**

Back away slowly and talk in a soft voice. Do not approach the bear or make direct eye contact.

### **Leave the area or make a wide detour.**

If you cannot leave, wait until the bear moves away and ensure that it has an escape route.

### **The bear may approach you or rear up on its hind legs.**

Bears are curious. If a bear stands on its hind legs, it is most likely trying to catch your scent and is not necessarily a sign of aggression. Back away slowly and talk in a soft voice.

### **Do not drop objects, clothing, or food to distract the bear.**

If the bear receives food, it will have been rewarded for its aggressive behaviour, thereby increasing the likelihood that it will repeat that behaviour again.

**Watch for aggressive behaviours.** A bear may display aggression by swinging its head from side to side; making vocalizations such as huffs, snorts, whoops, or moans; displaying teeth or claws; jaw popping; swatting at the ground; staring with eye contact; panting; or laying its ears back. These behaviours usually indicate that the bear is stressed, acting defensively and asking for more space.

## **If an Attack Occurs**

Black bear attacks are rare! However, if one occurs, remember these guidelines.

### **Defensive attack:**

If you surprise a bear and it responds to defend itself, then play dead by lying on your stomach with your legs apart; protect your face, the back of your head and neck with your arms; remain silent; and if wearing a pack, leave it on for protection. Most bears will leave you alone once it believes the threat is passed.

### **Offensive attack:**

This is the most serious and potentially deadly attack a black bear might make! It occurs when a bear appears to stalk or follow you for a period of time and then chooses to attack; or when the bear attacks you at night.

**In this situation, playing dead is not appropriate.** Try to escape to a secure place such as a vehicle. Climbing a tree is an option, but remember that black bears can climb trees easily. If you cannot escape and a bear continues its pursuit, react aggressively and try to intimidate the bear. If this fails, fight back with anything at hand such as rocks, sticks, knives, bear spray or other possible weapons to let the bear know that you are not easy prey. Act as a group if you are part of one. Don't forget to yell; help may be close by.

Chemical bear repellents/bear sprays contain a derivative of cayenne pepper. When sprayed directly into an animal's face, they cause eye and upper respiratory tract irritation. Although such sprays can be effective when used properly, wind and other circumstances may alter their effect on the animal. Therefore, use them with caution and always follow the manufacturer's directions. Bear sprays do not guarantee your safety.

### **Problem Bears are created by people**

Black bears are opportunists, always on the lookout for "easy" calories. Once they find human food or garbage, they continue to seek it out from backpacks, picnic tables, coolers, etc. If they become accustomed to humans, their natural fear of people fades and they take more chances to find food rewards. These "spoiled bears" are unpredictable and may be aggressive. Please bring all your food and garbage with you to eliminate feeding a bear unnaturally.

**Enjoy the forests surrounding Lions Bay, but remember this is black bear territory and hike safely.**