



THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE
PROTECTION
of Fur-Bearing Animals

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Re: Trapping and wildlife education

Dear Mayor Harvie and Council,

We were distressed to learn of a raccoon caught in a potentially illegal foot-hold trap in Delta last week. According to the information obtained by The Fur-Bearers through Critter Care Wildlife Society and the individual who found the raccoon, he had likely been dragging the trap for multiple days. His condition was reported as exhausted, dehydrated, and in extreme pain. Photos show a visibly broken leg.

Trapping is a provincially regulated activity. However, municipalities can regulate traps within their communities and some BC municipalities have chosen to enact by-laws restricting trap usage.

Traps pose a public safety threat to wildlife (including endangered or at-risk species), as well as domestic pets like cats and dogs and families. Documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act indicate that the provincial government has been aware that an average of eight dogs per year are killed by such traps.

The Fur-Bearers would like to encourage you to enact a by-law prohibiting the use of body-gripping, Conibear-style, and snare-type traps in the City of Delta. We have attached a sample by-law from the community of Gibsons for reference

Recently a member of the Conservation Officer Service also publicly stated that communities can prohibit the use of traps. Additionally, The Fur-Bearers would like to offer our assistance in creating educational material for your website or other materials so residents can learn how to co-exist with wildlife such as raccoons, skunks, coyotes, bears, and other native species.

We look forward to your response and working with you to ensure the safety of all those who call Delta home.

Sincerely,

Michael Howie
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CC: Area media.