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## ACT NOW: Animal advocates to Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources

**VANCOUVER** – Advocates in British Columbia are calling for Minister of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Steve Thomson to act now and allow municipalities to ban the use of traps following the findings of a poll.

The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals – based in British Columbia since the 1950s – is pointing to the results of a recent Insight West poll that clearly shows the vast majority of British Columbians oppose the trapping of wild animals for their fur.

Leg-hold, Conibear and other body-gripping traps are legal to use throughout the province to ensnare numerous fur-bearing animals, despite the growing disproval of citizens. It is also becoming common for family pets to be caught, injured or killed in these traps.

"We're regularly hearing from residents and municipal representatives who want to see an end to trapping in their communities," said Adrian Nelson, spokesperson for APFA. "It's coming down to whether or not Minister Thomson will act on what his constituents clearly want."

Communities like Nanaimo, who acted on the demands of residents and banned the use of traps for fear of public safety, conservation, and ethics, are still awaiting a decision from the Minister.

"This is no longer a discussion or a debate," Nelson added. "The people of British Columbia have spoken, and they want to see an end to this cruel and unnecessary practice."