

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE **PROTECTION** of Fur-Bearing Animals

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September 11, 2015

Grizzly killers must be identified and investigated

National wildlife protection group puts \$2,500 reward on the table

VANCOUVER – The horrific video of at least two individuals laughing while watching a grizzly bear they shot numerous times has prompted righteous outrage across British Columbia – and a national wildlife protection group wants answers.

The video, which was posted to Facebook by local advocates, has drawn a great deal of attention, but little information is available. But it is believed that the video was filmed in British Columbia, the Yukon/Northwest Territories, or Alaska – the only jurisdictions where the hunting of grizzlies is permitted.

"There is a lot we don't know about the individuals in this video," says Michael Howie, spokesperson for The Association for the Protection of Fur-Bearing Animals (The Fur-Bearers). "But the behaviour of the speakers and the treatment of the bear warrant investigation. We need the public to watch the video, listen to the voices, and provide information to authorities."

The Fur-Bearers are asking anyone with information regarding this video to report it to the BC SPCA's tip line at 1-855-622-7722. A \$2,500 reward will be given to the tipster by The Fur-Bearers if identification and investigation lead to prosecution under federal or provincial regulations.

"It's possible that the killing of this bear was lawful," Howie adds. "That does not mean, however, that no criminal or wildlife act violations occurred. We need a full, formal investigation to take place – and we need Premier Christy Clark to recognize that the public will not stand for these atrocious actions, regardless of the policy of the day."

Additional facts:

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- Polling has indicated that at least 80 per cent of BC residents oppose the trophy hunt
- Advocacy groups question the government's population estimates of grizzly bears
- First Nations groups state that trophy hunting of grizzlies is unethical
- The Fur-Bearers have worked to protect fur-bearing animals in the wild and captivity in Canada since 1953.

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