



May 22, 2020

Raccoon “degloved” by Delta trap

Reward offered by non-profit to identify, convict responsible parties

DELTA – A raccoon’s degloved paw was completely shattered and covered in maggots – potentially for days – due to a trap in a Delta community.

According to Critter Care Wildlife Society, the otherwise healthy female raccoon was caught May 17 with the Duke-style trap on her paw in trees near 17a Avenue – a block from Beach Grove Park and Beach Grove Elementary school. Delta Community Animal Shelter responded to calls from residents; the raccoon was caught and transported to the permitted rehabilitators at Critter Care. Due to the extent of her injuries, the raccoon was humanely euthanized.

The Fur-Bearers, a wildlife non-profit who last year offered a reward in the case of a raccoon tortured by a trap in Delta, has put up \$1,000 for information leading to the identification and conviction of the person(s) responsible.

“This is a deeply troubling incident and we were horrified to see the extent of injuries caused to this raccoon,” says Lesley Fox, Executive Director at The Fur-Bearers. “Last year we petitioned Delta Council to consider putting in place by-laws restricting the use of traps to try and prevent this kind of cruelty. We’re asking again now because the provincial regulations aren’t preventing the use of these devices and the damage they cause in Delta-area communities.”

Trapping is not a long-term answer to human conflict with wildlife in rural or urban settings and will only need to be repeated year after year, Fox adds, noting that humane options exist to prevent and mitigate conflict.

“We are issuing this reward because this barbaric act demands consequence and because residents need to know the impact setting traps has on their community,” Fox says. “So long as trapping continues in a community these horrifying injuries will continue, too.”

Anyone with information about this incident is asked to contact the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service RAPP (Report All Poachers and Polluters) Line at 1-877-952-7277. Anonymous information can be submitted online at <https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/> as well.

-30-

Links to 2019 press release and letter to Council in Delta regarding a raccoon grievously injured in a trap last year:

<https://thefurbearers.com/downloads/media/2019-05-06%20MEDIA%20Delta%20Raccoon.pdf>

<https://thefurbearers.com/downloads/media/2019-05-06%20Council%20Delta%20Raccoon.pdf>

Photos can be credited to Critter Care Wildlife Society.

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