

NOTE: Personal information has been redacted in accordance with Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Legislation.

May 31, 2018

To Whom it May Concern,

RE: A new wildlife and habitat conservation strategy for B.C.

While there are likely many issues that can be addressed in a new strategy for wildlife in BC, the one that is closest to home is the overrun of deer in urban areas, and in my case, Victoria, and the inability to cull these populations. While I can appreciate the province not wanting to interfere in local government issues, wildlife in BC is a provincial responsibility and the local communities have no authority to manage these problem populations without involving the province and the public.

Our cities are not parks and there are no predators permitted to manage the deer populations in urban areas. Cities should not be allowed to be overrun with large animals that are a hazard to vehicle and pedestrian traffic, not to mention the millions of dollars in property damage they cause. They also interfere with the ability to foster any "grow local food" initiatives without the expense of intrusive fencing.

Please consider a provincial strategy to cull and dispose of these animals. Ideally, allow the local indigenous communities access to a controlled hunt for food, skins, etc.

Respectfully,

Laura