

File No.: 04-1000-20-2017-214

September 12, 2017

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")

I am responding to your request of May 31, 2017 for:

In media interviews, Park Board commissioner Michael Wiebe indicated that leading up to their May 15, 2017 decision to enact a by-law amendment banning importation and display of cetaceans in Vancouver Parks, commissioners and staff had spoken to and received communication from numerous experts (e.g. scientists, members of the zoological community, government officials) on the issue of cetaceans in captivity.

Request is for a summary of said communication including the following information:

- Date and type of communication (e.g. 03/03/2017, phone conversation/email/letter received etc.);
- Name and affiliation of individual consulted (e.g. Dr. John Doe, University of British Columbia);
- Place of meeting (if in person);
- Park Board staff or commissioners involved or recipients of communication (e.g. Commissioners Wiebe, Mackinnon); and
- Brief summary of content and sentiment expressed in communication (e.g. supports or opposes ban, main arguments), if recorded.

Time Frame: December 1, 2016 to May 15, 2017.

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed, (blacked out), under s.22(1) of the Act. You can read or download this section here: [http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws\\_new/document/ID/freeside/96165\\_00](http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00)

Under section 52 of the Act you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your request. The Act allows you 30 business days from the date you receive this notice to request a review by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, [info@oipc.bc.ca](mailto:info@oipc.bc.ca) or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number assigned to your request (#04-1000-20-2017-214); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request for information sent to the City of Vancouver; and 4) detailed reasons or grounds on which you are seeking the review.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Freedom of Information Office at [foi@vancouver.ca](mailto:foi@vancouver.ca) if you have any questions.

Yours truly,



**Barbara J. Van Fraassen, BA**  
**Director, Access to Information**

*Barbara.vanfraassen@vancouver.ca*  
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4  
Phone: 604.873.7999  
Fax: 604.873.7419

Encl.

:ag

**From:** [mail@changemail.org](mailto:mail@changemail.org)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** 100 more people signed "Thank Vancouver Park Board Commissioners for Banning Whale & Dolphin Captivity"  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 2:43:08 PM

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## New signatures

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**Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation** – This petition addressed to you on Change.org has new activity. See progress and respond to the campaign's supporters.

Thank Vancouver Park Board Commissioners for  
Banning Whale & Dolphin Captivity

Petition by VanAquaFacts · 100 supporters



**100 more people signed  
in the last day**

[View petition activity](#)

---

### RECENT SUPPORTERS



**Kristy Trentz**

Dubuque, IA · Mar 25, 2017

thank you for having a heart



**Kate Dougherty**

Duluth, MN · Mar 25, 2017

Thank you! And it is about time to think forwardly, and not in a stinken thinken manner.



**Alison Banks-Bucher**

San Diego, CA · Mar 25, 2017

Thank You Vancouver Aquarium, Vancouver Park Board of Commissioners. You are on the right side of animal rights. These sentient beings belong in the oceans ... wild and free as they were born to be.  
&lt;3

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**Ella McCambridge**

Romeo, MI · Mar 25, 2017

Thank you!!!! for banning captivity of cetaceans!!! LOVE LOVE LOVE you!!! :). Mwaaaah!!!!

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**Lauren Shaw**

North Vancouver, CA · Mar 25, 2017

Thank you so much this means so much to me and fills my heart with joy.... I'm grateful I had a say in these issues

[View all 100 supporters](#)

CHANGE.ORG FOR DECISION MAKERS

On Change.org, decision makers like you connect directly with people around the world to resolve issues. Respond to let the people petitioning you know you're listening, say whether you agree with their call to action, or ask them for more information. [Learn more.](#)

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This notification was sent to PBcommissioners@vancouver.ca, the address listed as the decision maker contact by the petition starter. If this is incorrect, please [post a response](#) to let the petition starter know.

**Change.org** · 548 Market St #29993, San Francisco, CA 94104-5401, USA



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** 311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009264794  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 12:29:40 PM

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Park Board,

311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009264794

Regards,

Alfred  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009264794

Case created: 2017-03-13, 10:53:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s.22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |                                    |
|----|---|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Re: Cetacean ban                   |
|    |   | Via web form:                      |
|    |   | Thanks for your enlightened policy |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No                                 |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment                         |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department                    |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks                              |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board                         |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** 311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009257190  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 2:19:51 PM

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Parks Board,

311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009257190

Regards,

Alfred  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257190

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:02:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: The Parks Board recent decision regarding Cetaceans in Captivity

Hello,

I was incredibly disappointed to hear about your decision last night. As someone who loves Vancouver Parks and has had respect for the parks board in the past I am now disgusted to hear your opinions on something you know so little about. To hear you compare the incredibly important research done by the Vancouver Aquarium to "In the last century, both the Nazis and the Imperial Japanese Army committed atrocities in the name of science." shows that you have no respect for science, the environment, researchers, the victims of the Holocaust or the cetaceans you claim to be "protecting" by this ruling. I was absolutely

revolted to hear you compare the NAZIS to the researchers at the Vancouver Aquarium. Have you no sense of dignity at all?! Obviously the research you have done as minimal without any fact based references and your decision was based on your feelings and emotions and who can yell the loudest at a Parks Board meeting. you have lots all of my support and I will continue to speak out against you until it is time to vote you out of this job which you abuse to support your power hungry ego instead of focus on what is best for the city, the economy, the environment, and cetaceans at large. Please go back to doing your actual job to protect and support our parks and leave what you don't understand or respect to the adults.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** 311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009257034  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 2:05:41 PM

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Park Board,

311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009257034

Regards,

Alfred  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257034

Case created: 2017-03-10, 01:47:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s.22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email: s.22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Vancouver Aquarium

I simply wanted to thank you, Park Board, for your unanimous vote against cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. I am so proud of you all for showing real leadership on this, and addressing the actual ethics of this issue.

Thank you! Today, I am really proud to be a citizen of Vancouver. You have my unwavering support in this decision.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Compliment

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board

#### **Additional Details**

#### **Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** 311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009265237  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 12:37:13 PM

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Park Board,

311 has received this Citizen Feedback-101009265237

Regards,

Alfred  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009265237

Case created: 2017-03-13, 11:38:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Via web form.  |
|    |   | Subject: Cetacean display vote   |
|    |   | Message:   |
|    |   | Thank you so much for voting to prohibit the import and display of whales, dolphins and porpoises. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

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## Map and Photo

- no picture -

From: s.22(1)  
To: Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
Cc: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Vancouver Park Board  
Subject: 2018 Beluga whale vote  
Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2016 11:41:19 AM

---

Dear Ms Sarah Kirby-Young,

I am writing to respectfully ask that you consider the proposal of ending the beluga whale exhibit at the Vancouver Aquarium. I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild and the Aquarium having lost two in two weeks just highlights how badly they do in captivity, even with the best intentions and best veterinary care.

I understand that you have suggested opening this decision up to the public of Vancouver and I think that this is strong, conscientious decision. However, I also understand that as the vote might not happen until 2018 the aquarium may well ship in beluga whales currently out on loan and build a new exhibit before it is held and therefore undermine you and the democratic vote. Whilst the beluga whale exhibit is empty and the new one not yet built it seems to me to be the perfect time to hold the vote, would you consider bringing it forward to 2017? That way no whales have to be packed into enclosed boxes and shipped across country only to suffer being shipped back if the vote closes the exhibit. It would also mean that the aquarium doesn't spend money on a new enclosure only to have it empty a few months later, losing them their investment.

Many thanks for your time,  
Yours Sincerely

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** A desperate plea  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2016 11:30:24 AM

---

Good day,

I know you are probably receiving tones of emails like these and I doubt this will even be read, but I figured I would try anyways. I am not going to drag this on and write a novel as I am sure you have heard what I am going to say a million times but I hope if everyone who thinks the same, still makes the effort to write in, maybe it will give someone pause and rethink certain things.

The Vancouver Aquarium needs to stop keeping cetaceans. How many more beautiful creatures need to die for you to realize that this is the most awful form of torture. Making them perform for entertainment in swimming pools is not what they deserve. I get the research aspect but you do not need to keep them and you certainly do not need to breed them. The baby that just recently died never even saw an ocean.

I, along with many other Vancouver people, are asking you to please do something. Please help these animals have a better life. Vancouver is known for taking care of its beautiful city and this is tarnishing it's reputation (just look at the comments world wide since the death of Qila).

DO the reseach please...we are better than this and these animals deserve better than this.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** A note of gratitude  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:16:23 PM

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Hello: I would like to thank the Commissioners for making the right decision regarding the protection of cetaceans. Please continue to work on their behalf in the future at Vancouver Parks. Sincerely, s.22(1)  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Sara Dubois](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** A sincere thank you from the BC SPCA  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:51:38 AM

---

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

Thank you for your courage and commitment to good public policy last night in your decision to amend bylaws pertaining to the keeping of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you for acknowledging that cetaceans are worthy of moral consideration and are not just tools for science or entertainment. Marine mammal research and rescue do not require the public display of animals and the future of aquariums world-wide is shifting.

Thank you for encouraging the Vancouver Aquarium to become a facility that all British Columbians can be proud of and support, to creatively rethink their future direction at this pivotal moment in time.

The BC SPCA has always supported the Vancouver Aquariums efforts in conservation, research and rescue – but we have always [disagreed with the keeping and display of marine mammals](#), including cetaceans. We have operated our own [wildlife rehabilitation centre](#) near Victoria for 20 years, and care for more than 3,000 animals a year, without being open to the public.

As an Advisor to the [Whale Sanctuary Project](#), Board President of the [Animals in Science Policy Institute](#), and UBC Adjunct Professor in Applied Biology, I know that both science and ethical conversations will advance as a result of your brave and compassionate votes last night.

Sincere regards,  
Dr. Sara Dubois  
Chief Scientific Officer

**BC SPCA Provincial Office**

1245 East 7th Avenue  
Vancouver BC V5T 1R1  
604.647.6403 (office) • 778-772-9762 (cell)  
[sdubois@spca.bc.ca](mailto:sdubois@spca.bc.ca) • [spca.bc.ca](http://spca.bc.ca) • [wildarc.com](http://wildarc.com)



**OUR MISSION:** *To protect and enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.*

The BC SPCA is a not-for-profit organization reliant on donations from the public.  
Charitable Tax # BN 11881 9036 RR0001

This message and any attachments or links are for the sole use of the intended recipient(s) and may contain privileged and

confidential information. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure or distribution is prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify us immediately and destroy the original message. Thank you.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** A victory in the fight against cruel cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:50:13 PM

---

As a resident of Ontario I applaud your heroic decision to prohibit display of cetaceans. Hopefully this action will set a precedence for other aquariums in Canada and throughout the world.

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** About your aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:03:48 PM

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Please do not reverse your decision on importing any more cetaceans. I was so happy for you when I learned of it. But your possible reversal with another unnecessary hearing in May is saddening to say the least. Please consider accepting what the original vote concluded and do not import any cetaceans to your aquarium.

Thanks,

s.22(1)

**From:** "Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 1/20/2017 6:54:57 PM  
**Subject:** AGENDA - Park Board IN CAMERA Meeting - Jan 23/17

Hello Commissioners,

Attached, please find the agenda for the Jan 23/17 In Camera Board Meeting along with the minutes for the Dec 12 /16 In Camera meeting. The password has been updated to reflect the new year – please advise if you have any difficulty opening the attachments.

In preparation for the In Camera and Regular Board meeting discussions, I thought it would be helpful to provide you all with the information regarding cetaceans in Stanley Park from the meetings in 2014. These links are all publicly available.

Apr 28/14 - Board Decision: [A Review of the Practice of Keeping Captive Cetaceans in Stanley Park](#) (Motion on Notice)

Jul 11/14 - Public Memo: [Overview of Current Agreements and Relationship Between the Vancouver Park Board and the Vancouver Aquarium](#)  
 - memo includes links to the [Vancouver Charter](#), [Vancouver Aquarium Licence Agreement](#), and the [Parks Control Bylaw](#)

Jul 26/14 - [Special Meeting Agenda](#); meeting occurred over 3 days: Jul 26, 28 & 31  
 - agenda includes links to the [staff report](#) (report back), which includes the report by Dr. Gaydos, [staff presentation](#), and the [Vancouver Aquarium presentation](#)  
 - Board Decision: [Review of the Practice of Keeping Captive Cetaceans in Stanley Park](#)

Nov 24/14 - Staff Report: [Aquarium Cetaceans – Parks Control By-law Amendment & Oversight Committee Terms of Reference](#) (report reference)  
 - Board Decision: [Aquarium Cetaceans – Parks Control By-law Amendment & Oversight Committee Terms of Reference](#)

Thanks,  
 c.

~~~~~  
 Cheryl Chan  
 Office of the General Manager  
 Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
 t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
 e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [crawford.casey@vancouver.ca](mailto:crawford.casey@vancouver.ca); [kirby-yung.sarah@vancouver.ca](mailto:kirby-yung.sarah@vancouver.ca); [mackinnon.stuart@vancouver.ca](mailto:mackinnon.stuart@vancouver.ca); [shum.erin@vancouver.ca](mailto:shum.erin@vancouver.ca); [wiebe.michael@vancouver.ca](mailto:wiebe.michael@vancouver.ca); [evans.catherine@vancouver.ca](mailto:evans.catherine@vancouver.ca); [coupar.john@vancouver.ca](mailto:coupar.john@vancouver.ca); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** amendment for cetaceans in Vancouver parks  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 1:20:30 AM

---

Vancouver Park Board commissioners,

The Vancouver Aquarium suffered a major defeat on March 9, when the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and import of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. The Commissioners recognized the incredible amount of support which had sent people. Our voice has been heard without a doubt!

Many of us manifest at this significant change in us. You are about to the new regulations, and it will be subject to a new series of hearings around May 15. So, I continue my support for this vital amendment of this email to encourage you to make the right decision. Thank you for your compassion.

Kind regards,

s.22(1)





**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#); [Coupar, John](#); [Wiebe, Michael](#); [Crawford, Casey](#); [Evans, Catherine](#); [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#); [Mackinnon, Stuart](#); [Shum, Erin](#)  
**Cc:** [idainfo@idausa.org](mailto:idainfo@idausa.org)  
**Subject:** amendment for cetaceans in Vancouver parks  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 1:50:37 AM

---

Vancouver Park Board commissioners,

The Vancouver Aquarium suffered a major defeat on March 9, when the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and import of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. The Commissioners recognized the incredible amount of support which had sent people. Our voice has been heard without a doubt!

Many of us manifest at this significant change in us. You are about to the new regulations, and it will be subject to a new series of hearings around May 15. So, I continue my support for this vital amendment of this email to encourage you to make the right decision. Thank you for your compassion.

Kind regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Amendment to prohibit transport of cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:26:45 PM

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Please continue to support this vital amendment. You have made the right decision to protect cetaceans from future trauma. THANKS FOR THE GOOD WORK!

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Amendment  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 7:17:20 AM

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Please prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. These animals should be allow to live their lives free in the oceans.

Thank you!

s.22(1)

From: s.22(1)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: an appeal to re-open the debate re: captive cetaceans bylaw  
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 10:17:48 AM

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To the Members of the Park Board,

I am deeply disappointed in the Park Board's decision to amend the bylaw that allows cetaceans to be displayed at the Vancouver Aquarium.

**Leaders of the City of Vancouver have missed a chance to set themselves apart by supporting the kind of aquarium and research facility that should be the model worldwide. Supporting the operation of an ethically managed aquarium and research centre could be part of the same category of kudos as supporting the goal of being the world's greenest city. Instead, you've missed the mark entirely.**

Yes, far too many aquariums have earned the reputation of cruelty to animals and abusive practices of capture and horrific constraint. Yes, too many corporately-motivated aquariums prioritize maximizing entertainment dollars over the caring well for the creatures in their care. But the Vancouver Aquarium is not one of them.

**The City of Vancouver could have come alongside and supported the rescue, research, and education priorities of a model institution.** Who did due diligence in the lead-up to this decision? Did anyone actually go to the aquarium and take 30 seconds to see beyond ingrained, politically-popular stereotypes? Everything about the Vancouver Aquarium's public presentation is about education. No animals are captured for display. I've met many of the researchers and the local students and volunteers they've mentored in the hard, hard, hard work of conservation and species protection. Countless students and visitors have been inspired to take critically-necessary action in the work of conservation because of the Vancouver Aquarium. The March 9th decision puts all that at risk.

Please read the letter by PhD candidate Laureenne Schiller (<http://www.aquablog.ca/2017/03/open-letter-from-a-scientist-to-the-park-board/>).

**I cannot believe that the same decision would have been made if the work of the Aquarium was properly understood as a critical part of the global effort to protect animals.** With all the best intentions, this ill-informed vote is putting conservation efforts at risk.

**Harper shut down the voices of scientists. Trump shut down the voices of scientists. This is not the camp you want to be in.**

Please reopen this discussion. Listen carefully to the scientists who can give you all the support you'd need to answer the critique of anti-aquarium activists. **This decision contradicts the City's position on so many other laudable efforts.** There is an ethical, moral, evidence-based case to be made.

I would like to know what I can do as a citizen of Vancouver to appeal the decision of the Park Board. **Would you please let me know what I can do to encourage you to reopen this debate?** My confidence in those who have so ably led the City of Vancouver in many other areas is shattered. I beg you to

consider my position and the evidence at hand and reverse the decision made on March 9th.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** animals are not criminals,  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 11:38:31 AM

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but it is a moral crime to imprison them!

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Applause  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:15:29 PM

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Great job with the Aquarium bylaw decision, these animals deserve the best possible care if held captive. Although captivity is cruel and kills, this is a step forward. Thanks for doing the right thing for the animals.

s.22(1)

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 3:30:02 PM

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To the Parks Board,

I am a long-time resident of West Vancouver. I am not an “extremist” in either direction regarding the Aquarium but it is my belief that some of you board members are and probably were elected by a very small number of voters with extremist views. I, and nearly all of my friends, with a broader view of life, think that you have made a bad, if not disastrous, decision concerning the long-term welfare of crustaceans. If you believe that you are accomplishing a fair and advantageous act you are dead wrong. I think it is about time that the vast majority of we voters pay some attention to the qualifications of elected Parks Board members.

I must add that I am a life long wild life supporter and have no connection with the Aquarium. I am simply upset when I see extremists, with no independent research or qualified opinions, make very bad and harmful decisions.

Sincerely, s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium Cetaceans decision.  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 9:26:44 PM

---

I am writing to tell you I totally disagree with the decision to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. Not listening to and valuing the opinion of the people who work there and do important studies to improve life for all these animals is unconscionable. This would be similar to someone coming into your place of work and telling you to discontinue your work. Please reconsider your decision.

Take care. s.22(1)

**From:** [John Simpson](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium decision: a bad one  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:05:06 PM

---

Dear Park Commissioners,

I am very disappointed with your decision to not allow cetaceans at The Aquarium going forward. My children, nieces, nephews and business colleagues have developed a great appreciation for our ocean ecosystem because of the educational sessions and exhibits The Aquarium offers. The Aquarium is also one of the key assets Vancouver has for tourism, which seems to be the core of the BC economy. I know 32 children and young adults that you / our government have just alienated.

There are more serious issues that government should be focused on –like affordable housing, so people don't have to live in your parks, and making it possible for struggling young families to survive financially. It is hard to hire good employees cost effectively, because Vancouver is the most expensive city in North America to live and do business in. I have an office at Canada Place, trust me, I know.

I am confident the Liberal Party will not win the next election, so we will be able to fix your errors.

Sincerely,

John Simpson: President

o. [+1 604.727.4765](tel:+16047274765)

e. [johns@syntaxmfg.com](mailto:johns@syntaxmfg.com)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:44:04 PM

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Thank you very much for voting to bring a new bylaw change prohibiting the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Great decision, well done!

s.22(1)



From: s.22(1)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: aquarium  
Date: Friday, March 10, 2017 1:43:11 PM

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## **Park Board votes to amend bylaw, prohibit cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium**



[The Canadian Press](#)  
[More from The Canadian Press](#)

Published on: March 9, 2017 | Last Updated: March 9, 2017 9:50 PM PST

The Vancouver Park Board has unanimously decided to have staff look into amending the Parks Control bylaw to prohibit the importation and display of live whales, dolphins and porpoises.

### **COMMENT**

The activists won; likely people with no scientific background.

It is obviously not permitted for whales, etc., to die in captivity. But it is ok for them to be hunted, run over by boats and maimed and killed, die painful deaths entangled in fishing nets, and whatever dangers the wonderful life in freedom has in store for them. It was comforting to know that the animals at the aquarium were safe from those dangers, although it cannot be ruled out that they are endangered even there by malicious human outside intervention.

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, November 19, 2016 9:03:58 AM

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To the Mayor of Vancouver and the Parks Board,

How many more animals will die because of the attitude people have towards animals other than humans? These caged creatures in captivity are sentient beings who need to lead the life they were born into - and let nature take its course. It seems to me that profit beats principle. How sad. This is no way to educate children, who would see them as they really are in their natural habitat if you presented to them well documented films.

Our fellow inhabitants of Earth better. It takes intelligence.

Hopefully,

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:54:43 PM  
**Importance:** High

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Thanks to all of you for making the brave decision to end the captivity of cetaceans at the VA.

While the VA rescues animals now and then and very laudable I am concerned that many have been and will continue to be deemed "nonreleasable."

Regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 10:03:27 AM

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City-wide plebiscite, at a minimum. If you had any courage, you would do what you surely know is the right thing, and write bylaws that would prohibit the Aquarium from 'hosting' any species of cetacean.

Whales (cash cows) in swimming pools. Strictly nineteenth century. A blight on the city. Disgusting.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature and name of the sender.

Sent from my iPad

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Aquarium: Please Stop Imprisoning Whales  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:43:06 AM

---

Dear Parks Board Commissioners:

We have gone to the Aquarium over the years and watched those two dear beluga whales swimming endlessly back and forth, thinking how constricted that tank is compared to their natural habitat where they could swim for miles at a stretch. No matter how one tries to rationalize, it is still a little prison for them. Now is the time (long overdue) to stop incarcerating any more of these magnificent creatures in our supposedly enlightened city.

Most Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Ban on cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 3:38:05 PM

---



Thank you!

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Cc:** [publicrelations@vanaqua.org](mailto:publicrelations@vanaqua.org)  
**Subject:** banning cetaceans is VERY BAD DECISION  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 2:12:31 PM

---

Park Board - What gives you people the right to ban the whales and dolphins? You do NOT SPEAK for me. I am so mad you have made this incredibly bad decision.

Researchers at the aquarium are doing vital work.

Hundreds of thousands of people go to see these fascinating creatures.

I believe a minority of people think/protest as you do.

"A ban on displaying all cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium will have a deep impact on the research we do and devastate our marine mammal rescue centre," president and CEO John Nightingale said in a statement.

s.22(1)

From: s.22(1)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Cc: [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#); [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
Subject: Beluga whale dies  
Date: Saturday, November 26, 2016 9:09:49 AM

---

Please DO NOT allow or give permission to the corporation in Stanley Park to acquire another whale. No whales or mammals in captivity!

Thank you.

s.22(1)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/aurora-beluga-vancouver-aquarium-dies-1.3869241>

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 22, 2016, at 11:10 AM, Vancouver Park Board  
<[PB.Comments@vancouver.ca](mailto:PB.Comments@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Dear s.22(1)

Thank you for your communication with the Vancouver Park Board on cetaceans in captivity. We recognize that this debate is emotionally charged and that there are strong and polarized feelings on all sides of the issue.

As you may have heard, the Park Board Chair Sarah Kirby-Yung has indicated publicly that she will be bringing forward a motion to the Board requesting a referendum question on cetaceans in captivity on the ballot in the 2018 civic election. The Chair has indicated that she would like factual, evidence based information on the issue to guide the Board's future consideration of these matters.

There is no date yet for the Chair's motion to be discussed and considered by the elected Park Board but we understand it is imminent.

Thanks again for your interest in this issue and your communication to the Board,

Yours sincerely,

~~~~~  
Vancouver Park Board  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

[pbcomments@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbcomments@vancouver.ca)  
[www.vancouverparks.ca](http://www.vancouverparks.ca)

-----Original Message-----

From: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office

Sent: Monday, November 21, 2016 1:28 PM

To: s.22(1)

Subject: RE: Whales in captivity - no more!

Thank you for your email which has been circulated to the Mayor,  
Vancouver City Council, and Office of General Manager, Parks Board.

Correspondence Group  
City Clerk's I City of Vancouver  
[mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca)

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22(1)

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2016 11:37 PM

To: Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office

Subject: Whales in captivity - no more!

Dear Sarah,

I agree with your idea for a plebiscite about the whales in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. It is horrifying that our city allows this kind of abuse towards these animals to continue in this day and age.

Renovations over the years have been approved by our city electorate to a money making venue which allows whales to be displayed like circus animals. Trapped. Confined. And abused.

Please do the right thing and stop this kind of blatant corporate greed to continue in our beautiful public park.

Thank you for standing up for what is right.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Beluga whale exhibit  
**Date:** Friday, December 09, 2016 4:38:55 AM

---

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Chair, Vancouver Aquarium Park Board  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
E: [sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)

Re: Beluga whale exhibit

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I write concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. I'm writing to share my opposition to these plans and urge you to take this opportunity to end the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however my concern is that more whales will be imported into Vancouver Aquarium before the residents of Vancouver are given the opportunity to rule against their keeping in a vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (enclosed), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. With this increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

s.22(1)

cc:  
Vancouver Park Board [pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca)  
Vancouver City Hall [mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca)

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**Cc:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, February 03, 2017 8:50:59 AM  
**Attachments:** [Scientists statement on captive cetaceans 08Feb16.rtf](#)

---

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I write to you concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and to respectfully request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. I'm writing to share my opposition to these plans and urge you to take this opportunity to end the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed; however my concern is that more whales will be imported into Vancouver Aquarium before the residents of Vancouver are given the opportunity to rule against their keeping in a vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have ***half the average life expectancy*** of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (enclosed), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. With this increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

s.22(1)



s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** BELUGA WHALE EXHIBIT AT VANCOUVER AQUARIUM  
**Date:** Friday, December 09, 2016 2:53:15 AM  
**Attachments:** Scientists statement on captive cetaceans 08Feb16.rtf  
**Importance:** High

---

FAO Ms Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Chair, Vancouver Aquarium Park Board  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

9th December 2016

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung

I write to you concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and to respectfully request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. I'm writing to share my opposition to these plans and urge you to take this opportunity to end the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however my concern is that more whales will be imported into Vancouver Aquarium before the residents of Vancouver are given the opportunity to rule against their keeping in a vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (attached), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. With this increasing knowledge of the challenges cetaceans face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end to the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

s.22(1)



CC: Vancouver Park Board pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca  
CC: Vancouver City Hall <mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca

From: s.22(1)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: BELUGA WHALES & OTHER CETACEANS  
Date: Friday, March 31, 2017 7:49:28 PM

---

Dear Board:

I am writing to you to encourage you to continue your good work in stopping the capture and imprisonment of the Beluga whales and other cetaceans. It is important that no other Begulas and cetaceans are ever taken.

Secondly, having visited the so-called Beluga 'pool' I was devastated at what you and your country call a humane enclosure for intelligent AND QUITE LARGE mammals. They floated miserably on top of one another, languishing in their concrete, shallow pool. After my visit, I heard that you've lost two of them. TWO BELUGA WHALES HAVE DIED. So, you should stop imprisoning them but are you going to make a better life for those you still have? You should. It is imperative that you find the integrity and give those animals the dignity they deserve (which is a lot, if you are wondering).

I also saw how much money Stanley Park's aquarium took in on that one day. You have the money to make a better world for those animals. You should commit to making that aquarium the pinnacle of all aquariums, not just in Canada but in North America. You should commit to doing those things that make you a shining example. If you do, people will come. If you do, the animals will benefit. Do you see the correlation? I do. I think most intelligent people do.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Samantha Goddard](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#); [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** Beluga whales at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, December 08, 2016 7:05:10 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[Vancouver Park Board Letter.pdf](#)

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Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Chair, Vancouver Aquarium Park Board  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

08/12/2016

CC: Vancouver Park Board [pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca)>  
CC: Vancouver City Hall <[mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca)>  
CC: Vancouver Park Board Chair [sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I write to you concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and to respectfully request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

Writing on behalf of the Born Free Foundation, I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. Unsurprisingly, the Born Free Foundation would be opposed to these plans and, recognising that science does not substantiate the keeping of this species in captivity, we would recommend an end to the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however, we are unsure why the vote is to be held in 2018? Is there a specific reason for this delay? It is your intention not to follow through with the published plan to import further beluga whales until the results of this deciding vote? Our concerns relate to the fact that should the residents of Vancouver rule against their keeping; any cetaceans brought to the aquarium in the meantime will have been subjected to the stress of relocation unnecessarily. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (enclosed), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. I am sure you are also aware that both SeaWorld and the National Aquarium in Baltimore have announced an end of the keeping of orcas and bottlenose dolphins, respectively; and with our increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

Should you wish to contact myself, or colleagues at the Born Free Foundation please do not hesitate to do so, otherwise, I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead

the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

Respectfully yours,

Daniel Turner  
Associate Director

Samantha Goddard

**Zoo Check Programmes Assistant**

Born Free Foundation

Tel: 01403 240 170

Email: [samantha@bornfree.org.uk](mailto:samantha@bornfree.org.uk)



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**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Belugas  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 10:18:41 PM

---

Dear Sirs,

I was and am very happy that you made the decision to end belugas in your aquarium.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century there are many people who are rejecting the confinement of large brained, highly mobile intelligent cetaceans. There is certainly enough evidence of how terribly they suffer. Thousands have been speaking out for years-as I know you are aware-the voices of compassionate, caring people have been heard-but much more must be done to ensure that these amazing belugas, along with dolphins, orcas are released to sea pens.

As you know Sea World ended their breeding program and will end using orcas in their "shows"-this is the sign of the times and there will be protests, marches demanding that orcas like Lolita, Morgan, Corky are FREE! If Sea World continues to do "business as usual"-they will go bankrupt. It is in your favor to make sure that belugas never see walls of glass, and I would also hope that you extend that to include large marine animals-sharks as well.

I know you are aware many people are watching what happens and hoping that Vancouver sets a precedent in helping end the deprivation and exploitation of these amazing animals-that belong in the OPEN ocean!!!!

Thank-you!

s.22(1)

s.22(1) where dophin captivity is banned.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Bylaw change  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 5:47:00 PM

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Dear Sir/Madame,

Thank you very much for voting to get a bylaw change so that Vancouver Aquarium can no longer have sentient creatures such as the beluga whales. We need to start caring for sentient animals, because if we can't do such a little thing for animals, then how on earth will we ever have peace?

Again, thank you very much,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Bylaw  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 5:23:48 PM

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I support the implementation of a bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium effective immediately. I feel this is wrong and an embarrassment for Vancouver and all Canadians. Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** bylaw  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 6:49:52 AM

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Thank you for directing your staff to bring forward a bylaw change prohibiting display of cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium. It is time to end the archaic and cruel practice of confining creatures for the entertainment of the public.

Sincerely, s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Captive Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 6:25:01 PM

---

I am writing to fully support the decision to end breeding and the keeping of captive cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. These intelligent and social animals should NEVER be kept in tanks and to continue to do so is inhumane. Science has shown us the complex nature of these animals and the end of their captivity worldwide can't come too soon.

Please send the animals you have to sea pens to live out their lives and please become a voice to advocate for ending whale and dolphin captivity worldwide.

Thank you  
s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 5:02:39 PM

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On behalf of so many, thank you for making a kind and timely decision. The Aquarium is wonderful for many things but catching and keeping cetaceans is not one of them. They will need support transitioning to a rescue focus and to continue with their education but I am emailing to thank you for ending this cruel practice; the world is watching.

Warmly,  
s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban at the Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 7:58:55 PM

---

I was disappointed by your recent decision to ban the display of all cetacean's at the Vancouver Aquarium. I myself am deeply concerned with animal welfare and have been a vegetarian since I was 8 years old. But on hearing the news of this ban- my thought immediately turned to the animals that will wash up on BC's shores next summer- hurt and deemed by DFO non-releasable back to the wild. As the DFO has announced today- if there is no facility available to adopt and care for these animals- they will be euthanized. That seems to be the choice here; give these hurt animals life in an Aquarium or kill them. I can't begin to fathom why you have chosen the latter.

This will become an election issue for me in October 2018. I urge you to reconsider the impact your decision is going to have on the animals themselves.

Yours truly,

s.22(1)



From: s.22(1)  
To: PB Commissioners  
Subject: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium  
Date: Sunday, March 26, 2017 6:05:16 PM  
Attachments: VA VOLUNTEER IMPACT LETTER 2017.docx

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To All Vancouver Park Board Commissioners:

As a taxpayer, voter and long time Vancouverite, I am extremely disappointed with Vancouver Park's Board's (VPB) recent decision to ban cetaceans in captivity at Vancouver Aquarium. It is a bias, short sighted political decision that lacks clarity, sound judgement and it reflects very poor understanding of Vancouver Aquarium's vision, mission and values. I am particularly disturbed by Sarah Kirby-Yung's statement that 'banning cetaceans at the Aquarium was the will of Vancouverites'. It shows total disregard for the commitment and opinion of 76,000 members of the Vancouver Aquarium and over 1,000 current Vancouver Aquarium volunteers; many of us are voters and taxpayers of Vancouver. The VPB's decision perverts our beliefs, commitment and devalues the effort of the volunteers of Vancouver Aquarium. As an educated Vancouverite, I am really embarrassed by the arrogance of VPB's commissioners of ignoring all the professional (and evidence based) opinion of many experts in the world who had expressed their support for the Vancouver Aquarium.

What is VPB's definition of 'humane'? Why does the VPB not address the issues of rescues, rehabilitation and research done at the Vancouver Aquarium? Is the VPB endorsing the practice of euthanasia for marine mammals? Where does VPB propose to send injured/sick/abandoned marine mammals to, if Vancouver Aquarium is not allowed to care for them? A current example of our rescue effort is Chester, the False Killer Whale; I was one of the animal observers at the Marine Mammal Rescue Center (MMR) who witnessed first hand, the plight of Chester when he first arrived; to this day, I am totally convinced that if it was not for the care he received from all the staff and volunteers at the MMR, he would have died a very very painful and lonely death. After a lengthy rehabilitation and observing how Chester reacts to human care, I fully agreed with the Department of Ocean and Fisheries decision that Chester is non-releasable because he will never survive out in the wild on his own. As I stated before, freedom with no life is no freedom at all for cetaceans like Chester.

Does VPB not consider how its decision would (have major) impact on Vancouver Tourism? Last year, Vancouver Aquarium had over 1.2 million visitors; as a volunteer at the Info Desk, I have talked to many many visitors from all over the world and many of them were very appreciative of the belugas and other cetaceans we have in our care. A typical example was early this year, there was a couple from California, USA, who drove all the way up from LA, who wanted to show their friends, another couple with 3 young children, what real belugas look like. When I told the man that our belugas passed away late last year, he was very very disappointed. He told me he was in our aquarium last September and the only thing he could show the children that day was the photos he took on his iPhone in September, 2016!! Education is so important to ensure the future generation carry on the conservation efforts we practice at Vancouver Aquarium; a few photos on an iPhone in no way makes as much an impression (and education) on the young as real living belugas. Does VPB not understand the global impact the on-going credible work Vancouver Aquarium does?

Our beautiful and one of the most livable city in the world needs Park's Board Commissioners with common sense, leadership, good listening skills and who have clear, unbiased and global vision that can guide our innovative community into the next several decades. For the record, the following e-mail with the letter attached, was sent to all the Vancouver Park's Board Commissioners on January 28, 2017; it certainly does not concur with Sarah Kirby-Yung's statement of 'banning cetaceans at the Aquarium was the will of Vancouverites'.

I respectfully request a response from you Commissioners, at the Vancouver Park's Board.

Thank you for your attention. Looking forward to your response.

s.22(1)

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s.22(1)

Sent: Saturday, January 28, 2017 5:17 PM  
To: PBcommissioners@vancouver.ca  
Subject: Debate regarding cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

To all Vancouver Park Board Commissioners:

Attached is an updated but similar letter I sent to the Vancouver Park Board in 2014, during the public consultation in regards to cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. I would like to re-submit the updated letter for this round of consultation and as a taxpayer, long time Vancouver resident and concern citizen, I respectfully request a response to my letter and concerns from you, the Park Board Commissioners.

My position and convictions, based on continuous, current and real 'hands-on' experience at Vancouver Aquarium, have not changed and I am still volunteering at the Vancouver Aquarium - May, 2017 will be my 10th year there.  
I can assure you if I do not believe in Vancouver Aquarium's vision and mission, I will not be a volunteer there; if Vancouver Aquarium does not walk the talk, I will not be a volunteer there.

Thanks you for your attention. Looking forward to your response.

s.22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Friday, June 27, 2014 5:22:22 AM

---

At your next committee meeting, please can I ask you to discuss the cetacean ban.  
Dolphins and whales do not belong in captivity, they belong in the wild.

Thank you.

s. 22(1)

**From:** § 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban  
**Date:** Saturday, June 21, 2014 6:51:22 AM

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Please discuss the cetacean ban at your next meeting and free the dolphins and whales. Thankyou.

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 18, 2014 8:00:12 PM

---

Please discuss the cetacean ban at your next committee meeting

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban  
**Date:** Friday, June 27, 2014 4:27:55 PM

---

Please discuss the cetacean ban at their next committee meeting.

Thank you

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Sunday, June 29, 2014 10:34:27 PM

---

Dear members of the Vancouver Park Board,

Please discuss the cetacean ban at the next committee meeting; dolphins and whales should not be kept in captivity.  
Thank you!

Best regards,

--

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:32:50 AM

---

I wanted to thank you for using your voices and actions to speak for the animals in the Vancouver Aquarium. This is a historic decision and an important legacy was created.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 6:20:46 PM

---

Please implement a Bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium now.

Yours truly,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Leah Lemieux](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#); [Mayor and Council Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Captivity  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:36:17 PM

---

To the Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

As an author with 25 years of experience in cetacean conservation issues, I must ask that you please implement a Bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium--not 9 years from today, but now.

Regards,  
~Leah Lemieux

--

See my book [REKINDLING THE WATERS: The Truth About Swimming With Dolphins](#)

For more info visit: [www.RekindlingTheWaters.com](http://www.RekindlingTheWaters.com)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 3:54:17 PM

---

Mar 25, 2017

Vancouver Park Board Commissioners

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

Thank you for your compassionate and thoughtful unanimous vote to amend the Bylaws to this effect:

"The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs staff to prepare and bring forward for enactment by the Board an amendment to the Parks Control By-law to prohibit the importation and display of live cetaceans in Vancouver parks and report back not later than 15 May 2017."

Please continue your public commitment to prevent cetaceans from being brought into Vancouver Aquarium by voting yes again on May 15 approving the Amendment. We remain inspired and thankful for your public service. +

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Displays  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 7:30:24 PM

---

I am writing to thank you for drafting an amendment banning cetacean displays and import within Vancouver parks and fully support efforts to make this a reality. Whales and dolphins suffer greatly in captivity and should not be exploited for the amusement of people.

s. 22(1)

**From:** S. [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean displays  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 9:21:26 PM

---

Please no more Cetacean displays.

Thank you very much, S. 22(1) [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Displays  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 8:20:02 PM

---

I find it utterly astounding that you folks STILL need to be urged to never EVER have a cetacean display. Think of it this way: you are peacefully minding your own business, and suddenly you are transported to another planet, placed in a "habitat" for display to the alien citizens who not only do not speak your language, but you never ever have another moment of freedom.

THAT is what it means to capture any animal and try to display them for money. With cetaceans, used to roaming oceans, there is no such thing as an appropriate "habitat". PLEASE: do NOT allow such animals to be held in captivity.

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the content of the email body.



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Process  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:30:13 PM

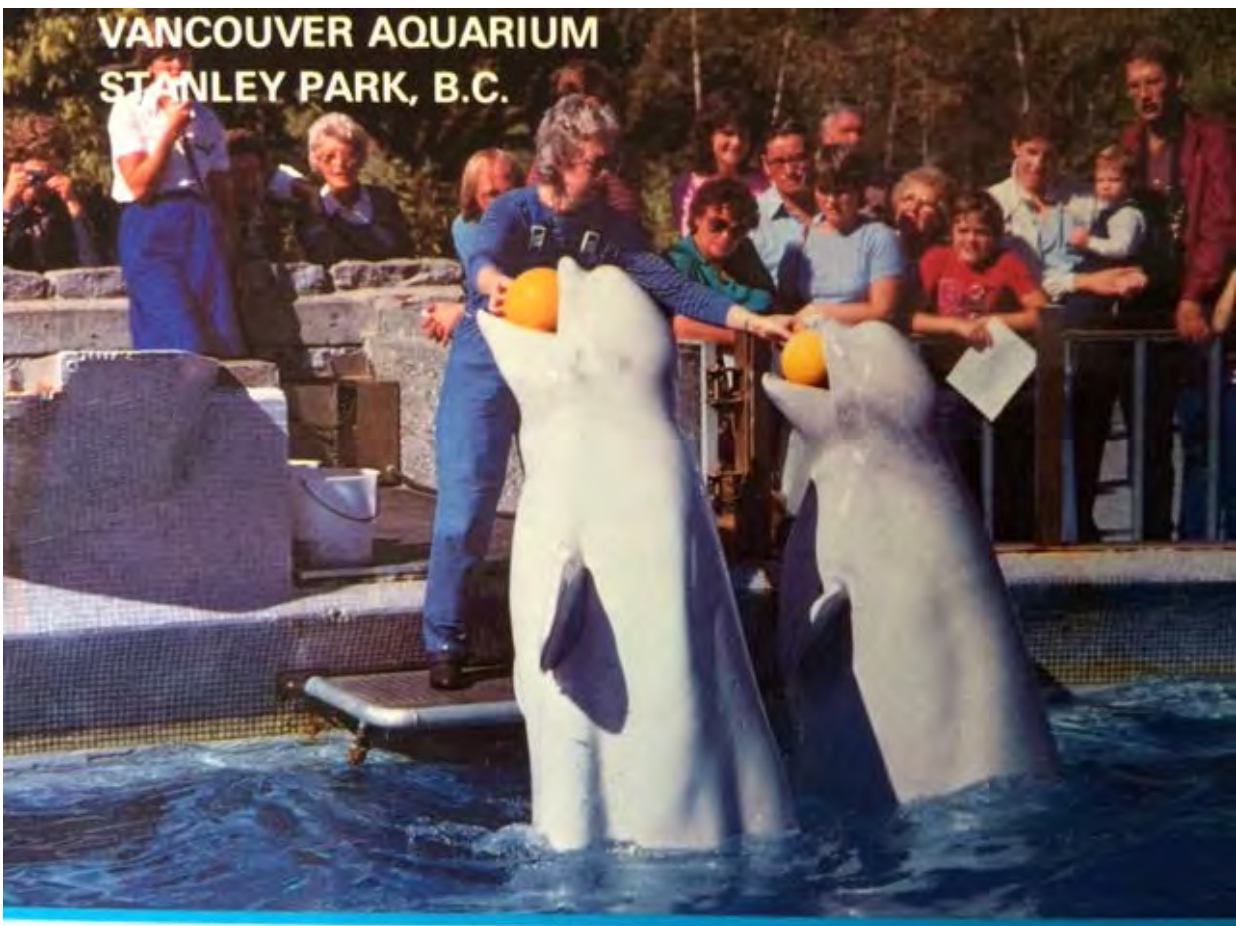
---

I want to convey how highly I regard your process in reaching the recent Board decision. You communicated with all parties with great respect consistently through a very prolonged process.

In your summary you each conveyed a sense of the historical moment involved in your decision, and of the opportunities for the future of the aquarium and the Park.

Moreover, you each were ready as Board commissioners to MAKE the decision.

I've included a postcard picture (date uncertain) of Van Aq that advertises belugas which "perform daily throughout the year for the enjoyment of aquarium visitors"  
Best Regards



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacean Prohibition  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 11:06:02 AM

---

I live in the US, but I advocate for all animals worldwide. I want to support the decision to prohibit cetaceans in the Vancouver Aquarium. While I have enjoyed seeing the beluga whales long ago, I have since changed my mind. Now that we know of the rich social and emotional lives as well as intelligence of these beautiful creature, we can no longer keep them in captivity. Please maintain your position on this issue. I will deprive myself of an up close encounter with cetaceans out of respect for the needs of the animals to live a full wild life. Thank you for your support of these magnificent animals and their welfare.

s.22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** cetacean  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 17, 2014 10:05:37 PM

---

Please discuss the cetacean ban at your next committee meeting. Thank you.

Sincerely an animal lover,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** cetaceans -- what is the right thing to do?  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 5:00:07 PM

---

Please implement a Bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium now! It is the right thing to do. What if they did that to us in some future scenario—how would you like to be confined to a cell for no fault except being of a certain species?

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:03:02 PM

---

Please vote once and for all to ban cetaceans from Vancouver aquarium. These magnificent, extremely bright creatures suffer terribly in settings like this, as has been amply illustrated by the battle over cetaceans at Sea World. Keeping any animal in an unnatural, confined space does nothing to educate the public. It merely normalizes animal torture. Please say no once and for all. s. 22(1), United States

From: s. 22(1)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
Date: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 10:02:51 PM

---

Hello Board Members,

I wanted to address you in person. However, i was 65th on the list and have to work tomorrow. I hope you accept this email and consider my thoughts. You've been put in a position to make some very important decisions in regards to Vancouver Aquarium.

Now, i'm just an ordinary person. I'm not a scientist. I have been involved in animal rescue and training. I'm comfortable with my ability to understand animals body language. The eyes of animals, speak loudly. The intelligence of marine mammals, is common knowledge.

Now, Vancouver Aquarium states they need these animals brought back to help those in the wild. They need them to practice working on the ones in the wild. "These animals are a big draw for attracting young people". I grew up going to the aquarium, i loved it. Couldn't wait to see the whales. As i develop as a human, i now see how sad this place really is.

These massive animals are living in swimming pools. Humans put criminals in small cells. What crime have these beautiful creatures committed, that we give them a life sentence? Put yourself in the animals position, swimming the same circles day in day out. Chlorine burning your eyes. Apart from your family. This is cruel punishment, for the crime of not looking like a human.

Vancouver Aquarium states, "they are not for profit". What's Mr. Nightingale's and associates salary? Clearly, it's for their profit.

I don't have the answers, but an animal in captivity to save one in the wild? If they want to study the animals, do it by saving wild ones. They've had plenty of years working on captive animals. I doubt they need more. There is no need to bring more back.

Vancouver is a progressive city, one that's against discrimination. By bringing animals back to Vancouver to be imprisoned, we are discriminating against them for being a different species. Their lives are their own, humans have no right to control them, exhibit them to earn money. If Vancouver allows this, it sets us back globally. Remember, i do not profit from animal exploitation, i care about them as fellow beings sharing this planet with us. Keep in mind, who is earning wages off the exploitation of these animals. I recommend watching the documentary Blackfish, incase you have not seen it yet.

I trust you will do the right thing and stop the Aquarium from imprisoning more beings in our beautiful city. Thus, keeping with the values of our World renowned city.

Warmest of Regards

s. 22(1)

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans Bylaw  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 12:23:17 PM

---

Thank you for working to bring about a bylaw change that will prohibit the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

If the amended bylaw is approved, the change would be a great, humane step forward.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from [Outlook](#)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#); [Coupar, John](#); [Crawford, Casey](#); [Evans, Catherine](#); [Mackinnon, Stuart](#); [Shum, Erin](#); [Wiebe, Michael](#); [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans Deserve Their Freedom  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 5:52:50 PM

---

Dear Vancouver Commissioners:

I'm writing to congratulate you for making the right decision regarding cetacean captivity and I encourage you to stay the course until all captives are freed to seaside sanctuaries -- no further whales or dolphins should suffer the torment of cruel captivity again.

Here are thoughts from leading marine biologists and animal advocates in the world:

"...For me, it's been my dream for decades to make it illegal to capture any whales and dolphins anywhere for any reason. We will do everything we can to assist the decision makers to pass this historical bill, AB2140 and to make sure this paves the way for the freedom of cetaceans all around the world.

Based on my personal experience with whales and dolphins in the wild and my observations of these magnificent animals in captivity, I believe there is no justification for allowing them to be used as performers in theme park shows and that breeding them in captivity to sustain a captive population solely for entertainment and profit is unacceptable. The concept of watching cetaceans perform tricks in theme parks is anti educational and is inhumane. These are animals that live in family pods for their whole lives with life spans similar to our own. Capturing whales and dolphins for entertainment and profit forces them to live in artificial families, in spaces that are insufficient, and rewards them with food for doing tricks they do not do in the wild.

Today, we have the interactive film and video technology to show cetaceans in the wild to audiences around the world. For the amount of money a family spends to go to an animal park, they can have an on the water experience seeing whales in their natural environment. It is long past due for us as a thinking and caring human species to adopt and require practices that respect whales and respect their right to live in their natural wild environment.

Anywhere on the planet we are connected to the ocean. We have the opportunity to do what needs to be done to protect our life support system and improve the quality of life not just of the marine environment -- of the marine mammals -- but for ourselves. This is the choice we have. If we protect the ocean, we protect ourselves."

~ Jean-Michel Cousteau

"There's about as much educational benefit studying dolphins [and whales] in captivity as there would be studying mankind by only observing prisoners held in solitary."

~ Jacques Cousteau

"Whales and dolphins, like chimpanzees, are highly intelligent and intensely social

creatures, forming close emotional bonds between family and group members. I have watched them leap in the freedom of the ocean and feel deeply saddened and angered to see them in cruel captivity, swimming endlessly and hopelessly around their sterile concrete prisons. As David Kirby so eloquently documents in this timely work, whale and dolphin captivity only benefits the captors. It is impossible to read "Death at SeaWorld " and come to any other conclusion."

~ Dr. Jane Goodall

"A Fall From Freedom" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1URmIdiMc0E> (the original "Blackfish")

"Blackfish" [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G93beiYiE74&feature=player\\_embedded](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G93beiYiE74&feature=player_embedded)

"The tank is a bad thing." Please listen to Ric O'Barry's moving message regarding "The Cove" and Cathy (who was also known as "Flipper"): <https://youtu.be/PSce5sM5sHc>

Dr. Paul Spong of OrcaLab: "Reasons to end cetacean captivity at aquariums and marine parks." <http://youtu.be/LxHM2UTawSA>

Dr. Ingrid Visser and John Hargrove (ex senior trainer) visit SeaWorld 10/7/15 <https://youtu.be/SV2V-4pHuak>

"Public opinion — and thus potential customers — are moving inexorably toward greater rights for animals and away from watching captives jump through hoops. The sooner SeaWorld accepts this market reality, the sooner one of San Diego's great tourist attractions will stop sinking." San Diego Union Tribune

<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/2015/oct/10/state-orca-decision-seaworld-business-survival/#sthash.bmlrCTLN.dpuf>

Deaths from captures/sales to marine parks: <https://youtu.be/jypGKNw5p04>

Thank you again for doing the right thing on behalf of cruelly imprisoned cetaceans!

Sincerely yours,

s.22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** cetaceans don't belong in parks  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 6:54:43 PM

---

Hello,

It is inhumane to confine cetaceans in parks.

I understand that on March 9, the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks, including the Aquarium. That's an important step.

Please continue your efforts to protect these animals at the upcoming hearings May 15th.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 3:04:27 AM

---

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners

Please may I add my great appreciation to all the others in thanking you for taking the lead in banning cetaceans from aquariums. This cruel practice of human animal exploitation is a great blot on humanity's record and your brave decision a start in correcting the errors we have made and continue to make in taking wild animals into captivity. I hope this will lead to the beginning of change in human attitudes to animal welfare.

Most sincerely

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** s. 22(1) [REDACTED]  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in captivity -Shameful !  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:20:27 PM

---

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

Human Beings are committing shameful acts all over the world. Most, we have no power to change. Here in our backyard we have one that we can! Keeping Cetaceans in aquariums is bizarre and cruel Human behaviour. Lets put an end to it now!

Sincerely,

s.22(1)  
[REDACTED]

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:54:03 PM

---

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your courageous vote to end the captivity of cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 3:33:01 PM

---

Hello - I was so thrilled to read that the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. Yay!!!

I understand the Board is preparing a new by-law in this regard. Please know that as a BC resident, and as someone who is deeply concerned about animal rights, I am hopeful that the Board will continue to make decisions which are in the best interest of cetaceans, which should never be exploited for display or entertainment.

The Boards position on this issue gives me hope that change is possible, that caring individuals do have a voice, and that people can make a positive difference in the lives of our fellow creatures! Good luck with the new by-law and the upcoming hearings!

Best Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1) [REDACTED]  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:57:44 PM

---

To all of you who made such a wise and compassionate decision to end the suffering of cetaceans in captivity, I send you a great big thank you. You have made me feel proud today to live in Vancouver where what is right can win out over greed and bogus "research". Hurrah!

Sincerely,

s.22(1) [REDACTED]



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans In Defense of Animals Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 12:46:18 PM

---

Dear Commissioners:

I want to congratulate the commissioners for making the right decision, and pray they continue to do so for the least of our least.

Zoos and Aquariums are out, sorry, but no one likes to entertain themselves with such great cost to something else and especially in this day and age.

I live away from the city, I see and hear what you hurry by. Heed my warning, everything is stressed; people, animals, plants, air, soil, water, weather and earth's core.

You should slow down, look around and make peace with all.

Now is the time and the time is now to do what is Right for all. It can't wait.

Praying God is still knocking at your door.

Good Luck to you all,

s.22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in parks  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 2:13:45 PM

---

Thank you for your draft of an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. Though I'm a citizen of California, I love BC and hope to be a tourist there again soon. Please continue to protect these amazing animals.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** CETACEANS SALUTE YOU  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 2:23:05 AM

---

Thankyou so much for supporting an end to the confinement of cetaceans. If they understood your support they would thankyou from the bottom of their hearts.

Sincerely

s. 22(1)

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans thank you  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 12:06:33 PM

---

Dear board members,

Thank you for voting to draft an amendment to prohibit the import and display of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. When I found out, I felt truly grateful happy. I look forward to reading the new by-law and showing it to my circle as an example of the kind of legislation American governing bodies should emulate.

Thanks again,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans Within Vancouver Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 4:34:54 AM

---

IT HAS BEEN PROVEN AND SHOWN THAT WHALES  
SUFFER GREATLY IN THE TINY CONFINES OF  
AQUARIUM TANKS.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PROHIBIT THE DISPLAY AND  
IMPORTATION OF CETACEANS WITHIN  
VANCOUVER PARK.

THANK YOU.

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** cetaceans within Vancouver parks  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:56:37 PM

---

Please do not permit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. It is backward thinking, cruel, and jeopardizes wild populations.

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 12:37:14 PM

---

Please continue to support and take a stand against any importation or display of these animals. You have my support!!!

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:21:45 AM

---

Thank you so much for agreeing to the amendment which puts an end to the display of orcas, dolphins, porpoises and whales. They don't belong in parks, tanks, zoos, or aquariums. They shouldn't be taken from the wild, nor bred in captivity. You have done the right thing and I, for one, applaud you.  
Thanks you.

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:21:44 AM

---

Thank you for your efforts in protecting the cetaceans and please move forward.

s. 22(1)



Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans.  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 6:26:58 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

Please prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks.  
It is a practice that should have been outlawed many years ago.  
The poor creatures deserve much better,

Regards,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** cetaceans  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 4:06:17 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I applaud your efforts to protect cetaceans by prohibiting the import and exhibiting of these grand beings. I urge to you keep fighting for them and support the new amendment. As you know they suffer greatly in captivity and I thank you for standing up for them. Keep up the good work. Many animals would thank you if they could.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2016 2:40:34 PM

---

Stop the exploitation of these animals for money , they are not meant to leave in such small space they are meant to be free in the ocean and not to be abused by so-called human beings,

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 3:39:37 AM

---

Please implement a bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver aquarium now.  
Thank you .

**From:** s. 22(1) .  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 10:53:03 AM

---

Please keep the ban on displaying and importing these wonderful, intelligent animals!

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** cetaceans/Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 4:31:23 PM

---

Dear Parks Board Commissioners

We are writing to strongly urge you to do whatever is necessary so that the Vancouver Aquarium stops keeping cetaceans in captivity.

Why? Because it is 2017 and we have moved on from needing to keep these magnificent beings in captivity, just so that we can become educated – and entertained.

Other aquariums have done this. Even if they had not, surely Vancouver would want to take global leadership and show others the way. It is the way of the future, and we would be proud of the Parks Board if you, the Commissioners, and the City, took these important steps to do the right thing. We know you have the power and mechanisms to do so.

Thank you,  
Sincerely

s. 22(1)



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Cetacian freedom  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 1:03:22 PM

---

I applaud your decision! While in the short run some people will be confused, Time will shine it light on your intelligence, humanity and compassion. Meanwhile, thousand of cetaceans are fin flapping for freedom.



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback - 9266239  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:33:47 PM

---

Hello:

We've received this feedback for your review.

Regards,

George  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009266239

Case created: 2017-03-13, 01:13:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Via web form.   |
|    |   | Subject: animal cruelty   |
|    |   | Message:  |
|    |   | Thank you for voting to prohibit the import and display of whales, dolphins and porpoises. Please do all that you can to fast track the timeline. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback - 9266555  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:55:32 PM

---

Hello:

We've received this feedback for your review.

Regards,

George  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009266555

Case created: 2017-03-13, 01:41:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Via web form:

Subject: keeping of whales etc

Message:

If we did not have the whales etc over the last 50 years there would be fewer whales now. By seeing them people became more concern for them urge the saving of them. They use to be shot by fisherman as the thought where reducing the fisheries Lets all use some common sense, do you keep a dog or a cat or a bird in a cage in your house what is the different, why can't they be free

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Complaint

4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback - 101008746110  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2016 2:44:04 PM

---

The following is a Citizen Feedback Case that was created by the 311 Contact Centre. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.  
Greg / 311 Contact Centre.

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101008746110

Case created: 2016-11-28, 01:45:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email submission: "I am writing to urge the parks board to stop displaying belugla whales at the Vancouver Aquarium. I am deeply sorry that both Aqila and Aurora have passed away and I am heartbroken for the staff who loved both these whales.

But the time has now passed for the necessity of keeping a whale in a concrete tank for the durations of their lives. Please do not allow the aquarium to begin importing new whales for display."

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Opinion

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board / Vancouver Aquarium

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008732183  
**Date:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 5:20:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [Citizen Feedback-101008732183.rtf](#)

---

24 Nov 2016

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008735406  
**Date:** Friday, November 25, 2016 1:27:20 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101008735406

Case created: 2016-11-25, 12:58:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2016 November, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Complaint about Vancouver Aquarium, citizen contacted SPCA and was directed to notify City of Vancouver. Concerned the living conditions for a lot of the animals there are inhumane and result in death. Witnessing this first hand, takes their daughter there sometimes and can't go anymore because of it. All the animals are exhibiting stress related behaviours, one Beluga died and the other is dying, it's insane. Citizen doesn't understand how they allowed to continue this, they are exploiting these animals to death. Some examples are the wale tanks are full of feces and too small. The seals in the seal habitat are constantly stressed out - they are pacing, waving heads back and forth, trying to get out. Dolphins are just sitting there, stationary for hours, which is not normal. The beluga died at half its life expectancy and now the other one is dying. There should be some sort of investigation. They

are hiding behind the fake "we're trying to help and rescue animals" while they are just exploiting them and making a profit. Citizen has seen groups of people protesting at the Aquarium on a regular basis and hopes something can be done to reflect citizen concerns.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



From: [Appenzeller, Judith](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101008747462  
Date: Monday, November 28, 2016 4:26:13 PM

Kind regards,  
Judith  
311 Supervisor



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101008747462

Case created: 2016-11-28, 04:04:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: S. 22(1)

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | 311 received the following email feedback:<br><br>"Multiple Beluga Deaths at Vancouver Aquarium<br><br><a href="http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/beluga-dies-from-pneumonia-at-vancouver-aquarium-1.1021081">http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/beluga-dies-from-pneumonia-at-vancouver-aquarium-1.1021081</a><br><br>According to this report from 2011, 2 of Aurora's calves (Tuvaq and Nala) and her granddaughter Tiqa died at VCR Aquarium, in addition to this most recent death and her own. Not sure if Tiqa's mother, Qila, is alive or dead. All these belugas born and died in captivity. I do know belugas, like orca and whales, live in close family pods and these losses would have affected all of them, most especially Aurora. Why some of you think a zoo that makes money selling sentient beings to be displayed for public amusement .... well, you know the rest. No need for a reply." |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Complaint   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |

5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009252738  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 8:08:03 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009252738

Case created: 2017-03-09, 03:01:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Email

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Feedback sent via online webform on March 9, 2017

Vancouver Aquarium Continuing to Display Belugas and Cetaceans

Here are my comments for the current discussion on this topic.

Yesterday, I heard an interview about this issue on CBC radio. The man being interviewed had written a book on how keeping orcas captive changed our attitudes towards whales. He said that the foremost specialists on orcas learned their skills because they were part of Vancouver Aquarium staff. He said there is no

comparison to seeing a real creature, that virtual reality is not the same. Those reasons are why we need to think deeply about ending whale captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I suggest that his statements belong with "Children need to mine coal in British coal mines because they are small and can reach the spots that adults can't." or "Belgian doctors in Belgian Congo (Rwanda) measure the heads of Africans and conclude that their brains are smaller." I suggest that his statements belong to the time when Man considered himself Master of Nature and the Universe.

If we are flying to the moon and beyond, we have the resources and creativity to make different choices now. We have the opportunity now to be part of the incredible Universe that surrounds us and treat everything with respect. We have the opportunity to move magnificent creatures of the water back to their water home instead of keeping them captive in a bathtub home.

When I was travelling in the U.S. in the 1970s, I visited a zoo in a city we were passing through. I still remember seeing a black panther pacing in his cage, clearly not happy to be where he was imprisoned. I felt so upset by this situation that I sent a Letter to the Editor for the local newspaper to protest this crime. I refused to go to a zoo again. I see the Aquarium as nothing more than a zoo of water creatures.

Several years ago, a neighbour treated me to a dinghy tour of Horseshoe Bay through the tour operator at Horseshoe Bay. The guide for our tour had been offering tours for about 10 years. Our tour was the first time that he saw orcas in the water in that area. We counted about four orcas in the water that day. There was delight and excitement from everyone in the dinghy as we watched these creatures playing close by. That is how to experience water animals, not enclosed in bathtubs for our amusement or so called learning. I suggest we learn nothing about how these creatures are because they can't be who or what they are in a bathtub.

Terry O'Reilly highlighted how Sea World has changed since "Blackfish". This company now is a partner in a real learning experience while leaving orcas and sea creatures where they belong. I suggest that is the route that the Vancouver Aquarium needs to take in 2017.

Injured whales and sea creatures need to be

treated and healed. There needs to be further discussion on how to get them back to their real water homes after recovery.

If Vancouver is to be considered a world class city, I suggest that having no whales in captivity is included in that designation in 2017.

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	Yes
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

From: [311 Operations](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101009252827  
Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017 8:07:06 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009252827

Case created: 2017-03-09, 03:20:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Received via online form regarding:<br>Cetaceans in captivity<br>I am adding my voice to the masses of people who dont believe animals are entertainment. Belugas are massive intelligent creatures who have no place at the aquarium. Killer whales are gone, polar bears are gone. 2017 is the year to end the insanity, cruelty and inhumanity and end cetaceans in captivity. Vancouver needs to set a positive example as we have in so many other ways. The world is watching. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### **Additional Details**

#### **Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009253384  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 7:10:18 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009253384

Case created: 2017-03-09, 05:02:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email: s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via online webform regarding:  
Support for Van Aquarium

[subject]  
Support for Van Aquarium

I would like to say that I support the works/projects and/or proposals as well as the endeavours of the Vancouver Aquarium. Their staff ARE dedicated to the best interests of all marine life and activities and general welfare of those marine creatures that would not survive without their support and efforts.

It is in my humble opinion that the direction of the park board council should make its determination on the future of the aquarium based on facts and not succumb to the



emotional pleas of its distractors.  
In the end, I hope that nonfictional evidence  
will put purport our park council to support  
this great asset which lies within its domain.

Jerry Plante

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parksboard - Vancouver Aquarium

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009253619  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 6:34:34 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

---



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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009253619

Case created: 2017-03-09, 06:14:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone: s. 22(1)

Email: s. 22(1)

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via email webform regarding Confinement of Crestaceans

The crestaceans should be FREED!! A plebicate is not representative of the population outside of Metro Vancouver. These creatures should be free to swim, play, breed in the oceans - not trained to entertain the public for financial benefit. Are they trained like the dog in the Disney film that did not want to go into the water, but the trainer pushed him under and the dog was caught in the tide and drowned...what methods are used on the crestaceons. Do the right thing and free these creatures with no additions for "research".

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parkboard

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

From: [311 Operations](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101009253864  
Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017 7:53:18 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009253864

Case created: 2017-03-09, 07:48:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: S. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

via email webform regarding: Vancouver Aquarium and the cetaceans

I cannot find an email for the Parks Board on line, so I am writing this email to whom it may concern. I am whole-heartedly and unequivocally in favour of closing down any facility that keeps any whale or dolphin caged in a pool against its will.

PLEASE DO NOT ACQUIRE ANY MORE WHALES AND/OR DOLPHINS TO 'SHOW OFF' TO THE PUBLIC.

All those lovely creatures need their freedom to lead lives as they were meant to do.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parksboard

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009253991  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 9:16:57 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009253991

Case created: 2017-03-09, 09:05:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

via email webform regarding: Its time to evolve...

We are at a pivotal moment in Vancouvers history where we have the opportunity to change the discourse around keeping cetacean in captivity. Captivity of these sentient beings is not only unethical, the archaic practise does not serve any educational or conservational purpose that cannot be achieved through other methods. Captivity only benefits the wallets of the CEO's who stand to make the most profit. And while they may preach about their world renowned efforts to protect our oceans and wildlife, ask them why they accept support from major ocean destroyers like Shell Canada Limited, Teck

Resources Ltd., Imperial Oil Foundation etc as published in the donor gallery on their website? Its time to evolve, investigate, and support better avenues for research and conservation. Sanctuaries, sea pens, virtual interactive tours, life size models, whale watching tours, etc etc are all viable, more effective options to consider. It can be done, and Vancouverites already have the right momentum to making it possible. Please enact a ban on cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium to prevent them from bringing back four belugas on loan to other aquariums. The tanks are empty, lets keep them that way! Thank you for your time.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

From: [311 Operations](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101009254038  
Date: Thursday, March 09, 2017 9:44:27 PM

---

Good Evening,

3-1-1 has received feedback regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254038

Case created: 2017-03-09, 09:39:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | via email webform regarding: Vancouver Aquarium<br><br>You keep referring to the Vancouver Aquarium as for Vancouver to vote on only. Stanley Park and the Aquarium are for the people of all of British Columbia and especially the Lower Mainland. I want the Cateceans to stay as do a lot of people that don't live in the City Also the Aquarium is a first class rescue organization and without their knowledge from these animals they wouldn't be able to do the great job that they do. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |



5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254242  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:29:40 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254242

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:21:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Via web form:

Subject: marine mammals

Message:

I was watching a 2012 TV show called, "Hope for Wildlife". My ears perked up when I heard them mention the Vancouver Aquarium. The show is about a wildlife refuge in Nova Scotia - why would they mention the Vancouver Aquarium? The owner of the refuge stated that the Vancouver Aquarium is the foremost source of information in Canada and also North America on how to treat marine mammals - eg diet, environment, medications, treatments.

The research that the Vancouver Aquarium does on its captive marine mammals is very important for the health and welfare of all the marine mammals in the wild. It is very foolish for the Parks Board members to be influenced by the few persons attending the meetings - it demonstrates to Vancouverites that the boards' members do not have the spine to represent the silent majority. Shame. Did the boards' members even bother to find out which municipality the protestors came from? Shame on you.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254263  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:30:39 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254263

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:26:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Cetaceans at the aquarium

Message:

I would like to start by saying how incredibly disappointed I am in your recent decision. It seems you've simply given in to those who make a scene. Who swarm people and attack them for visiting the aquarium. People who don't seem to know a thing about our aquarium. Van aquarium is an amazing facility. They care so deeply for all the animals. Having the Cetaceans there have allowed them to learn key information in protecting them in the wild. With that information they've been able to help them. It's time to stop giving in to these people who apparently have a

background in marine biology. People are going to detest the parks board for a long time. I hope you change your mind and allow the aquarium to keep doing the amazing things they do.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254355  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:31:56 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254355

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:44:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Subject: Park Board not qualified to make policies at Vancouver Aquarium |
|--|--|

Message:

I'm extremely disappointed that the park board commission believes that they are qualified to dictate policy at an internationally renowned research facility. You're a waste of tax payer money. You people don't know what the hell you're doing.

- |                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2. Do you want to be contacted? | No              |
| 3. Type of feedback:            | Complaint       |
| 4. Feedback regarding:          | City Department |
| 5. Department:                  | Parks           |
| 6. Division or Branch Name:     | Park Board      |

**Additional Details**

Via web form.

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254363  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:32:41 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254363

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:46:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

Good morning and thank you for finally helping to end the cruel captivity of whales at the Aquarium. Now when there are natural sightings of whales and the excitement that brings, I will no longer have to feel ill about those unfortunate ones that are imprisoned at the Aquarium. Thank you so very much. Regards s. 22(1)

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Compliment

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board



**Additional Details**

Via web form.

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254402  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:34:23 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254402

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:53:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Subject: Decision to ban cetaceans from the aquarium  |
|    |   | Message:  |
|    |   | Well done. About time the many careers based on the backs of magnificent animals ends.<br>I will now go to the aquarium...something I have not done for many years.<br>I may even take my grandchild....she was very aware of my strong feelings.<br>I applaud you all. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

**Additional Details**

Via web form.

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254480  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:40:28 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254480

Case created: 2017-03-10, 09:04:00 AM

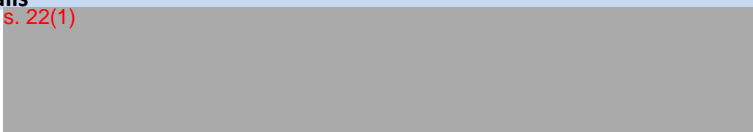
#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address:   
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Subject: Stanley Park aquarium Banning of whales<br><br>Message:<br><br>I'm disappointed in the Vancouver Park board for capitulating to a group of environmental terrorist / so-called animal rights activist ,you questioned the deaths of the two whales maybe you should have asked the people in your audience they could have been responsible for it ,maybe it's time you band dogs from your parks there animals held in captivity |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Complaint  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |

5. Department: Parks
6. Division or Branch Name: Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via email.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254557  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:48:58 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254557

Case created: 2017-03-10, 09:12:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address: ,  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone: Email:  
Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via email: I wanted to just share a comment with you about your last night decision. Shame on you. Bulling, restricting and limiting Vancouver Aquarium research and rescue work with cetaceans almost impossible.  
You just proved that squeaky wheel gets the grease by listening to the loudest special interest groups. Those groups have no idea how hard Vancouver Aquarium staff works and how much their care about animals. You just made me cancel my yearly membership for myself and my daughter. We will never go to Vancouver Aquarium ever again. Thanks for that. If this was your goal, to make Aquarium obsolete, you succeeded.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254573  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:39:18 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254573

Case created: 2017-03-10, 09:14:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email: s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: The parks board decision to ban display of cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

I am very disappointed to hear that the parks board has voted to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Currently, the aquarium houses 3 non-releasable cetaceans- some of which have known the Aquarium and its loving staff as family for many years (or in the case of Chester, his whole life minus about a week). To have these existing cetaceans removed from the only home they know, and put through the stress of a move, would be very cruel indeed. Not to mention the educational void this would leave at the



facility. The future of the cetaceans already kept at the Aquarium must be considered thoroughly in any bylaws that are drafted. The Aquarium does amazing work with Marine Mammal Rescue, and provides a home for cetaceans that are deemed non-releasable. The fate of future rescued cetaceans must also be considered when bylaws are drafted. Regardless of the excellence of the medical care they receive, there will undoubtedly be situations where rescued cetaceans will not be releasable, and will require a home. Being under the care of the amazing staff of the Vancouver Aquarium is the best place for these non-releasable rescues to find themselves. Having non-releasable cetaceans on display is an important educational piece, which will become completely vacant from our province if the parks board decision does not make exception for these animals. Many people in our province will never get the opportunity to see whales and dolphins in their natural habitat- and it is impossible to understand and respect these creatures fully without seeing them in close proximity. Not having any cetaceans on display at the Aquarium would be a disservice to our province and the many visitors that come from abroad to see these creatures. In summary, I believe that the parks board decision was short-sighted, and that serious considerations need to be made in the drafting of bylaws in regards to the full ramifications of this decision.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009254589  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:42:22 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009254589

Case created: 2017-03-10, 09:16:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

Thank you for doing the right thing an making Vancouver a city that does not keep these wonderful marine animals in captivity!

I will continue to support the Aquarium happily now, knowing that we are moving in the right direction in terms of doing the right thing.

Sincerely

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Compliment
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009255023  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:05:26 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255023

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:02:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Vancouver Aquarium decision

Message:

I have a question, what happens to the cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium now? The ones who cannot be re-introduced into the wild. The Aquarium had a plan. They committed to not breeding and instead to focus on rehabilitating and research. The Vancouver Aquarium has a wonderful reputation around the world as a facility that provides expert care for their animals. So what are your plans for the dolphins and the false killer whale? What about the dolphin with the partially missing fin? Surely they cannot be immediately released into the wild? Are you sending them to another

facility that may not be nearly as professional or caring as Vancouver? Is it out of sight out of mind?

What is your plan? You scratched the Aquarium's plan and made decisions for them - because...you know better than marine biologists and professional animal caretakers? You made this decision so I'd like to hear your plan.

I understand the decision has been made, I'm not arguing with that I just want to know what your plan is now.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	Yes
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009255090  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:30:58 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255090

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:10:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address:  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: The Recent decision about VanAqua's removal of Cetaceans.

Message:

Hello!  
I heard today about the recent decision the Park Board has made to stop caring for these park creatures. I understand the hurt people may feel on this topic (i.e Sea World and their killer whales, and an entire documentary based on their life in the aquarium) However I am confident that these people feel Vancouver Aquarium are one in the same. I'd like to disagree strongly with that.  
The animals that Vancouver Aquarium saves are in life threatening situations. Because of

us humans destroying their homes with trash, oil spills, other kinds of pollution or even poaching, these animals need Vancouver Aquarium to save them. I ask you this; would you rather an ocean scattered with the bodies of animals that could have been saved by Van Aqua, or would you rather have them taken in and cared for and given another chance with humans who DO care? If you were to put an end to what they do, I would rather it be during a perfect world where every human is more green, living on reusable things and renewable resources. that way our planet is clean and safe for these animals to live. Vancouver being an extremely earth friendly place, I hope that you could show other cities (including american) who are lacking that you are a good example to follow. If more people follow through with this, more animals can be safe. Thank you for reading, and thank you for your time.

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	Yes
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009255113  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:31:36 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255113

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:12:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

The Vancouver Aquarium does so much more than just keep "cetaceans on display" - it gives a fighting chance to those rescued and rehabilitated marine mammals who have been deemed non-releasable; more importantly, it gives them a home. Please reconsider this decision and reassess the power these animals have towards continuing to educate the staff as well as the public about what the study of these cetaceans truly mean towards ensuring their survival in the wild.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Complaint



4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009255123  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:32:20 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255123

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:14:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Park board cetacean decision

Message:

I would ask to please reconsider this decision and talk directly with Vanaqua about why they have cetaceans in captivity. They have already said they will end their beluga program in a phased manner. Dolphins and other cetaceans need safe spaces for when they are injured and this is provided. When they can be released they are and when they can't they live a great life where they are provided food and in turn we can learn about their behaviours to better help the species down the road.

I would urge an appeal decision be made on

this so that cetaceans around the world will have a place if they can't go back to the ocean and so that we have a place to study and save these wonderful creatures

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009255157  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:32:57 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255157

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:16:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone: s. 22(1)

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Vote to end Cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

Thank you, thank you, thank you for the great decision to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. You have taken a ethical and moral stance, one so long in coming and so desperately needed.

I expect you will experience much push back from those associated with the Aquarium and I trust you will be able to stand your ground.

Sincerely, s. 22(1)

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Compliment
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

From: [311 Operations](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101009255233  
Date: Friday, March 10, 2017 10:33:48 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255233

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:22:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email: s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Decision to put a stop to whales in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

I am a life long Vancouver resident. I grew up in the West End. I remember Skana in her pitifully tiny pool at the Vancouver Aquarium. I know that the pools are much larger now but it is still so wrong to keep these huge animals in such a small space. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your decision to not allow any more whales in captivity. I am making a list of all your names and taking that list with me to the polling station come the next civic election. You guys got my vote. Thanks again.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3.	Type of feedback:	Compliment
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

Via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009255267  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:34:32 AM

---

Good morning,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009255267

Case created: 2017-03-10, 10:26:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

Message:

Thank you to all the Parks Board Commissioners for voting the end the captivity of whales at the aquarium. I am thrilled at this important step for the whales, the aquarium and the city. I am also delighted that I will finally get to visit the aquarium now. I have never been there because I have always been opposed to the practice of keeping whales in the tanks.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Compliment

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks



6. Division or Branch Name: ..... Park Board .....

**Additional Details**

Via web form.

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009256368  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:27:53 PM

---

Good afternoon,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

If this should be directed elsewhere, please let us know by replying to [311.operations@vancouver.ca](mailto:311.operations@vancouver.ca)

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009256368

Case created: 2017-03-10, 12:23:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

ail:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Citizen wants to let the parks board know that she is very happy about the decision not to allow whales in the aquarium anymore. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

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## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009256921  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 1:47:07 PM

---

Good afternoon,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

If this should be directed elsewhere, please let us know by replying to [311.operations@vancouver.ca](mailto:311.operations@vancouver.ca)

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009256921

Case created: 2017-03-10, 01:37:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Feedback submitted via online webform on March 10, 2017<br><br>Vancouver Parks Board<br>How can a small group of people who were elected to manage our parks, not our morals, be allowed to call for a ban on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium? What gives them the right to tell world class experts what is best for the animals they try to rescue? |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | Yes   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Complaint   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |

5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257283  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 3:55:12 PM

---

Hello Park Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257283

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:12:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
- Referral Report Back (for decision)

I'm writing to give my expert opinion on how the recent vote by the Vancouver Island Park board to ban the aquarium from continuing their very important work is a very bad idea in terms of the conservation of cetacea species. For the past 3 decades I have focused my research program on studying the physiology of endangered species with the aim of generating data that can help with their conservation. Captive facilities like zoos and aquaria are essential for housing wildlife species so that we can obtain data we could not obtain from a free-ranging individual. And that data is then used to optimize management of the species in the wild. Using an example from my

research program, any non-invasive technique for assessing physiological parameters must be developed and validated using captive individuals.

Furthermore, maintaining healthy breeding populations of wild species in zoos and aquaria are essential to provide emergency back up populations to recover species in the wild. For example, I am involved in the captive breeding/reintroduction program for the Vancouver Island marmot. When their populations crashed in the 1990's due to clear cutting, the remaining animals were brought into captivity to set up a captive breeding/reintroduction program to increase numbers to sustainable levels. However it took several years to optimize captive conditions for consistent breeding to take place and we still have not perfected it. We have lost valuable genetic diversity in the species because we did not already have a successfully breeding captive population when their wild populations crashed beyond natural recovery. Another example is the vaquita, a cetacean. This is the most endangered mammal species in the world and with fewer than 30 individuals left captive breeding is their only hope of avoiding extinction. Yet, like the marmot, they have not been housed in captivity before, largely due to push back from willfully ignorant animal rights activists, so we have no idea if we can do it successfully. If we already had a successful captive breeding program for the vaquita the outlook for avoiding extinction would be much more positive. As it stands, it is likely the vaquita will go extinct like the recently extinct baiji, another cetacean for whom we waited too long to set up a captive breeding population. That extinction will be placed directly on the doorstep of the misguided and uninformed people that voted to amend the regulations.

We cannot guarantee the safety of wild populations of cetaceans from human-caused population declines and therefore it is imperative we provide safe-havens for breeding populations as a hedge against extinction. How dare the members of the board prevent dedicated conservationists like myself from saving cetaceans from extinction! You have no right to sentence a species to extinction just to satisfy your misguided and misinformed sense of moral superiority.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

#### Additional Details

## Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257397  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:05:18 PM

---

Hello there,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257397

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:26:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

email:

As you well know, there are so many of us who are not 'well funded, overly emotional animal activists' but rather just folks who found the practice of keeping cetaceans at the Aquarium antiquated and painful. There will be many who say the Aquarium does important research that ultimately helps animals in the wild but with the exception of a few on echolocation, they do not provide an specifics. They claim that they do important educational work but as one who volunteered with the Marine Mammal School Program, it was not apparent to me that the school kids were developing a deep attachment--entertained maybe but not particularly educated. And the practice of shipping belugas around North America in

enormously stressful conditions to either 'loan' them out or breed them, seems the height of cruelty.

There will be many who will challenge your decision which of course is what makes it such a courageous one. The Aquarium is a wonderful facility and this will only make it more so.

Thank you all, s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Compliment
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257404  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:09:22 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Park Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257404

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:27:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Address2: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Alt. Phone: [REDACTED] Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email submission: "Cetaceans in captivity. Thank you so very much for voting for the whales. Hugs for all of you." |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Pop, Radu \(Brad\)](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257404  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 12:31:13 PM

---

Hi Parks Board,

See additional comments section below, citizen sent more on the whale issue.

Regards,

Brad  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257404

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:27:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address:  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email submission: "Cetaceans in captivity. Thank you so very much for voting for the whales. Hugs for all of you." |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

--- (PUT65, Mar 12 2017 11:45AM) Further comments provided to 3-1-1 VIA EMAIL: I'm not an activist for whales but should be. I first saw an orca at the Van Aquarium, Skana, when I was 8 or 9. Even then I was sad for her confinement, but wanted to grow up to be a whale trainer. In 1988, I volunteered at a Christmas member's party. Sadly we had to tell all the little kids that they couldn't visit Biossa's new baby. We didn't tell them she had died the night before, nor was it yet reported in the news. I witnessed Biossa circling her tiny pool making the most mournful sounds. I would never go back to any aquarium that held Cirerations in captivity. Years later I was lucky enough to see a group of wild orcas off Twawassen in a very small skiff. They were majestic & awh inspiring. Recently I watched Blackfish and I'm ashamed that I didn't immediately become a advocate for whales suffering at

the hands of human greed. Thank you again & I will make a point of expressing my support of your kindness. Kindest personal regards to all.

#### **Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257410  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:16:11 PM

---

Hello Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257410

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:28:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

It was disturbingly clear that the parks board had already made up their minds about the issue of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I hope that they will take the time to further consider the consequences of this decision and perhaps re- evaluate in relationship to non releasable rescued cetaceans.

Do they truly believe it is better for an animal who can not be returned to the while to be killed? Because that is the alternative, that or letting them die on our beaches. Unfortunately without the valuable work that the vancouver aquarium does the only choices we will have will be do we let

the whales suffer slow "natural" deaths or euthanize them. Those will be the only options.

With this in mind I sincerely hope that the board will consider an exception for rescued unreleasable cetaceans at the aquarium. This move would keep the cetacean experts at the aquarium - available for rehabilitation work when the need arises and would provide long term homes for whales which otherwise would have to be euthanized.

Like many issues this is not all black and white and I hope that the board will be able to see the good that is done - even if supporters yell less - our voices are still important too.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257487  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:27:32 PM

---

Hello Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257487

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:35:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Decision to end cetacean display at the Aquarium

Thank you so much for having the courage to make this decision. It feels like the first heartfelt, truly human political act I have witnessed in a long time! It was so great to hear this on the CBC news and honestly it brought tears to my eyes! You are demonstrating the kind of leadership we need so much right now. Good for you -- blessings!

No reply necessary but will include my info just so you know who I am :)

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Compliment

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks



6. Division or Branch Name: ..... Park Board .....

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257488  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:22:32 PM

---

Hello Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257488

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:35:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Address2: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Alt. Phone: [REDACTED] Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email submission: "Whales in Captivity. Thank you for finally putting an end to the cruel incarceration of whales at the aquarium!" |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257539  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:30:05 PM

---

Hello Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257539

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:41:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

s. 22(1)  
Name: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Address2: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Alt. Phone: [REDACTED] Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email submission: "Cetaceans in the aquarium. I just heard about the vote and want to say I am very disappointed. I strongly believe that the aquarium does a wonderful job educating the public and the cetaceans are part of that program. Can anything be done to reverse that decision?" |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | Yes  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257585  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:32:27 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257585

Case created: 2017-03-10, 02:46:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Cetacean Ban at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Park Commissioners:

s. 22(1)

and I am part of a nonprofit youth activist organization called Heirs to Our Oceans ([heirstoouroceans.com](http://heirstoouroceans.com)). I am focusing my research and efforts on legislation and policy making that will support and protect healthy oceans.

I was excited to hear about your decision to ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium and was wondering if you could share some of the information you used to make your decision. Were there any specific scientific studies or research that helped you make this choice?

Thank you for making this decision and for sharing any information you can with me.

Sincerely,

S. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	Yes
3.	Type of feedback:	Compliment
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257781  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:42:48 PM

---

Hello Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257781

Case created: 2017-03-10, 03:08:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Vancouver Aquarium decision

Shame on all of you! By making this decision you have pandered to the whims of the vocal MINORITY- a trend that Vancouver seems to be fond of. Was it really worth giving up your integrity in your quest for their votes? It's unfortunate that you all chose to ignore scientific facts in favor of the self serving rhetoric and outright false information of the "no whales" crowd. At the very least, you should have allowed the voters the opportunity, via a plebiscite, to make a decision of this magnitude. Instead, you all pretended to have enough scientific background to make this decision yourselves, and in doing so you made the wrong decision. This is yet another black eye on the City Of Vancouver - a city which

is a laughingstock worldwide for all the ridiculous things that are done there. Clearly, common sense is nowhere to be found among the elected representatives of Vancouver. Perhaps it should be added as a job requirement for future election candidates.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257820  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:45:17 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Park Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257820

Case created: 2017-03-10, 03:12:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | You have just made the wrong decision. You haven't taken into account any of the important research or conservation breakthroughs that Van Aqua have made or the improved facilities that are being created. You made a decision detrimental to your city, conservation and research. You should all step down. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | Yes   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257843  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:49:43 PM

---

Hello there,

Please kindly take a look at the feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257843

Case created: 2017-03-10, 03:15:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

I am writing because I disagree with the Park Board bylaw to prohibit cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium and I urge the Park Board to reconsider their decision.

The negative impact of this bylaw will be far reaching. For example, with climate change a growing threat to Arctic waters, it is more important than ever for the public to engage with this issue. Belugas form an integral part of the climate change exhibit at the Vancouver Aquarium, and through them millions of people have learned about climate change and been inspired to make positive change. Banning cetaceans diverts attention away from this important cause,

and damages the Aquarium's role in public education and action.

The conservation research carried out by scientists at Van Aqua is also contributes to the survival of belugas and other cetaceans in the wild, and informs their continued health in captivity. The unexplained deaths of 2 belugas in the Vancouver Aquarium were tragic, however that does not mean that all cetaceans should be banned. For example, the life histories of the current cetaceans (Daisy, Chester, and Helen) mean that they are unreleasable in to the wild. They should be kept in a space where they can be inspiring ambassadors while receive the best possible level of care. I truly believe that that space is the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any further questions.

With all best wishes  
Lucy

Lucy Erickson  
Science Communications Manager, Marine Stewardship Council  
MSc Conservation, Biodiversity & Management, University of Oxford

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257854  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:56:10 PM

---

Hello Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257854

Case created: 2017-03-10, 03:17:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: The ban on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

I would just like to voice my disappointment with the recent decision to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Not very well thought out, and will have a very negative impact on these creatures as research and awareness into their plight is diminished.

A black mark on Vancouver as a world class city.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Complaint

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board

#### **Additional Details**

#### **Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257874  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 5:01:44 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Park Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257874

Case created: 2017-03-10, 03:19:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |                     |
|----|---|---------------------|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email: the aquarium |
|----|---|---------------------|

I completely disagree with your board decision against the aquarium last night. In fact why does Vancouver even need a group like the Park Board interfering in things like this just to palcate a tiny minority of left wing eco nuts.

- |    |                              |                 |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted? | No              |
| 3. | Type of feedback:            | Complaint       |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:          | City Department |
| 5. | Department:                  | Parks           |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:     | Park Board      |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009257924  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 5:06:14 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Parks Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009257924

Case created: 2017-03-10, 03:24:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Parks board decision re: the Aquarium

I am appalled at the Board allowing a small group of activists to dictate to the Citizens of Vancouver how the aquarium shall be operating disregarding completely the science based development proposals submitted by Aquarium management. I would also question the basis of the decision, given that the opportunity to address the Board was stacked by activists who appear to have made a concerted effort to do so. The question also remains who was responsible for the poisoning of the 2 belugas ( was someone trying to ensure that aquarium staff would be blamed to advance the activist agenda?) The scientific work done by the aquarium

will certainly be a lot more beneficial for the enhancement of future beluga and dolphin populations than the arbitrary closing of the aquarium program.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258326  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 5:56:09 PM

---

Hello,

We have received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258326

Case created: 2017-03-10, 04:10:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Email: s. 22(1)

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email: Decision to end display and captivity of cetaceans |
|----|---|---|

I just wish to say THANK YOU to the commissioners for taking a modern stand and recognizing that the public have become more educated and sensitive about the captivity of these creatures, and applaud your decision to move us forward as a society. There will be plenty of other things to allow people to continue to enjoy the facilities at the Vancouver Aquarium.

- |    |                              |                 |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted? | No              |
| 3. | Type of feedback:            | Compliment      |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:          | City Department |
| 5. | Department:                  | Parks           |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:     | Park Board      |

#### Additional Details

---

## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258346  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 6:03:28 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258346

Case created: 2017-03-10, 04:12:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: The Bylaw prohibiting the importing and displaying of cetaceans

s. 22(1)

[REDACTED] and I understand that this comment may not make any affect but at least I know I tried. It saddens me greatly that you have decided to ban cetaceans in the Vancouver Aquarium. The Aquarium is no ordinary place to visit but a place where you can learn about the importance of ocean life. My family visits the Aquarium every year as it is has helped us find a love for marine biology. My oldest brother is considering greatly going to Vancouver to volunteer and learn at the Marine Rehabilitation Centre and the Aquarium itself. The thought of the Aquarium closing as a result of this Bylaw is upsetting and rather frustrating. The Vancouver Aquarium is a place where all can interact and learn about the life that lives in the deep abyss that makes up so

much of our planet. It would be a shame if future generations of Vancouver wouldn't be able to experience the Aquarium like I did and hopefully still will.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258375  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 6:20:47 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258375

Case created: 2017-03-10, 04:16:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Poor decision regarding Vancouver Aquarium

The Vancouver Park Board seems to be only listening to voices of a select few. We are proud to have been members of Vanaqua for many years. We bring our children to the aquarium and the MMRC to learn a healthy respect and knowledge of the world's oceans and marine life. The Aquarium is a far better teacher on the affects of climate and pollution than the government ever could be. Our children learn from hands on experience just as adults do. Our oldest child is now entering marine biology completely thanks to the aquarium and it's role in his life. If this new decision is implemented it isn't just heart breaking, it is a very narrow minded view without any regard for the good work being done. Furthermore there seems to be very little acknowledgment or planning for the marine

life deemed un-releasable. We don't live in BC any more rather we travel from Alberta every year for the experience and are so excited that the Vanaqua van might come to our community. Children do not all have equal opportunity for education in the school system and places like the aquarium allow us to add to that education from primary sources. I do not believe this fight is over yet, perhaps the supporters of the aquarium all around the world need to become as vocal as the select few pushing for the changes. The Aquarium and MMRC are something we as Canadians should be very proud of as leaders in many areas of research. Thank you very much to the Vancouver Aquarium for the impact you have had on our family and our knowledge and love of the oceans.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258543  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 7:19:32 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258543

Case created: 2017-03-10, 04:39:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Caller wants to express his displeasure in the actions taken by the city and the Park board to amend the park bylaw pertaining to cetaceans in the city parks. He feels the city engages to much with small groups to appease their wants when the general public opposes such a change. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258861  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 7:31:17 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258861

Case created: 2017-03-10, 05:58:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address:  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email submission: "Recently I heard your decision and was in shock. I and my family are so grateful that you took such a brave and ground breaking decision. At a time where so much is influenced by politics, by money and so many other pressures , you listened and understood that this cannot go on any longer. Many years ago I did a practicum at the aquarium and I can tell you first hand it was not that pretty or healthy behind the scenes. Many times I witnessed the whale food looking more like fish farm garbage rather than natural food. It was a very sad place to work." |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258907  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 7:32:43 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258907

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:12:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Vancouver Parks Board

The decisions made last night by the COV Parks Board have essentially signed death sentences to all future marine mammals who need our help. Now just in Vancouver but all of Candad. The Vancouver Aquarium is a world class facility and has the 4th largest rescue Center in the world. If the oceans health was not an issue and humans we more responsible there might not been a need to rescue but this is not the case. Using an old by law from 1956 is not right because the state of the oceans have changed DRAMATICALLY since then. Please do something to further police these idiots who has no right to end this live saving work.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

Thank you

No

3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258927  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:12:59 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258927

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:18:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Cetaceans in captivity

Thanks so much to the Parks Board for banning cetaceans in captivity. I am so glad the aquarium will no longer be able to capture and hold captive any more Belugas! If they want to study them I am sure there are scientists who will dive into the Arctic and have a look at them in their natural habitat!

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Compliment

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sham](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258943  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 7:34:58 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258943

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:21:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: DearParks Board,

We used to think it was acceptable to keep these giant animals in tiny pools, separate from their pods. We now know that this is not so.

Thank you for your humane decision. We applaud you.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Compliment

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board

#### Additional Details



**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009258969  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:13:34 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009258969

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:29:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email: Ban on cetaceans and dolphins   |
|    |   | Thank you so much for banning the captivity of cetaceans and dolphins in the the Aquarium. That is the only humane thing to do. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. |
|    |   | s. 22(1)   |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009259030  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:16:57 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009259030

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:46:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email regarding cetaceans in Captivity<br><br>A million times thank you for your courageous decision on the banning of cetaceans in our aquarium.<br><br>It was the right and moral decision and I believe it was a decision that the vast majority of Vancouver citizens have been waiting for.<br><br>It is very important that people be educated about and value our wildlife on both land and sea and I feel confident that you will come up with a brilliant, forward thinking substitute program in which our aquarium can truly be proud.<br><br>Again, many thanks . I am proud of you. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |

4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009259038  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:18:58 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009259038

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:47:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: Aquarium

I disagree with the decision the parks board made last night. It shows that being an aggressive lobby really works! I think this is truly the opinion of a minority group of animal rights activists and does not reflect the views of the majority of Vancouverites. The dolphins that remain in the aquarium can not be released into the wild, they will die. At the very least, the aquarium should not be forced to relocate these dolphins.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Complaint

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5. Department:

Parks

6. Division or Branch Name:

Park Board

#### Additional Details

## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009259042  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:20:59 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009259042

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:51:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: prohibit cetaceans

I do not live in Vancouver and do not agree with your ruling on prohibiting cetaceans. I feel the Aquarium does a great job of protecting the marine life on the BC Coast. And on research.

It also provides a great place for residents of BC to go and learn about cetaceans. Most people would never learn about them or see them without a Aquarium. My children have learned about cetaceans because of the Aquarium why we should protect them.. You should relook at your ruling I know there is more people out there like me in BC and the Vancouver Aquarium has for as many years provided this service all of the BC Residents not just Vancouver area.

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Complaint

4. Feedback regarding:

City Department

5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009259054  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:42:22 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009259054

Case created: 2017-03-10, 06:54:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email: Board decision concerning Cetaceans  |
|    |   | Your decision regarding cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium is ridiculous and shortsighted . You should be ashamed that you caved to pressure from the loudest and stupidest voices in a room just to save face with activists that don't represent the majority of people. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | Very disappointed.  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | No  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | Complaint   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | City Department   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks   |
|    |   | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sham](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009259220  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:24:36 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009259220

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:01:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email: decision on Vancouver Aquarium

What a shame....The action taken by the Vancouver Parks board is a knee jerk one that is founded on no scientific basis nor is it based on logic it seems. Looks like they took BlackFish as the bible and have closed their eyes and ears to logic. What I see is a glorified strata council with a short time to make some noise. What's worse, they are nominated (not elected) and are patronage hiring's by the current city council. Again what's worse is they don't have the necessary knowledge nor experience to make decisions about animal welfare. And if they did they would understand that what they are asking means that we should not keep any critters in cages...dogs, cats, birds, fish....fish....hmmmm. I also would challenge any one of them to stand up to the bar set by the Vancouver Aquarium to help conserve and protect the environment. They

are the parks board but they only think of human stuff not the native creatures that inhabit this land. Take a look at any Vancouver Park and it's full of captive non native animals like dogs and racoons etc. many of them on leashes and caged at home....HYPOCRISY is alive and well here in Vancouver... What a shame and what a mess they are and followed by the blind masses who quite frankly don't do a damn thing to help conserve or protect the environment. They Vancouver Aquarium is a world leader in conservation and science along with creating public awareness and change and to be critiqued by the uninformed and more importantly to be judged and sentenced by them is a travesty. Once again the Government of BC and in this case the VPB shows it's uneducated and purely self glory seeking "modus operandi" and for me its an embarrassment and only the environment and our critters are going to suffer. Shame on you and shame on us for buying into your BS.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009259269  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:00:21 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

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#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009259269

Case created: 2017-03-10, 08:20:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email: "Park board votes unanimously in favour of banning whales, dolphins and porpoises at the aquarium" |
|    |   | Thank you. I cried when I heard the results of the vote. Well done!                                       |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009260545  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:40:32 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009260545

Case created: 2017-03-11, 01:24:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | via email webform regarding Cetaceans in captivity   |
|    |   | Thank you, thank you, thank you for voting to end captivity in Vancouver parks! I've been waiting for this day for a long time, and so have many of my friends and family. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009260556  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 2:26:58 PM

---

Hello,

Please see feedback from citizen.

Thank you

Fernando  
3-1-1 Contact Center

---



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**Citizen Feedback**

Case number: 101009260556

Case created: 2017-03-11, 01:28:00 PM

**Incident Location**

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

**Contact Details**

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous  
Address: ,  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone:

Email:  
Preferred contact method: Either

**Request Details**

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via email:

I'm sorry, but I am really upset by the decision of the Park's Board to ban whales at the Aquarium. The Aquarium benefits and influences people far beyond Vancouver City in this Province and we had no voice in this matter. The Aquarium does an incredible amount of good and only brings creatures that could not be released back into the wild into their displays. They tend to and release far more creatures than they display at the Aquarium and this response seems to be a reflex to special interest groups who do not always understand everything that is going on there.

I think that there needs to be some

discussion about this. But if these animals cannot be released, and would instead die, isn't it better that they are cared for and looked after by people who care for them and are learning about them?

- |    |                              |                    |
|----|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted? | No                 |
| 3. | Type of feedback:            | Complaint          |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:          | City Department    |
| 5. | Department:                  | Parks              |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:     | Vancouver Aquarium |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009260573  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 2:22:22 PM

---

Hello,

Please see feedback from citizen.

Thank you

Fernando  
3-1-1 Contact Center

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009260573

Case created: 2017-03-11, 01:34:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

s. 22(1)

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

via email webform regarding: Vancouver Aquarium

I would just like to comment on how disgusted I am in the decision that the parks department made for the Vancouver Aquarium. These people have set out a death wish on any animal that washes up on our shores injured or harmed. These people have no idea what they just did. Not only are they taking away the ability to save animals in danger but how many jobs now are lost? What I would like to know if how many of these parks people have animal companions? How many are rescued animals?? Shame on you for turning your backs on the people who are trying to make this world a

better place. Double shame if they own a pet!!!

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009260748  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:41:28 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009260748

Case created: 2017-03-11, 02:25:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): via email webform Anonymous regarding:  
  
As a board you have failed the citizens. You fell to the pressures of very few vocal protestors that do not speak for the population. Instead of voting as board. You should put the vote to the population of Vancouver to make. You said you listened to the people. A few thousand is not the full people. Vancouver and the great area is much larger than that. People don't engage in these things because we don't have time to deal with these things in our lives. We actually have jobs and family to worry about. This is why you as a board exist. You're suppose to represent all the people. These people that protest don't do anything but protest all the time for the smallest things just to feel important.

The aquarium wasn't meant for us the adults. It was meant for the children. To learn and understand the whales. Their curiosities inspires them to learn and appreciate their existence. Who knows, it could inspire some of them to be marine biologists and ocean wildlife rescuers. All for the better of protecting and preserving ocean life in the future.

Sure you can say Children can read about them. But as they say seeing is believing. And you stole that from them today with your decision. Instead of asking the adults how people feel about whale captivity. Why don't you ask the children what the aquarium means to them?

What's next for those protestors?  
The bear's up on grouse mountain?

You just stalled society's understanding of marine life. All because you think those protestors represented the people.

Let's just say this. You might as well ban all dogs and cats or any sort of living pet from all owners. Ban them completely from park's and all public space. Are they all not held in captivities against their will? Leeches around dogs like prisoners? A home is just as bad or if not worst than an aquarium.

Either it's all ok or it's not.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	I support Vancouver Aquarium.
3.	Type of feedback:	No
4.	Feedback regarding:	Opinion
5.	Department:	City Department
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks
		Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009260998  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:42:32 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009260998

Case created: 2017-03-11, 03:26:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address:   
Address2:   
Phone:   
Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | via email webform regarding: banning whales and dolphins in the aquarium<br><br>I wholeheartedly support your decision<br><br>THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009261733  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 11:03:48 AM

---

Hello,

We have received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009261733

Case created: 2017-03-12, 09:46:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Citizen was wanting to commend the Parks Board for their decision to prohibit cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium. Thank you. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009261913  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 11:41:23 AM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009261913

Case created: 2017-03-12, 10:50:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Citizen strongly disagrees with the recent decision of the Parks Board to ban cetaceans. It undermines the Vancouver Aquarium, denys visitors to Vancouver the opportunity to see these wonderful creatures up close, eliminates the educational and critical research only done at this aquarium and most of all is a real disservice to the belugas and other marine animals that need the rescue facilities available there. It is a very poor decision based on misguided emotion not science. You have done a real disservice to many stakeholders with this decision. He hopes that you either reconsider this decision or structure the bylaw to allow for cetaceans to be maintained in some form. |
| 2. Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. Department:                                     | Parks  |

6. Division or Branch Name: ..... Parks Board - Vancouver Aquarium .....

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -



**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009262108  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 12:23:09 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,

311 Operations

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009262108

Case created: 2017-03-12, 11:55:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Via EMAIL:

I would like to express my concern for the cetaceans currently housed at the Vancouver Aquarium and what this new by-law might entail for them.

These are animals that have been deemed non-releasable by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, meaning they would not be able to survive on their own in the ocean.

Having volunteered with the Vancouver Aquarium for the past three years, as a public educator, a fish husbandry volunteer,

and at their off-site rescue center, I feel privileged to be able to get to know the animals that reside there. To be able to see Chester, the two year old false killer whale learn to play with his food by watching Helen the pacific white-sided dolphin tempt the seagulls. To be able to see Daisy the harbor porpoise play around with guests who take out their cameras or see her face light up when she catches a glimpse of a wristwatch. And especially see the amazing bond that those three cetaceans have with their trainers. Spending the past three years with this aquarium has not only expanded my love for the ocean, but kindled a passion for ocean conservation, a mantra that resides at the very heart of all those who care for the animals.

These animals are ambassadors for their species. Daisy has helped in research dedicated to helping the critically endangered Vaquita porpoise, a close relative to her species and currently one of the most endangered species in the ocean with only thirty or so left. Before the passing of Quila and Aurora, the mother-daughter pair helped with groundbreaking research on classifying beluga calls and how calves learn calls from their mothers, contact calls.

With this, I am deeply saddened that if an exception to be able to house non-releasable cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium cannot be made, the lives of these amazing animals will be unjustly cut short. Long-term care facilities such as the Vancouver Aquarium are essential for helping animals that are deemed non-releasable live out their lives in comfort and with love, and for the animals in the ocean such as the Vaquita, through conservation research.

Thank you very much for your time

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009262258  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 1:54:51 PM

---

Hello,

We have received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009262258

Case created: 2017-03-12, 12:52:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

s. 22(1)

s. 22(1) and I understand that this comment may not make any affect but at least I know I tried. It saddens me greatly that you have decided to ban cetaceans in the Vancouver Aquarium. The Aquarium is no ordinary place to visit but a place where you can learn about the importance of ocean life. My family visits the Aquarium every year as it is has helped us find a love for marine biology. My oldest brother is considering greatly going to Vancouver to volunteer and learn at the Marine Rehabilitation Centre and the Aquarium itself. The thought of the Aquarium closing as a result of this Bylaw is upsetting and rather frustrating. The Vancouver Aquarium is a place where all can interact and learn about the life that lives in the deep abyss that makes up so much of our planet. It would be a shame if future generations of Vancouver wouldn't be able to experience the Aquarium like I

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	did and hopefully still will.
3.	Type of feedback:	No
4.	Feedback regarding:	Opinion
5.	Department:	City Department
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks
		Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009262302  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 1:57:36 PM

---

Hello,

We have received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009262302

Case created: 2017-03-12, 01:02:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Via EMAIL:

I am very disappointed in your recent decision to ban cetaceans at Vancouver parks.

The Vancouver Aquarium is a first class facility dedicated to education, research and conservation. What better way to get the public involved in caring for their ocean environment and its inhabitants than having all types of animals and plants being displayed in a very beautiful replica of the natural environment. This includes the top members of the ocean food chain - Whales -

Not all families have the financial ability to take whale watching tours to view whales in their natural habitat, fly off to the Gaspé, the St Lawrence, or go to the Arctic to see Belugas.

This City celebrated the birth of our Baby

Belugas, with song and joy a few years ago. We wept at the death of those same Belugas recently.

Many of the boomer generation first wondered at what an Orca was when Skanna lived at the Aquarium.

Granted these large mammals do need a big habitat, but the Aquarium has continually been expanding to accommodate the needs of the Whales.

Marine rescue is for those animals that have been damaged due to our poor treatment of the oceans and the ocean habitat. We need to be able to keep the public in touch, informed, and caring about their environment. What better way then to have rescued large marine mammals - including whales- be that symbol of resurrection for the marine environment.

As David Attenborough has said: "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced."

Please make a responsible and informed decision. Reverse your ban on Cetaceans in Vancouver Parks.

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009262335  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 2:33:44 PM

---

Hello,

We have received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009262335

Case created: 2017-03-12, 01:13:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: Anonymous, Anonymous March 2017

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Via EMAIL:<br>Thank you Van Park Board for voting against<br>keeping cetaceans in captivity!!!!!! |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Chana, Sharn](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009262514  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 3:20:08 PM

---

Hello,

We received the following feedback from a citizen. Could you please review?

Thank you,  
311 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009262514

Case created: 2017-03-12, 02:13:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

VIA EMAIL:

I moved to Vancouver a little over two years ago, and it was one of the best decisions I've ever made in my life. I fell in love with this beautiful city almost instantly, (after adjusting to the weather) and one of the big reasons for that was the level of importance this city places on being "green" and having parks everywhere. Its extremely refreshing to be able to find nature frequently in the middle of the city, and I love that.

I recently learned about your decision to stop the cetacean program at the Vancouver Aquarium. This is a terrible decision. To cease the important work they are doing will lead to negative consequences as far as conservation is concerned. We all know the world is changing rapidly, and the oceans are changing fastest of all, and if no one does the research to discover how the organisms



in the ocean are adapting, and how best to protect them, we will be looking at ourselves in 30 years lamenting the deaths of the world's last belugas, or polar bears, or narwhals, and our children will look at us, and say, "they had the opportunity to do something, but they didn't"

I understand the difficult situation you are put in. I too saw the movie "Blackfish" and to keep any creature in captivity is a tough call. Many animals, especially cetaceans are accustomed having extremely large ranges to roam. However, the uncomfortable truth is that we, as humans, have messed up, and as a result we have to resort to less than ideal measures to ensure many species do not go extinct. The best part about it, is that it works! There are a number of zoos and aquariums that contribute research by keeping animals in captivity to protect them from the dangers that humans pose, as well as the dangers that nature poses. There are a number of species that are no longer considered endangered now, like giant pandas and Siberian tigers, even grizzly bears are once again roaming the Rockies. I have no doubt they would be extinct today if it weren't for the research provided by zoos.

The Vancouver Aquarium is doing everything right as far as ethics are concerned, too. They only house cetaceans that were captured before 1996; cetaceans already being kept in a zoo or aquarium before 1996; cetaceans born in a zoo or aquarium; cetaceans that were rescued from the wild and rehabilitated, but deemed non-releasable. In short, they are only keeping cetaceans that would be sentenced to death if they were to be released back into the wild, and it will be their blood on your hands, plus the blood of numerous other animals in the wild who would've benefited from the research if you hold to this decision.

Quila and Aurora's deaths are definitely regrettable, but it was not from negligence. I'm not alone in suspecting foul play when it comes to that, especially considering the pools at the research facility were drained within days of that incident as well, and it would be a huge mistake

Thank you for your time.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

#### Additional Details

## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Pop, Radu \(Brad\)](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009265279  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:07:17 PM

---

Hi PB

See anon comment about the whale issues.

Cheers,

Brad  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009265279

Case created: 2017-03-13, 11:42:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Via web form.   |
|    |   | Subject: Dolphins and whales  |
|    |   | Message:  |
|    |   | Thank you for your ban. Lots of happiness all the way from South Africa |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Pop, Radu \(Brad\)](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009265416  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:31:58 PM

---

Hi PB ,

See comments below.

Brad  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009265416

Case created: 2017-03-13, 11:55:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

er

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Subject: Dolpin and Whale captivity.<br><br>Message: I want to thank you very much for banning the dolphin and whale captivity in vanquavar. Give them a better life in freedom and peace. &lt;3 |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks- Vancouver Aquarium  |

#### Additional Details

Feedback received via webform.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Pop, Radu \(Brad\)](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009265746  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 3:07:48 PM

---

Hi Park Board,

See comments below.

Brad  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009265746

Case created: 2017-03-13, 12:27:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Subject: Thanks you for taking action   |
|    |   | Message: I would like to thank you for banning the display of whales, dolphins and porpoises! |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks - Vancouver Aquarium  |

#### Additional Details

Feedback received via web form.

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009270066  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 12:09:12 PM

---

Hello,  
The following is a Citizen Feedback Case that was created by the 311 Contact Centre. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.  
Joan / 311 Contact Centre

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009270066

Case created: 2017-03-14, 10:35:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Per Citizen Email: "The Vancouver Park Board unanimously voted to ban import & display of whales, dolphins & porpoises! Thank you Vancouver!" |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Vancouver Park Board - Aquarium   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009270066  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:27:58 AM

---

Hello,  
3-1-1 has received the following feedback case. If you have any questions, please let us know. Thank you.

Regards,  
Cassy

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009270066

Case created: 2017-03-14, 10:35:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: None

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Per Citizen Email: "The Vancouver Park Board unanimously voted to ban import & display of whales, dolphins & porpoises! Thank you Vancouver!" |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Vancouver Park Board - Aquarium   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -



**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009270099  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:27:58 AM

---

Hello,  
3-1-1 has received the following feedback case. If you have any questions please let us know.  
Thank you.

Regards,  
Cassy

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009270099

Case created: 2017-03-14, 10:38:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Per Citizen Email: "I am so proud of you taking the difficult but brave and correct decision to ban cetaceans at the aquarium - and I do hope you will consider including an order to release them into protected seapens for the duration of thier lives well done" |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Vancouver Parks Board  |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009271094  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 1:34:56 PM

---

Good Afternoon,

This is a feedback that was received at the 311 Contact Centre. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us back at your convenience.

Sincerely,  
Dawn Tessier  
311 Contact Centre Supervisor

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009271094

Case created: 2017-03-14, 12:29:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Received via email: "Well done for your unanimous vote to prohibit the import and display of whales, dolphins and porpoises. Good news, thanks." |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment   |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Vancouver Parks Board - Aquarium   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009272557  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 4:44:42 PM

---

Hello,  
The following is a Citizen Feedback Case that was created by the 311 Contact Centre. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.  
Joan / 311 Contact Centre

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009272557

Case created: 2017-03-14, 03:28:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Via email:<br>"Just a note of thanks for the recent action taken to ban cetacean's from the Aquarium; I was hoping for this and congratulate you on your initiative. I am grateful for your decision; so many have wanted this for so long. In the 70's the first baby Beluga born died; I was with a friend taking stats on respiratory counts overnight and from that time on I have been waiting for this laudable decision; my only regret is that it didn't happened sooner. Thanks again." |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Complaint  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009280283  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:15:17 AM  
**Attachments:** [Citizen Feedback-101009280283.rtf](#)

---

Good Morning,

Please see the attached feedback for your department.

Warm regards,

Lisa  
311 Operations

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009281462  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:18:00 PM

---

Good afternoon,

3-1-1 received the following citizen feedback for your department.

If this should be directed elsewhere, please let us know by replying to  
[311.operations@vancouver.ca](mailto:311.operations@vancouver.ca)

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009281462

Case created: 2017-03-16, 11:13:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

ner

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Request submitted via online webform on March 16<br><br>Good morning<br><br>I'd also like to thank the Commissioners on their decision to not allow this to happen.<br><br>Thank you. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board  |

**Additional Details**

Citizen requested for weblink to watch the March 8 & 9 meetings regarding the Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium in her request. CSR forwarded the link via email to citizen.

Vancouver Park Board Media Player  
<http://civic.neulion.com/vancouverparkboard/>

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009286473  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:56:06 PM

---

Hello,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the attached document for details.

If this should be directed elsewhere, please let us know by replying to [311.operations@vancouver.ca](mailto:311.operations@vancouver.ca)

Regards,

Sandy V.  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009286473

Case created: 2017-03-17, 11:21:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: S. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Received via email.<br><br>Bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley park.<br><br>I do not support the Bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley park. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks  |

#### Additional Details



## Map and Photo

- no picture -

From: [311 Operations](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101009287215  
Date: Friday, March 17, 2017 3:03:04 PM

---

Good afternoon,

3-1-1 has received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the document below for details.

Regards,

Amanda  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009287215

Case created: 2017-03-17, 12:50:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via email.

aquarium

I live in Kamloops. I want you to know that people from all over the province visit the aquarium. I do not think that you people on the Park Board have properly voted taking into consideration the whole of the province. I know of schools who have gone specifically to the aquarium for school trips. This may be as close to the ocean some of these children get. Dr. Nightingale does wonderful work on research and rescues. Please reconsider your vote

2. Do you want to be contacted?

No

3. Type of feedback:

Opinion

4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009306062  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 11:16:40 AM

---

Good Morning,

Feedback has been received regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike G.  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009306062

Case created: 2017-03-22, 11:13:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Support thank you   |
|    |   | I've heard a lot of backlash about the recent vote to ban keeping cetations in capitivity at the Vancouver Aquarium, and I just want to send my thanks to you for choosing to stand up for animal rights. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No  |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Compliment  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department   |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks   |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Parks board   |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009306091  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 11:25:28 AM

---

Good Morning,

Feedback has been received regarding your business unit. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Mike G.  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009306091

Case created: 2017-03-22, 11:16:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address:  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

I would like you to reconsider your proposed by-law banning cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I understand the desire not to catch and keep these magnificent animals in captivity, but the way your by-law is worded it would also prevent the aquarium from rescuing injured and stranded animals.

I believe that we have a moral responsibility to care for the animals that we have harmed through our industries or actions. Helen and Hannah became trapped in a fishing net, and had to have major surgery to save their lives. After the post-op care, they had become too habituated to humans to be released back into the wild and were provided a home at the aquarium.

Jack and Daisy were found stranded and orphaned on beaches. Both were very young and severely malnourished. Without the aquarium, the Marine Mammal Rescue center would have had no choice but to euthanize them. Instead, the aquarium was able to provide a home for them where they could be cared for and used to engage the public in ocean awareness.

It has been said that people help what they care about and care about what they see. Without the cetaceans at the aquarium, knowledge of the complex ocean environment will decline and the problems facing the continued survival of our coral reefs, shark, fish and cetacean populations will continue to increase.

Case in point; prior to the Vancouver Aquarium's first killer whale, Orcas were considered bloodthirsty killers and shot on sight. After people were able to see one up close in the aquarium, people were able to appreciate them and it spawned a whole industry of Orca whale watching.

Please reconsider your proposed by-law

Regards,

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks & Rec

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009313683  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 4:46:20 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Park Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009313683

Case created: 2017-03-23, 04:41:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: 2017 March, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Hi,

I have read yesterday a ban on captive whales at the Vancouver Aquarium was to start shortly. Despite the fact that captive whales may increase our knowledge about cetaceans and to some extent (wildly arguable), help protect wild whales, I do think - as one with a Masters degree in ecological management and after doing some research on the subject - learning about whales can be done while studying them in the wild and their protection is more bound to protecting their environment.

So I am very pleased to hear about the ban, and wanted to let you know I think it is a sensible and progressive decision. Applause!



2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Compliment
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Vancouver Aquarium

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

From: [311 Operations](#)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Subject: Citizen Feedback-101009315621  
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 11:45:14 AM

---

Good morning,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009315621

Case created: 2017-03-24, 10:46:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Address2: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Alt. Phone: [REDACTED] ther

#### Request Details

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | I am deeply disappointed on your recent decision. I even went to the civic election to vote for the board that was NOT going to do this. I guess voting and your platforms mean nothing. I am a proud supporter of the Vancouver Aquarium and the rescued, un-releasable animals they take care of and ALLOW us to view and learn about. I will continue to support them with yearly passes. And just hope you concern yourselves with better things to use your time on. For example: garbage everywhere throughout Stanley Park, homeless people living off Lees trail, people on bikes riding where they shouldn't because you can't afford to put up proper signage, dogs off leash. Thank you. And I won't be voting again. |
| 2. Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. Type of feedback:                               | Complaint  |
| 4. Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |

5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009317545  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 3:03:24 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009317545

Case created: 2017-03-24, 02:43:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: S. 22(1)  
Address:  
Address2:  
Phone:  
Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

"The Decision to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

I am deeply saddened by the events regarding the cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium and the decision made by the Parks board of commissioners. My main concern is what the repercussions will be on the three cetaceans currently in their care. These are animals that have been deemed non-releasable by the federal government, and with this, long-term care for them is essential.

I have been a volunteer at the Vancouver Aquarium for the past three years, and before that a member of the Aquarium with my family. I have seen this facility through so many perspectives. From being captivated by the belugas as a young child, to learning about Helen's rescue story and the amazing research that she participated

in as a young adult; to now, a very active volunteer dedicated to helping a facility that keeps ocean conservation and active commitment to the care of all their animals close to heart. Through the many volunteer positions I've held, a gallery educator, tropical fish husbandry assistant, and volunteer at their off-site rescue centre, I have had the chance to experience first-hand the amount of dedication that all staff put into the wellbeing of all animals there, cetaceans included.

I find it very unfortunate that the actions of the parks board have been taken without considering the lives of the animals themselves, as if they are not able to be released, euthanasia is the only other option. It breaks my heart that the lives of Chester, Helen, Daisy, and all other stranded cetaceans of the coast may be unjustly cut short. These are animals that most likely due to human circumstance have been placed in a position that they are no longer able to live independently in the ocean, and thus a responsibility to humans to care for them and give them the most comfortable life possible. Please reconsider this ban for the sake of these animals who with the proper care at the Vancouver Aquarium, have a second lease on life.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this,

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	s. 22(1)
3.	Type of feedback:	No
4.	Feedback regarding:	Complaint
5.	Department:	City Department
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks
		Parks Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009317762  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:51:13 PM

---

Hello there,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009317762

Case created: 2017-03-24, 03:10:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: ther

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via online form: Vancouver parks board cetacean ban

I am writing in strong opposition of the recent ban of cetacean animals at the Vancouver Aquarium. This resolution appears to be completely reactionary to the very sad untimely deaths of the two beluga whales. While many aquariums have whales, dolphins, and other cetaceans as a purely entertaining / profit generating assets, the Vancouver Aquarium (as you are no doubt aware) is a research and rescue centre. Yes, public appearances - especially in light of recent documentaries like Black Fish - are superficially apposed to holding whales. However, I firmly believe that a marketing strategy that educated the public on all of the good the aquarium does (education, research, and rehabilitation)

would be a much more effective political and practical move than a reactionary ban (presumably this was to gain public favour). With this ban, injured animals will no longer be resuscitated and rehabilitated at the aquarium. With this ban, research will suffer. With this ban, many more animals will die. This is completely unacceptable. Thank you for your time and consideration.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009317762  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:53:40 PM

---

Hello,  
3-1-1 has received the following feedback case. If you have any questions please let us know. Thank you.

Regards,  
Cassy

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009317762

Case created: 2017-03-24, 03:10:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via online form: Vancouver parks board cetacean ban  
I am writing in strong opposition of the recent ban of cetacean animals at the Vancouver Aquarium. This resolution appears to be completely reactionary to the very sad untimely deaths of the two beluga whales. While many aquariums have whales, dolphins, and other cetaceans as a purely entertaining / profit generating assets, the Vancouver Aquarium (as you are no doubt aware) is a research and rescue centre. Yes, public appearances - especially in light of recent documentaries like Black Fish - are superficially apposed to holding whales. However, I firmly believe that a marketing strategy that educated the public on all of the good the aquarium does (education, research, and rehabilitation) would be a much more effective political and practical move that a reactionary ban (presumably this was to gain public favour).



With this ban, injured animals will no longer be resuscitated and rehabilitated at the aquarium. With this ban, research will suffer. With this ban, many more animals will die. This is completely unacceptable. Thank you for your time and consideration.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009318064  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:29:25 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009318064

Case created: 2017-03-24, 04:00:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Received via online form: Cetacean Ban<br>While I agree that cetaceans should never be captured or bred in captivity, the Vancouver Park Board's ban is overly broad and puts the future of Chester, Helen and all future rescues at risk.<br>As a former volunteer at the Marine Mammal Rescue and biologist, I've seen first hand the amazing rehab work this facility does with the goal of getting the animals back into their natural habitat. However, the rescued cetaceans that are not deemed releasable need a forever home. Their best option is a non-profit research and conservation center like VanAqua. I would hate to see future rescues euthanized, or current rescues shipped off to the likes of SeaWorld as result of a reactionary ban. |
| 2. Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. Type of feedback:                               | Complaint  |
| 4. Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |

5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009318122  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:30:14 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009318122

Case created: 2017-03-24, 04:10:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

- |    |   |  |
|----|---|--|
| 1. | Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Received via online form: The cetacean ban at the aquarium.<br>I am deeply saddened to hear about the new ban that does not allowed the aquarium to have any rescued cetaceans. These animals not only promote awarness and help with animal research THEY WOULD DIE if they were put back into the wild. The animals at the aquarium are rescued and not forced to do anything uncomfortable but instead are nutured and cared for at the aquarium. I hope you will take the information into account and reconsider the ban thank you. |
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. | Type of feedback:                               | Complaint  |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:                             | City Department  |
| 5. | Department:                                     | Parks  |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:                        | Park Board   |

#### Additional Details

## Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009318144  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:32:58 PM

---

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009318144

Case created: 2017-03-24, 04:14:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone: Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via online form: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium and Rescue Facilities Having just visited the wonderful Vancouver Aquarium and witnessed the beautiful false killer whales 'Chester', 'Helen' and their trainers enjoy a harmonious and graceful sequence of movements in the pool - I am saddened by the potential cetacean ban that might leave no other options for rescue or rehabilitation of injured animals other than distant travel to perhaps less than optimal aqua facilities , or worse euthanasia. These animals are lovingly cared for by the engaged and sensitive trainers at this site. This aquarium is uniquely capable of caring for, training and housing these beautiful creatures.

These animals do not deserve to be transferred to alternate facilities. Their seaworthy relatives do not deserve to be abandoned (once rescued and hopefully rehabilitated) or euthanized.

In my opinion, this ban would be cruel and unusual punishment.  
Chester, Daisy and Helen deserve so much more.

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009318833  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 7:50:32 PM

---

Hello there,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009318833

Case created: 2017-03-24, 07:13:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name:

s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email submission: "Dear Park Board, I kindly ask that you reconsider your intentions of creating a Cetacean ban. Vancouver Aquarium is an amazing facility which provides exceptional care to all its wildlife. The care they give allows rescued animals to thrive again. Vancouver Aquarium is in no way like Sea World. The staff, scientists and volunteers have great respect and pride for the animals they care for. Please reconsider your proposal as it will put so many precious lives in danger. Let Vancouver Aquarium set a president for how animals should be treated, with respect, kindness and compassion. We, as British Columbians and as Canadians have an amazing opportunity to show other facilities and institutions how to properly care for these animals. Please, do the right



thing and stop the cetacean ban."

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009318918  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:06:51 PM

---

Hello there,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009318918

Case created: 2017-03-24, 07:53:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Email submission: "Cetacean Ban at the Vancouver Aquarium"

I agree that cetaceans should never be captured or bred in captivity, the Vancouver Park Board's ban is overly broad and puts the futures of Chester, Helen and all other rescues at risk. In addition, the Vancouver aquarium is such a great resource for education for the public regarding these animals. It is a place like non other and it uses the harm that has been done to these animals to educate the masses on the importance of protecting these animals.

This ban feels like an uninformed knee-jerk reaction to the unfortunate recent deaths of Aurora and Qila. This is not the solution and will in the end likely harm more

cetaceans because of the lack of facilities that can hold animals long term. I implore you to re-consider."

- |    |                              |                 |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted? | No              |
| 3. | Type of feedback:            | Opinion         |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:          | City Department |
| 5. | Department:                  | Parks           |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:     | Park Board      |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009320703  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 4:39:01 PM

---

Hello Vancouver Park Board,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009320703

Case created: 2017-03-25, 03:52:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Address2: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Alt. Phone: [REDACTED] Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via email:  
"I wonder what the rush is to make rulings about how the Vancouver Aquarium operates? It seems to be political power struggles with a non-profit organization.

The Vancouver Aquarium is enjoyed by many in the public - locals and tourists.

While I am not currently a resident in Vancouver, I have always lived in the Vancouver area - either Vancouver or the North Shore, where I current live.

Many people living in the Greater Vancouver Area, including outlying municipalities and even likely from other BC cities, feel some connection to Stanley Park and the Vancouver Aquarium, as do

international tourists.

I don't see how the current Vancouver Parks Board can make quick decisions, such about Whales and Dolphins at the Vancouver Aquarium, without considering the connection the Vancouver Aquarium by citizens of Greater Vancouver, cities in British Columbia, world visitors, and the science, volunteers (current and past) and staff of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Just because Belugas died recently, either likely purposefully killed or poisoned for political power purposes, does not mean that everyone agrees with the bully tactics and quick decisions of the Vancouver Parks Board.

It's time to reconsider."

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Pop, Radu \(Brad\)](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009320809  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 7:32:29 AM

---

Hi Park Board,

See comments below about Aquarium.

Regards,

Brad  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009320809

Case created: 2017-03-25, 04:28:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,  
Address2:  
Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)  
Address: [REDACTED]  
Address2: [REDACTED]  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Alt. Phone: [REDACTED] Preferred contact method: Email

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Received via email:  
"Vancouver has had for the past many years a genuine world-class facility for the study and protection and public education regarding all marine life, including the orcas and other whales.  
The aquarium has brought many tourists to our city, specifically to visit the aquarium. (Recent friends from Asia are an example: of two things on their agenda, the aquarium was first). Obviously, this is a tourist plus for the city.  
To close down the best of it is truly short-sighted. In the future, picture yourself saying to your kids, "Sit and read the book. I have to care for the grass on the former aquarium site."

2. Do you want to be contacted?
3. Type of feedback:

No  
Complaint

4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks board

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [Pop, Radu \(Brad\)](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009321745  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 12:42:47 PM

---

Hi PB,

See whale comment below.

Brad  
3-1-1

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009321745

Case created: 2017-03-26, 10:33:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Email: s. 22(1)

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Via email webform regarding Cetaceans Ban:

To Whom It May Concern,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing in regards to the recent proposal to ban all importations and display of cetaceans.

Although I am pleased that the Park Board places the well-being of cetaceans at a high priority and is working to protect them, I am concerned about the potential impacts this ban may have. In particular, I wonder about the repercussions this ban may have on cetaceans already in captivity (including Helen, Daisy and Chester).

I, and many others, share the concern that these rescued cetaceans, who are unfit for release into the wild, may be removed or



even euthanized.

I also wonder if this ban may prohibit efforts to rescue, rehabilitate and release cetaceans who are injured or ill.

I believe we, the people of Vancouver, regardless of our opinions, all share a desire to see that these wonderful animals are protected and cared for in the best way possible. Therefore, I hope that these concerns, which I believe I share with many, are soon addressed and put to rest.

Thank you for all your efforts thus far.

Sincerely

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board - Vancouver Aquarium

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009334407  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:57:26 AM

---

Hello,

3-1-1 received citizen feedback for your department. Please see the attached document for details.

If this should be directed elsewhere, please let us know by replying to [311.operations@vancouver.ca](mailto:311.operations@vancouver.ca)

Regards,

Sandy V.  
3-1-1 Operations

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009334407

Case created: 2017-03-29, 09:20:00 AM

#### Incident Location

Address: , ,

Address2:

Location name:

#### Contact Details

Name:

s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Hello

I strongly believe that had you as the board allowed this to go to a plebiscite, that the vote would be in favor of not allowing healthy cetaceans from the wild to be kept at the aquarium but that injured cetaceans that would not survive in the wild would be allowed at the aquarium. You listened to a very small number of protesters and made what you thought was a call based on what the majority thought

Now the DOF will be forced to euthanize

injured cetaceans just because you voted that they should not be kept in captivity. In other words, better dead than in captivity. Do any of you really believe that?

I urge you to reconsider, only in that you move to allow injured cetaceans that will never again have any chance of surviving in the wild be allowed to be kept at the aquarium.

It becomes a win for the cetacean, a win for research, and hopefully a win for their survival.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	Yes
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

**From:** [311 Operations](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101009354651  
**Date:** Sunday, April 02, 2017 6:55:47 PM

---

Hello there,

Please kindly review the citizen feedback below.

Thank you,  
Cathy  
3-1-1 Contact Centre  
City of Vancouver

---



#### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101009354651

Case created: 2017-04-02, 04:52:00 PM

#### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

#### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

#### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Via webform email regarding: keeping of Marine life in Vancouver aquarium

I am 100% in favor of keeping injured/abandoned whales/porpoises etc at the Vancouver aquarium. They have done an amazing job over the years with rehabilitations and the care they provide is amazing. I do not support capturing of healthy wild whales etc to keep, but this is NOT what this facility does. I strongly feel you should consider the wording in your bylaw to not be a complete ban, but to allow the aquarium to continue as a rehabilitation/sanctuary for these animals. There is no other facility on the westcoast for our animals like this. I have grown up on Vancouver island but my grandma lived in Vancouver and my mom

was born and raised there. The aquarium was always on our list when we visited as a child. Now I have my own children the tradition continues. It is often the ONLY reason we even visit Vancouver to come to their amazing facility and see the wonderful work these people do.

If they are not allowed to save and rescue and home injured marine mammals...then what? All those whales die anyways? How is this being remotely responsible or caring for our environment and world around us. How is this caring about the future of these mammals?

What does this teach our children..see something injured just let it suffer and die? Please please please make the right choice of allowing their work to continue, the research, the love, their care, the rehabilitation, the homing of mammals into the future. I do not support your bylaw banning the keeping of \*ANY\* mammal. I think if any bylaw must be drafted it should include wording that states no wild caught healthy animal for show purposes..even though I already know that's not even close to what they do.

Perhaps the park board could spend it's time promoting this amazing facility as it's the biggest draw for out of towners like myself to even come to Stanley Park. Perhaps more focus could be spent on the rehabilitation work they do. If the public knew more about what they really do,

I don't think you would have much support if any to create this ridiculous bylaw.

s. 22(1) considering my comment

		Vancouver island resident and tourist to Vancouver (often)
2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Opinion
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board - Vancouver Aquarium

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Concerning the Ongoing Debate over Keeping Cetaceans in Captivity  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 28, 2014 2:36:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [Concerning the Continued Care of Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.pdf](#)

---

Honourable Chair and Commissioners,

Attached and below (should you not wish to open the attachment) is a letter regarding the ongoing debate surrounding the Vancouver Aquarium's Operations. This letter calls for concessions from both sides of the debate and I thank you for taking your time in reading it.

s. 22(1)

Concerning the Continued Care of Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

3395 Galloway Ave.  
Coquitlam, British Columbia  
May, 28, 2014

Honourable Parks Board Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing you concerning the ongoing debate over the continued care of cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium. As I am sure you are well aware this is a very complicated issue, and thus should be examined from all sides in order to avoid a hasty and ill thought out decision. This is a process I already understand you are undertaking.

Due to the complicated nature of this situation I implore you to make your decision based on rational facts rather than the emotional and at times misguided beliefs exhibited by both sides in this debate. A reasonable solution involves concessions from both those who wish to continue with the current status quo as well as those who wish for radical change in the Vancouver Aquarium's operations.

There is no denying that the Vancouver Aquarium is a cultural and scientific landmark in the city. The institution's ongoing efforts in the field of conservation have led to a number of key programs' creations, including Oceanwise and The Vancouver Aquarium Conservation Foundation. Nearly one million people make their way through the doors every year, a number that is significantly greater than the number of individuals that currently advocate for drastic change. Moreover, many of these visitors are not from Vancouver city proper but from around the rest of British Columbia and the world; a fact that suggests a vote on the issue with only Vancouver citizens having a voice in the institution's future would be inappropriate.

Keeping cetaceans in captivity is a contentious issue; however, there are a number of merits to the ongoing practice. As an educator I can personally attest to the fact that seeing something with one's own eyes is far more inspiring and mentally stimulating than simply viewing these creatures on a screen. What is more, due to economic or social hardship many of the students in the Metro Vancouver area will never have the opportunity to see many of these animals in the wild. Thus, the complete removal of these creatures from the aquarium

would represent a significant loss in the ability to inspire and educate future generations on the need conserve and care for our oceans. Additionally, many of the species kept in the aquarium were rescued and subsequently deemed unsuitable for release back into the wild by an independent body. In some cases, an example being Harbour Porpoise “Levi”, ongoing research and investment led to successful future releases not possible in the past.

A number of protest groups have proposed a variety of “solutions” to the ongoing captivity of cetaceans, however, many of these do not take into account the a variety of difficult circumstances. For example, the wish to completely empty the tanks of cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium is short sighted in a number of areas. Foremost, is the question of where these creatures will go should it be made illegal to hold them in public displays. An important one, as many of the cetaceans at the aquarium are either non releasable or born in captivity, therefore possessing neither the skills to survive nor any relationship to other whales in the wild. Shipping these creatures to another aquarium does nothing to truly rectify the situation, and though Vancouverites could tout that we are a “green” city in doing so, the fact would remain that we only passed on a “problem” to someone else. Housing cetaceans in another facility is also an impractical solution as the logistical problems and financial burden passed on to the aquarium would be incredible; this also at a time when revenue would certainly decrease with the removal of these creatures. Finally, keeping these creatures in sea pen sanctuaries is also often a proposal. Very little is known though about the environmental impact of a permanent sanctuary for these creatures. The marine ecosystem along the British Columbian coast is a delicate and complicated thing, and the ramifications of roping off an entire bay while denying access to wild specimens are completely unknown. This is not to say of the immense financial and logistical problems that also face the project; as a permanent establishment in a suitable location would be both costly in its operation and maintenance.

The second last radical solution often posed is to phase out cetaceans at the aquarium. This plan calls for the institution to no longer be allowed to replace animals once those already under the aquarium’s care pass on. Once again a variety of issues are created with this policy. Foremost is the question of where rescued creatures deemed non releasable would be housed. As previously mentioned, passing these creatures on to other aquariums, housing them permanently in another facility, and keeping them in sea pens are all not viable solutions.

A complicated issue does not deserve a quick and emotional response and I applaud the board’s decision to hear both sides of the argument before they rule on this matter. Should a cetacean breeding program continue at the aquarium? In my opinion no. On the other hand, should we disallow the ongoing rescue and care of animals that continue to provide scientific knowledge and inspiration to our province’s youth? I believe that a recent emotional response largely brought about by a rather one sided and at times flawed documentary on the subject should not rob us of this.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Congratulations  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 11:09:47 PM

---

Thank you so much for doing the right thing for whales and dolphins. You have made me proud to say I'm a Canadian and a British Columbian and a human. s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Congratulations and Thankyou!!  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:37:54 AM

---

Dear Park Board Commissioners - Congratulations and Many Thanks for making the decision to ban the display of Cetaceans in Vancouver Parks!!! Finally, the cruelty will cease.

Thank you so much for listening to Vancouverites!! This debate has been going on since the late 1970s and I am so glad the right decision has finally been made.

Thank you for all that you do for our city!!!

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Congratulations on the ban on cetaceans!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:28:43 AM

---

Thank you to each and every one of you for your **courageous** stand on stopping the practice of keeping cetaceans in captivity!

We could say so much more, but we know that you have already heard so much.

We feel so proud as a Vancouverites that you have stopped this barbaric practice.

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Congratulations!  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 6:01:37 PM

---

Thank you for your recent decision regarding not keeping whales confined in tanks.

s. 22(1)

A large rectangular area of the document is redacted, indicated by a grey box. The text "s. 22(1)" is visible in the top left corner of this redacted area.

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Continue to Stand Up for Animals at Vancouver Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 12:38:09 PM

---

Dear Board Commissioners,

Thank you for all you have done to protect the animals at the Vancouver Aquarium. I hope you will continue to prohibit cetacean displays at the Aquarium.

Thank you.

s. 22(1)

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** Peter Hamilton <lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2016 6:14 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Fw: Stop aquatic circuses and experiments on sentient wildlife!

---

**From:** Peter Hamilton <[lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com](mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com)>  
**Sent:** December 11, 2016 5:18 PM  
**To:** [john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca); [casey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:casey.crawford@vancouver.ca); [sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca); [erin.shum@vancouver.ca](mailto:erin.shum@vancouver.ca); [catherine.evans@vancouver.ca](mailto:catherine.evans@vancouver.ca); [stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca); [michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca](mailto:michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca)  
**Cc:** Peter Hamilton; [gregor.robertson@vancouver.ca](mailto:gregor.robertson@vancouver.ca); [CLRaffleck@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRaffleck@vancouver.ca); [CLRball@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRball@vancouver.ca); [CLRcarr@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRcarr@vancouver.ca); [CLRdegenova@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRdegenova@vancouver.ca); [CLRdeal@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRdeal@vancouver.ca); [CLRjang@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRjang@vancouver.ca); [CLRlouie@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRlouie@vancouver.ca); [CLRmeggs@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRmeggs@vancouver.ca); [CLRreimer@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRreimer@vancouver.ca); [CLRstevenson@vancouver.ca](mailto:CLRstevenson@vancouver.ca)  
**Subject:** Stop aquatic circuses and experiments on sentient wildlife!

### Open Letter

To: Vancouver Park Board Commissioners

Cc: Vancouver Mayor and Council

Re: Stop aquatic circuses and experiments on sentient wildlife!

This past week the Vancouver Sun newspaper held a poll asking, "Should the Vancouver Aquarium still keep cetaceans in captivity?" > <http://vancouversun.com/news/local-news/poll-should-the-vancouver-aquarium-still-keep-cetaceans-in-captivity> There was an overwhelming response from 95,254 people with 66,813 voting against captivity. The 70% vote against cetacean captivity is a victory for freedom.

In only 2 weeks over 500 people sign the End Cetacean Captivity at Vancouver Aquarium Petition:  
<https://www.change.org/p/pbcomment-vancouver-ca-end-cetacean-captivity-at-vancouver-aquarium>  
<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vancouver-Aquarium-is-SADquarium/125908617473141>

In addition there has been world wide support for the City of Vancouver to finally end the captivity of cetaceans.

At the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting the following motion was past:

### NOTICE OF MOTIONS

#### 1. Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Commissioner Kirby-Yung gave notice of motion on the following:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Park Board:

A. Support inclusion of an assent question on the 2018 Municipal Election ballot to determine if Vancouver residents support keeping cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre;

- B. Request the City of Vancouver to add such an assent (plebiscite) question to the 2018 Municipal Election ballot per section 130 of the Vancouver Charter; and
- C. Write to the Vancouver Aquarium asking it consider not bringing cetaceans into the facility until after the results of the 2018 plebiscite are received.

It was also reported that at the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting:

THAT the Board will go into a meeting on December 12, 2016, which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the Vancouver Charter, to discuss matters related to paragraph(s):

(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the City or Park Board;

(l) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages ...

**Lifeforce is urging the Vancouver Park Board to:**

**Amend the Cetacean Bylaw to Phase Out Cetaceans**

Do not wait until 2018 for a referendum because the Aquarium plans include more pools and more cetaceans in 2017. Then a referendum would be too late with new prisons perpetuating cetacean captivity for decades. Lifeforce is urging the Parks Board and the City to implement a Cetacean Bylaw that will phase out cetacean captivity now!

We hope that the closed meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> will discuss any legal threats by the Vancouver Aquarium that addresses the Cetacean Bylaw. As stated under the Vancouver Charter the Board has complete jurisdiction to implement bylaws that restricts animals in parks. The Vancouver Aquarium has also stated on many occasions that they were the first to agree to the bylaw and no more captures from the wild.

**2. A New Expansion Permit and Public Comment Period**

It was a 2006 Vancouver Aquarium expansion plan that was approved for completion in 2010. This plan was not implemented due to lack of funding. That eight part expansion was the largest in history nearly doubling the size. The 10 year old expansion permit should be cancelled and the Vancouver Aquarium should apply for an updated permit that would allow for a public comment period. Since 2006, new species have been acquired, new species may be imported, and there are new business plans such as aquaculture for the sushi market and operating an aquarium in Spain.

We hope that the closed meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> will discuss the Aquarium facility expansion that was not completed in 2010.

**For Freedom,**

**Peter Hamilton**

**Lifeforce Foundation**

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2016 1:59 PM  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** No more belugas at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Attachments:** Scientists statement on captive cetaceans 08Feb16.rtf; ATT00001.txt

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I am writing to you as the Chair of the Vancouver Aquarium Park Board concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium. I understand that the belugas Qila and Aurora have died recently and this seems to offer a wonderful opportunity to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium. It is well known that cetaceans do not thrive in captive environments and I am attaching a statement by a group of eminent scientists that categorically supports this.

I welcome your position in wanting to involve Vancouver residents in the decision, but urge Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead in ending the keeping of belugas in captivity now. I oppose totally the suggestion that you are going to import and house yet more beluga whales and increase the size of the whale tank, before the public vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this vote forward to 2017 and delaying the import of any more whales until the results of the vote have been counted?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully

s. 22(1)

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## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 11, 2016 10:12 AM  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Please end the keeping of beluga whales at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I write to you concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and to respectfully request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. I'm writing to share my opposition to these plans and urge you to take this opportunity to end the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however my concern is that more whales will be imported into Vancouver Aquarium before the residents of Vancouver are given the opportunity to rule against their keeping in a vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (enclosed), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. With this increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

I look forward to hearing from you.

s. 22(1)





## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:**  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Beluga whale exhibit

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Chair, Vancouver Aquarium Park Board  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
E: [sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)

Re: Beluga whale exhibit

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I write concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. I'm writing to share my opposition to these plans and urge you to take this opportunity to end the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however my concern is that more whales will be imported into Vancouver Aquarium before the residents of Vancouver are given the opportunity to rule against their keeping in a vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (enclosed), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. With this increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

Thank you for the opportunity to bring these remarks to your attention.

Yours sincerely,

s. 22(1)

cc:  
Vancouver Park Board [pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca)  
Vancouver City Hall [mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca)

s. 22(1)

**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, December 09, 2016 2:53 AM  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** BELUGA WHALE EXHIBIT AT VANCOUVER AQUARIUM  
**Attachments:** Scientists statement on captive cetaceans 08Feb16.rtf  
  
**Importance:** High

FAO Ms Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Chair, Vancouver Aquarium Park Board  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

9th December 2016

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung

I write to you concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and to respectfully request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. Im writing to share my opposition to these plans and urge you to take this opportunity to end the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however my concern is that more whales will be imported into Vancouver Aquarium before the residents of Vancouver are given the opportunity to rule against their keeping in a vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild.

Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (attached), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. With this increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

s. 22(1)

CC: Vancouver Park Board [pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca)

CC: Vancouver City Hall <mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** Samantha Goddard <samantha@bornfree.org.uk>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 08, 2016 7:05 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Beluga whales at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Attachments:** Vancouver Park Board Letter.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Chair, Vancouver Aquarium Park Board  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

08/12/2016

CC: Vancouver Park Board [pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca](mailto:pbcomment@city.vancouver.bc.ca)>  
CC: Vancouver City Hall <[mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca)>  
CC: Vancouver Park Board Chair [sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)

Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I write to you concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium and to respectfully request your consideration of the proposal to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium.

Writing on behalf of the Born Free Foundation, I understand that following the latest deaths of the Aquarium's beluga whales, Qila and Aurora, there are plans to house more beluga whales and increase the size of the current beluga whale tank. Unsurprisingly, the Born Free Foundation would be opposed to these plans and, recognising that science does not substantiate the keeping of this species in captivity, we would recommend an end to the keeping of beluga whales at the Aquarium.

Your suggestion in opening the discussion on whether the Aquarium continues to keep captive whales at the facility to Vancouver Residents is to be welcomed, however, we are unsure why the vote is to be held in 2018? Is there a specific reason for this delay? It is your intention not to follow through with the published plan to import further beluga whales until the results of this deciding vote? Our concerns relate to the fact that should the residents of Vancouver rule against their keeping; any cetaceans brought to the aquarium in the meantime will have been subjected to the stress of relocation unnecessarily. Would you not consider bringing this deciding vote forward into 2017 and prolonging the decision to import more animals until after the results of the vote have been realised?

I am sure you are aware that beluga whales in captivity have half the average life expectancy of the same species in the wild. Numerous eminent marine mammal scientists have recently supported a statement (enclosed), which states categorically that cetaceans do not fare well in restrictive, captive environments. I am sure you are also aware that both SeaWorld and the National Aquarium in Baltimore have announced an end of the keeping of orcas and bottlenose dolphins, respectively; and with our increasing knowledge of the challenges cetacean face in captivity, perhaps it is an appropriate time for the Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead concerning beluga whales?

Should you wish to contact myself, or colleagues at the Born Free Foundation please do not hesitate to do so, otherwise, I urge you to please consider the above proposal, and in 2017 lead the captive cetacean industry in bringing an end the keeping of beluga whales in captivity.

Respectfully yours,

Daniel Turner

Associate Director

Samantha Goddard

**Zoo Check Programmes Assistant**

Born Free Foundation

Tel: 01403 240 170

Email: [samantha@bornfree.org.uk](mailto:samantha@bornfree.org.uk)



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**#WildChristmas**

**Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail. Thank you**

This email is only for the intended recipient(s) and may contain confidential information. If you are not the intended recipient(s) please email the sender and then destroy the mail. Please do not disclose any information contained in this email, nor take copies. Neither Born Free nor the sender can accept any responsibility for viruses. It is your responsibility to check the email and attachments (if any).

**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2016 5:31 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Mayor and Council Feedback-101008786159  
**Attachments:** Mayor and Council Feedback-101008786159.rtf

Dec 06, 2016

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:**  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Re: Who do I write to about the whales in captivity?

Ok well first of all giving animals a life sentence in prison(tank) is horrifically cruel and unnecessary. NO we DO NOT NEED to keep them captive for "scientific research" that is absurd with everything else going on in the world. How about spend the time, money and energy on climate change and restoring our planet?! There will not be an earth for the whales (or us) to live in if we don't work hard on environment first. It's sick to keep these creatures locked up when it's absolutely not necessary. I'd like to see whoever is responsible for keeping them captive locked up 24/7 and see how it feels. Let the animals back to nature....it is their birthright.

s. 22(1)

> On Dec 1, 2016, at 1:10 PM, Vancouver Park Board <PB.Comments@vancouver.ca> wrote:

>

>

>

> Thank you for contacting the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation. You can adress your concerns about the whales in captivity to this email address and it will be logged.

>

> Thank you!

>

>

> ~~~~~

> Vancouver Park Board

> 2099 Beach Avenue

> Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

>

> pbcomments@vancouver.ca

> www.vancouverparks.ca

>

>

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: s. 22(1)

> Sent: Monday, November 28, 2016 6:08 PM

> To: Vancouver Park Board

> Subject: Who do I write to about the whales in captivity?

>

> Hi there,

>

> I'd like to speak my mind about the whales in captivity who do I address it to?

>

s. 22(1)

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** Gary Charbonneau <evotioninc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 4:01 PM  
**To:** Sarah Blyth; PB Commissioners; Vancouver Park Board; annelise sorg; Jeffrey B. Matthews  
**Subject:** Kirby-Yung Hypocritical on Captivity

On a radio interview, NPA Park Board Commissioner Sarah Kirby-Yung blamed former Vision Park Board for not implementing a breeding ban and independent oversight committee. She stated, "Previous board had the opportunity to deal with this issue...they chose not to."

However, Kirby-Yung failed to disclose that upon winning her seat, she promised to reverse the breeding ban and independent oversight committee.

Former Vision Commissioner Sarah Blyth said, "We were ready to deal with it but the NPA shut it down without reviewing any information. This caused us to revisit how to move forward."

Since 2015, Kirby-Yung and the NPA have seen four cetaceans die and have done nothing. With mounting public pressure, Kirby-Yung once again is ignoring the issue by pushing it to 2018.

It seems like it's the NPA that is choosing to do nothing!

It is imperative that a moratorium on expanding the tanks and importing cetaceans be enacted until the 2018 referendum.

Gary Charbonneau  
Vancouver Aquarium Uncovered



## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** annelise@look.ca  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 11:30 AM  
**To:** ?Kirby-Yung@look.ca; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** ?Coupar@look.ca; Coupar, John; Shum, Erin; ?Crawford@look.ca; Crawford, Casey; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; Evans, Catherine; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Park Board has authority to ban whale imports

NO WHALES IN CAPTIVITY LETTER TO PARK BOARD - 29NOV16

RE: Park Board has authority to ban whale imports

Dear Madam Chair,

On behalf of the members and volunteers of No Whales In Captivity, I would like to thank you for proposing that the city hold a plebiscite on whale captivity during Vancouver's 2018 municipal elections. While we still need to discuss the wording of such whale referendum vote, there are more pressing issues at hand.

The empty whale show tank at the Vancouver Aquarium gives the Vancouver Park Board commissioners an immediate opportunity to finally end the importation of more whales. I understand that commissioner Mackinnon asked park board staff at your board meeting last night, whether the Park Board has the authority to impose a moratorium on the importation of whales until the public can be consulted in 2018. With all due respect, Madam Chair, your staff's negative answer was wrong.

In 1996 the Vancouver Park Board, responding to the ethical principles of the community, enacted a bylaw intended to phase out the further introduction and imprisonment of cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) in Vancouver parks.

The Parks Control Bylaw section 9(e) was enacted by the Vancouver Park Board on November 4, 1996, under the authority of the Vancouver Charter, section 491 (a), which gives the Park Board the power to pass bylaws for "the exclusion from any of the parks, or any part thereof, of any animal or vehicle". This is section 9(e).

9. (e) No person shall bring into any park or keep or otherwise maintain in any park any aquatic mammal of the Cetacean order including, but not limited to, baleen whales, narwhals, dolphins, porpoises, killer whales and beluga whales, which has been captured or otherwise taken from its natural wild habitat, except that this prohibition shall not apply to:

- (i) captive cetaceans caught from the wild prior to September 16, 1996 and cetaceans born into captivity at any time,
- (ii) cetaceans which are already being kept or maintained in a park as of September 16, 1996,
- (iii) a member of an endangered cetacean species, provided that approval for bringing it into a park has first been obtained from the Park Board, and
- (iv) an animal that has been captured or otherwise taken from its natural wild habitat for the purpose of rehabilitating it from injury or preventing its death due to stranding provided that its capture or taking and subsequent release to natural habitat is done under the jurisdiction and with the approval of the federal agency responsible and provided that the Park Board has been informed in as timely a manner as possible.

We strongly urge you to consider imposing an immediate ban on the importation of more whales, as the Vancouver Charter, section 491 (a) gives the Vancouver Park Board the authority to do just that. It is time for the Park Board to end the international commercial trade in performing beluga whales in Stanley Park.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Annelise Sorg

President

No Whales In Captivity

461-1755 Robson Street

Vancouver, BC V6G 3B7

TEL: 604-736-9514

E-MAIL: [info@nowhalesincaptivity.org](mailto:info@nowhalesincaptivity.org)

**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 8:43 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Aquarium: Please Stop Imprisoning Whales

Dear Parks Board Commissioners:

We have gone to the Aquarium over the years and watched those two dear beluga whales swimming endlessly back and forth, thinking how constricted that tank is compared to their natural habitat where they could swim for miles at a stretch. No matter how one tries to rationalize, it is still a little prison for them. Now is the time (long overdue) to stop incarcerating any more of these magnificent creatures in our supposedly enlightened city.

Most Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 7:42 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** FW: Death of Aurora and Support for Whales in Captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello:

See my comments below in response to Rick Cluff's interview yesterday on CBC re: marine mammals at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please forward this to all Parks Board members for their information.

Please note that the question of whether whales in captivity is an issue of significance to more than the residents of the City of Vancouver but is a regional, and indeed provincial issue.

s. 22(1)

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Date:** Mon, 28 Nov 2016 07:42:36 -0800  
**To:** <[earlyed@cbc.ca](mailto:earlyed@cbc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Death of Aurora

Rick:

I was listening to the show this morning and glad that you provided the clip from Dr. Lance Barrett-Lennard. I m also glad that you did not include an interview with Annalise Sorg and heard from someone with a bit more balanced view – head of the Vancouver Parks Board.

While she made the point that we have grown up with the Vancouver Aquarium and seeing the killer whales and belugas there, she did not make a point about the importance of continuing to educate children through life-changing encounters with marine mammals. Although circumstances are changing, as she has mentioned, more and more people must be educated about the marine world. Our children are

becoming more and more isolated from the natural world and need places like the aquarium to begin to understand it. Belugas and killer whales are not only ambassadors for their own species in aquaria, they are ambassadors for conservation of marine ecosystems. Educational institutions like the Vancouver Aquarium are essential to get that message out to the public and are an important teaching tool for our school systems.

The Vancouver Aquarium is not like other aquaria. I have been to a number of them. I have also known and respected VanAqua staff my entire professional life. The Aquarium sets the gold standard for aquaria and few measure up. Dedicated and highly educated staff conduct research, provide top-notch education programs and displays and reach out and support many conservation and marine research programs in BC and around the world.

I am hoping that if such a vote was held about marine mammals in captivity, that the majority of Vancouverites would vote yes, that we need a few marine mammals in captivity – that are well-cared-for, loved as much as any family member (sometimes more!) and can provide invaluable information to better understand the species in the wild. Unfortunately, although the intent of a vote would be to put the issue to bed long-term, I don't think that would be the result. Instead, it will just polarize and spend a whole lot of money on an issue that affects far more than just Vancouverites. The whole region draws on the world-class facility that is the Vancouver Aquarium and such a vote would need everyone's input.

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 9:51 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** No whales in captivity! Ditch that arrogant twit aquarium ceo! This guy needs to know who pays his salary.

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 6:16 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

I just witnessed with disgust news that one of the members of the Board is putting a motion forward to put the Vancouver Aquarium "live exhibits out of business". The millions of people who have enjoyed the whales at the Aquarium, the knowledge that has been gained by studying the animals and the degree of love for them is unbelievable. Add to this the millions upon millions of tourist dollars that have been gained needs to be considered.

I doubt folks will come to the city and pay money to walk around the homeless on Hastings Street; but perhaps the Board should work with Mayor Moonbeam and SPEND millions to promote this alternative.

The fact that you would consider doing away with this is absolute garbage.

I hope anyone that supports this motion will be driven from office - the sooner the better!

s. 22(1)

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** Appenzeller, Judith  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 4:26 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008747462

Kind regards,  
Judith  
311 Supervisor

---



### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101008747462

Case created: 2016-11-28, 04:04:00 PM

### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

### Request Details

- Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

311 received the following email feedback:

"Multiple Beluga Deaths at Vancouver Aquarium

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/beluga-dies-from-pneumonia-at-vancouver-aquarium-1.1021081>

According to this report from 2011, 2 of Aurora's calves (Tuvaq and Nala) and her granddaughter Tiqa died at VCR Aquarium, in addition to this most recent death and her



own. Not sure if Tiqa's mother, Qila, is alive or dead. All these belugas born and died in captivity. I do know belugas, like orca and whales, live in close family pods and these losses would have affected all of them, most especially Aurora. Why some of you think a zoo that makes money selling sentient beings to be displayed for public amusement .... well, you know the rest. No need for a reply."

2.	Do you want to be contacted?	No
3.	Type of feedback:	Complaint
4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Parks Board

**Additional Details**

**Map and Photo**

- no picture -

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** 311 Operations  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 2:44 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback - 101008746110

The following is a Citizen Feedback Case that was created by the 311 Contact Centre. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Greg / 311 Contact Centre.

---



### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101008746110

Case created: 2016-11-28, 01:45:00 PM

### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

### Contact Details

Name: s. 22(1)

Address:

Address2:

Phone:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

### Request Details

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why): | Email submission: "I am writing to urge the parks board to stop displaying belugla whales at the Vancouver Aquarium. I am deeply sorry that both Aqila and Aurora have passed away and I am heartbroken for the staff who loved both these whales.<br><br>But the time has now passed for the necessity of keeping a whale in a concrete tank for the durations of their lives. Please do not allow the aquarium to begin importing new whales for display." |
| 2. Do you want to be contacted?                    | No   |
| 3. Type of feedback:                               | Opinion  |

4.	Feedback regarding:	City Department
5.	Department:	Parks
6.	Division or Branch Name:	Park Board / Vancouver Aquarium

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 11:02 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

To whom it may concern,

I am very sorry to hear of the loss of the two Beluga Whales. Please pass my condolences on to the staff that cared for these beautiful animals. I have had the pleasure of seeing Beluga whales in Hudson Bay at Churchill MB. They are a beautiful animal to see in their natural habitat. Please discontinue the practice of keeping Beluga whales at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2016 7:16 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Please let Vancouverites vote on cetaceans in captivity

Hello - I'm writing to ask that the Park Board pass the motion to have the issue of cetaceans in captivity on the ballot in the next municipal election.

I believe that a progressive society needn't inflict suffering on intelligent species in order to be a vibrant, wonderful place to live.

I'll also remind you of Jane Goodall's plea to end cetacean captivity. <http://bc.ctvnews.ca/mobile/jane-goodall-urges-vancouver-aquarium-to-end-cetacean-captivity-1.1840324>

Please let's do the right thing.

Thanks,  
s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

## **Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** Peter Hamilton <lifeforcesociety@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 27, 2016 8:31 PM  
**To:** lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com; Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Time to Amend the Cetacean Bylaw to Truly Phase Out Cetaceans

### **OPEN LETTER**

**To: Vancouver Parks Board and Vancouver City Council**

**Re: Time to Amend the Cetacean Bylaw to Truly Phase Out Cetaceans**

On November 25<sup>th</sup> the Vancouver Aquarium said that the last beluga was recovering. However, "Aurora", the mother of "Qila" who died on November 16th, died later that Friday. She is the 21<sup>st</sup> beluga who has died as a result of the Vancouver Aquarium cetacean slave trade.

Lifeforce is deeply saddened at the lifelong captivity and deaths of "Aurora" and "Qila" and many others. We also deeply regret that the capture of "Aurora" and others were permitted and hopefully it will now be banned.

#### **Broken Beluga Promises**

"Aurora" was one of three captured and taken to the Vancouver Aquarium. Another beluga was severely cut by the capture ropes then was quietly released.

In 1988, the Vancouver Aquarium and the Vancouver Park Board stated "Will the Aquarium be collecting new whales for the new facility? No. The new facility is designed for the existing three belugas; 2 females and a male." However, when one died the Aquarium captured three more belugas in 1990. The pool was then overcrowded, aggression occurred, and some belugas were kept in a tiny research pool out of public view.

Lifeforce's court action failed and we went to Churchill, MB to bear witness and hopefully stop the captures. Our boats were rammed and raked with an outboard engine. One beluga hunter was charged when our volunteer was injured. Even after the belugas were captured our boats were riddled with bullets where our volunteer was sleeping. See the violence against belugas and human life. [http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv\\_play.php?id=10](http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=10)

At least our public awareness led to an unofficial ban on any further captures and exports by other countries. No countries have caught belugas since 1990.

**Referendum is a Delay Tactic?** An NPA Park Board Commissioner and a former Vancouver Aquarium VP of Marketing and Communications has proposed a referendum on captivity. For years the "Non Partisan Association" has always opposed any referendum as proposed by other parties.

Lifeforce was instrumental in getting a 1996 Cetacean Bylaw that was supposed to have phased out captivity. Under the Vancouver Charter the Park Board has the jurisdiction to implement bylaws restricting any animals in

city parks. The Commissioners should amend the 1996 Cetacean Bylaw to reinstate the intended purpose to phase out all cetacean captivity. The NPA watered down the bylaw over the years and that has perpetuated the suffering and deaths of many dolphins.

### **Amend the Cetacean Bylaw to Phase Out Cetaceans**

Why wait until 2018 when the Aquarium plans include more pools and more belugas in 2017? Then a referendum would be too late with new prisons perpetuating cetacean captivity. A costly earlier referendum would revert back to the bylaw or amendments anyways. If the NPA wants a referendum on the aquarium's future later on then compromise by implementing a Cetacean Bylaw that will phase out cetacean captivity now! Stop the Suffering now!

Any referendum should:

1. Ask if Vancouverites support the Cetacean Bylaw that would be amended to phase out the captivity of cetaceans.
2. Include a moratorium on all expansion plans, such as more beluga pools and belugas, pending the results.

### **A New Expansion Permit and Public Comment Period**

It was a 2006 expansion plan that was approved for completion in 2010. This plan was not implemented due to lack of funding. That eight part expansion was the largest in history nearly doubling the size. It included river otters (that Vancouverites voted against during a 90s referendum to close the Stanley Park Zoo), beaver (who are found living freely in Stanley Park), and suggested having Arctic Foxes and other new species of wildlife.

The 10 year old expansion permit should be cancelled and the Vancouver Aquarium should apply for an updated permit that would allow for a public comment period. Since 2006, new species have been acquired, new species may be imported, and there are new business plans such as aquaculture for the sushi market and operating an aquarium in Spain. Further, the last Arctic Canada expansion included narwhals. Is this still part of their secret plans?

### **The SADquarium**

"Aurora" is the 52nd cetacean who has died as a result of the Vancouver Aquarium cetacean slave trade in the past 52 years. At least 9 orcas, 7 narwhals, 21 belugas, 1 Harbour porpoise, and 14 Pacific white-sided dolphins have died! No orca babies survived and belugas also died at a very young age. Qila had a failed pregnancy in 2001 and her 3 year old died in 2011. Her mom, "Aurora", lost another 3 year old in 2005.

Aurora was one of four captured in 1990 in Manitoba. One was severely cut by the capture ropes and was quietly released. (Two males and a female captured in 1985 were later sent to Sea Worlds for breeding. In 2015, Nanuq, the father of Qila, died from a fractured jaw during a fight with other belugas.)

History proves that experiments on captives are not necessary. There is a lucrative research industry mainly funded by public taxes under the guise of conservation. For example, beluga pollution/diet studies started in the 70s and communication studies started in 1947. All were done by field studies. It is already known that major threats include the decimation of fish populations, pollution, military weapon tests, and disturbances from boats.

The ongoing inhumane captivity abuses include the causes of illnesses/deaths can be uncertain, the ongoing deaths are premature, the breeding programs are a failure, the abnormal stereotypical and neurotic behaviours are common and the physical and psychological needs cannot be provided for in pool prisons. View "Belugas: Far From Home" [http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv\\_play.php?id=25](http://lifeforcefoundation.org/ecotv_play.php?id=25)

## **52 Deaths in 52 Years**

**Over 50 Years and Imprisoning Dolphins Is Still a Crime Against Nature!**

**More Parkland Means More Captives with Your Tax Money!**

**Stop the Vancouver Aquarium expansion in order to stop the imprisonment and the destruction of Stanley Park green space. More Pools Means More Captives!**

For Freedom,

Peter Hamilton

Lifeforce Founder



## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 27, 2016 1:21 PM  
**To:** publicrelations@vanaqua.org; Robertson, Gregor; Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Please discontinue the captivity of whales at the Vancouver Aquarium

To Whom It May Concern,

As a 50 year old who was raised in North Vancouver I have many memories of visiting the Vancouver Aquarium during my youth and then as a parent with my own children.

As our society recognized the intrinsic rights of whales and other sentient beings the aquarium evolved, discontinuing the whale "shows" during which trainers rode on whales and whales were directed to jump great heights to dazzle the paying spectators (of which I was one). I have applauded your focus on the capture of injured and sick marine life with the objective to release them. How is it you continue to exploit the beluga whales?

This seems inconsistent with all that you represent.

Please honour the death of the two belugas for whom you were responsible by phasing out your beluga captivity program.

It is my impression that the vast majority of people are opposed to keeping these sentient beings in captivity. I have never been inspired to protect whales or the environment that they live in as a result of visiting an aquarium. Seeing whales in captivity has felt no more right than visiting a circus and watching the enslaved elephants perform.

It is TIME to be true leaders in advocacy for whales and dolphins by discontinuing their captivity.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 26, 2016 9:10 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Cc:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Beluga whale dies

Please DO NOT allow or give permission to the corporation in Stanley Park to acquire another whale. No whales or mammals in captivity!

Thank you.

s. 22(1)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/aurora-beluga-vancouver-aquarium-dies-1.3869241>

Sent from my iPhone

On Nov 22, 2016, at 11:10 AM, Vancouver Park Board <[PB.Comments@vancouver.ca](mailto:PB.Comments@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Dear s. 22(1)

Thank you for your communication with the Vancouver Park Board on cetaceans in captivity. We recognize that this debate is emotionally charged and that there are strong and polarized feelings on all sides of the issue.

As you may have heard, the Park Board Chair Sarah Kirby-Yung has indicated publicly that she will be bringing forward a motion to the Board requesting a referendum question on cetaceans in captivity on the ballot in the 2018 civic election. The Chair has indicated that she would like factual, evidence based information on the issue to guide the Board's future consideration of these matters.

There is no date yet for the Chair's motion to be discussed and considered by the elected Park Board but we understand it is imminent.

Thanks again for your interest in this issue and your communication to the Board,

Yours sincerely,

~~~~~  
Vancouver Park Board  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

[pbcomments@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbcomments@vancouver.ca)  
[www.vancouverparks.ca](http://www.vancouverparks.ca)

-----Original Message-----

From: Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office

Sent: Monday, November 21, 2016 1:28 PM

To: s. 22(1)

Subject: RE: Whales in captivity - no more!

Thank you for your email which has been circulated to the Mayor, Vancouver City Council, and Office of General Manager, Parks Board.

Correspondence Group

City Clerk's Office City of Vancouver

[mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca)

-----Original Message-----

From: s. 22(1)

Sent: Friday, November 18, 2016 11:37 PM

To: Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office

Subject: Whales in captivity - no more!

Dear Sarah,

I agree with your idea for a plebiscite about the whales in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. It is horrifying that our city allows this kind of abuse towards these animals to continue in this day and age. Renovations over the years have been approved by our city electorate to a money making venue which allows whales to be displayed like circus animals. Trapped. Confined. And abused.

Please do the right thing and stop this kind of blatant corporate greed to continue in our beautiful public park.

Thank you for standing up for what is right.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** 311 Operations  
**Sent:** Friday, November 25, 2016 1:27 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008735406

Good afternoon,

Please see the below feedback received by 311. Thanks!

Geoff  
88822



### Citizen Feedback

Case number: 101008735406

Case created: 2016-11-25, 12:58:00 PM

### Incident Location

Address: 845 AVISON WAY, Vancouver, V6G 3E2

Address2:

Location name: AQUARIUM|VAN AQUARIUM|VANAQUARIUM|VANCOUVER AQUARIUM|VANCOUVERAQUARIUM

### Contact Details

Name: 2016 November, Anonymous

Address: ,

Address2:

Phone:

Email:

Alt. Phone:

Preferred contact method: Either

### Request Details

1. Describe details (who, what, where, when, why):

Complaint about Vancouver Aquarium, citizen contacted SPCA and was directed to notify City of Vancouver. Concerned the living conditions for a lot of the animals there are inhumane and result in death. Witnessing this first hand, takes their daughter there sometimes and can't go anymore because of it. All the animals are exhibiting stress related behaviours, one Beluga died and the other is dying, it's insane. Citizen doesn't understand how they

allowed to continue this, they are exploiting these animals to death. Some examples are the wale tanks are full of feces and too small. The seals in the seal habitat are constantly stressed out - they are pacing, waving heads back and forth, trying to get out. Dolphins are just sitting there, stationary for hours, which is not normal. The beluga died at half its life expectancy and now the other one is dying. There should be some sort of investigation. They are hiding behind the fake "we're trying to help and rescue animals" while they are just exploiting them and making a profit. Citizen has seen groups of people protesting at the Aquarium on a regular basis and hopes something can be done to reflect citizen concerns.

|    |                              |                 |
|----|------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2. | Do you want to be contacted? | No              |
| 3. | Type of feedback:            | Complaint       |
| 4. | Feedback regarding:          | City Department |
| 5. | Department:                  | Parks           |
| 6. | Division or Branch Name:     | Park Board      |

#### Additional Details

#### Map and Photo

- no picture -

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 25, 2016 12:06 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

**Please do not allow for any expansion of this facility.** At a time when such places have seen decline in attendance, strong criticism from millions of people including celebrities who refuse to perform there, why would you consider enlarging the prisons for marine mammals? Pretending their misery will serve some “greater good” is rubbish. Field studies have taught us much about marine life. We know, for example, that most every animal, fish and plant in the ocean is under unprecedented stress from toxins, global warming, and over fishing - which includes taking sea animals for exhibit aka profit.

Shame on us all for ever having attended such a display. At least some of us have learned and changed and become advocates for our fellow beings in the sea. We may not see them as easily as the birds or land mammals, but they deserve every bit as much attention.

**Before it is too late, stop taking any being from their homes, enlarge any current facility ten times the current size until the animal dies...it would still be nothing near what the animal needs or deserves.**

s. 22(1)

**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 5:20 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008732183  
**Attachments:** Citizen Feedback-101008732183.rtf

24 Nov 2016

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)

**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 4:55 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008732085  
**Attachments:** Citizen Feedback-101008732085.rtf

24 Nov 2016

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)



**Enright, Danielle**

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2016 4:41 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Citizen Feedback-101008732014  
**Attachments:** 500 more people signed "Vancouver Park Board"; Citizen Feedback-101008732014.rtf

24 Nov 2016

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2016 1:28 PM  
**To:** s. 22(1)  
**Subject:** RE: Whales in captivity - no more!

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Thank you for your email which has been circulated to the Mayor, Vancouver City Council, and Office of General Manager, Parks Board.

Correspondence Group  
City Clerk's I City of Vancouver  
mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca

-----Original Message-----

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 11:37 PM  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Whales in captivity - no more!

Dear Sarah,

I agree with your idea for a plebiscite about the whales in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. It is horrifying that our city allows this kind of abuse towards these animals to continue in this day and age. Renovations over the years have been approved by our city electorate to a money making venue which allows whales to be displayed like circus animals. Trapped. Confined. And abused.

Please do the right thing and stop this kind of blatant corporate greed to continue in our beautiful public park.

Thank you for standing up for what is right.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** Gary Charbonneau <evotioninc@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 19, 2016 4:07 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners  
**Subject:** NPA ALSO TO BLAME IN QILA'S DEATH

John Coupar, Sarah Kirby-Yung, Erin Shum and Casey Crawford all ignoring the staggering death toll of three cetaceans in less than 24 months. Nanuk, Hana and now Qila have all died during their tenure as commissioners and they continue to do nothing.

NPA also neglect the Charter:

2.5

When making decisions, Council officials, staff and advisory body members must consider all relevant facts, opinions and analyses of which they should be reasonably aware.

When will they show some compassion and do their jobs?

## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 19, 2016 9:04 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Aquarium

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

To the Mayor of Vancouver and the Parks Board,

How many more animals will die because of the attitude people have towards animals other than humans? These caged creatures in captivity are sentient beings who need to lead the life they were born into - and let nature take its course. It seems to me that profit beats principle. How sad. This is no way to educate children, who would see them as they really are in their natural habitat if you presented to them well documented films.

Our fellow inhabitants of Earth better. It takes intelligence.

Hopefully,

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 6:03 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Marine mammal death

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

I am writing to express my outrage over yet another tragic death of a marine mammal at the Vancouver Aquarium. There is no need to repeat here what has already been said, that marine mammals do not belong in captivity for the purposes of entertainment and profit. As for educational purposes, it is ludicrous to suggest that removing wild animals from their families and placing them in an alien environment, devoid of any natural stimulation, is education. All it teaches youngsters is that it is okay to exploit wild animals, regardless of how much stress is involved for the animals.

The capture and imprisonment of all wild animals has no place in an enlightened society and the public is awakening to the plight of these hapless creatures. It is high time that the City of Vancouver recognizes this archaic and callous business for what it is and commits itself to phasing out the display of marine mammals.

Yours sincerely,

s. 22(1)

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 5:46 PM  
**To:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Death of another animal at the Vancouver aquarium

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Mayor,

It is very disheartening to hear of another mammal at your city's aquarium.

I urge you to discontinue any program that includes whales or other marine mammals. These animals do not belong in captivity. How many deaths and how much negative publicity do you need to make policy changes?!

I do not accept the argument that these exhibits are educational. Advanced technology allows us to study animals interacting in the wild where their behaviour is natural.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 2:40 PM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Stop the exploitation of these animals for money , they are not meant to leave in such small space they are meant to be free in the ocean and not to be abused by so-called human beings,

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 11:33 AM  
**To:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Cc:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Death at the Vancouver aquarium

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Mayor,

Once again I am saddened by the death of another mammal at your city's aquarium. Whales, and others, have species specific needs that aquariums cannot afford them. This is particularly true of social species that migrate for many miles as part of their mating rituals (elephants are another). Neither whales nor elephants reproduce well when in captivity. For this reason, among many others, we do a disservice to those with whom we share this planet by keeping them in an unnatural environment and denying them their natural entitlements.

There may, I say may, have been a time when aquariums and zoos served an educational purpose (of sorts). The question isn't whether they still serve any such purpose but whether or not other options are better (Imax technologies, live satellite relay presentations and dedicated TV channels etc..).

We urge you to discontinue any program that includes whales or elephants and to modernize your education programs through technology. Wildlife belongs in the wild, not in captivity other than for rehabilitation purposes,

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 11:30 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** A desperate plea

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Good day,

I know you are probably receiving tones of emails like these and I doubt this will even be read, but I figured I would try anyways. I am not going to drag this on and write a novel as I am sure you have heard what I am going to say a million times but I hope if everyone who thinks the same, still makes the effort to write in, maybe it will give someone pause and rethink certain things.

The Vancouver Aquarium needs to stop keeping cetaceans. How many more beautiful creatures need to die for you to realize that this is the most awful form of torture. Making them perform for entertainment in swimming pools is not what they deserve. I get the research aspect but you do not need to keep them and you certainly do not need to breed them. The baby that just recently died never even saw an ocean.

I, along with many other Vancouver people, are asking you to please do something. Please help these animals have a better life. Vancouver is known for taking care of its beautiful city and this is tarnishing it's reputation (just look at the comments world wide since the death of Qila).

DO the reseach please...we are better than this and these animals deserve better than this.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)

## Enright, Danielle

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, November 18, 2016 10:52 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Cc:** Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Marine mammal death

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Dear Sirs,

I was shocked but not surprised to hear that another one of your captive mammals has died. This is just one more in a long line of creatures that have not done well in your facility. There is so much negative publicity about marine parks. Why do you continue to defend the indefensible? Please don't tell me it is educational as I am not buying.

Please do the right thing and close down now - even if it is through attrition.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



## Enright, Danielle

---

**From:** Lifeforce <lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 16, 2015 11:57 AM  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Re: Another 2 Vancouver Aquarium Bred Belugas Die

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Thank you for forwarding to appropriate staff. You will also distribute to the Parks Board Commissioners?

Peter Hamilton  
Lifeforce Founding Director  
(604)649-5258  
lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com  
www.lifeforcefoundation.org

**From:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Sent:** Monday, November 16, 2015 11:45 AM  
**To:** 'Lifeforce'  
**Subject:** RE: Another 2 Vancouver Aquarium Bred Belugas Die

Thank you for contacting the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation. Your feedback is very important to us and all inquiries are forwarded to the most appropriate staff for follow-up.

Thank you!

~~~~~  
Vancouver Park Board  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

[pbcomments@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbcomments@vancouver.ca)  
[www.vancouverparks.ca](http://www.vancouverparks.ca)

---

**From:** Lifeforce [mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 15, 2015 7:37 PM  
**To:** Robertson, Gregor; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Re: Another 2 Vancouver Aquarium Bred Belugas Die

Please see attachment

Another 2 Vancouver Aquarium Bred Belugas Die  
A two-year-old beluga whale, "Stella", died Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, at SeaWorld San Antonio. She was being treated for signs of gastrointestinal issues, but her cause of death was not

confirmed. This baby beluga was fathered by “Imaq” who was captured by the Vancouver Aquarium from the wild in 1990.

This is not the first Beluga whale to die this year at SeaWorld San Antonio. A beluga whale was born premature on June 20, then died on July 12. This “Martha” was also fathered by Imaq.

Between 2006 and 2012 there were six baby belugas deaths during the joint breeding of wild caught belugas from the Vancouver Aquarium at US Sea Worlds.

The total number of cetacean deaths resulting from the Vancouver Aquarium pro captivity, entertainment business stands at 49 cetaceans (19 belugas, 14 Pacific white-sided dolphins, 7 narwhals, and 9 orcas).

These are at least 49 Reasons to Stop the multimillion dollar Vancouver Aquarium Expansion. More Pools, More Captives, and More Deaths!

<http://globalnews.ca/news/2340875/another-calf-of-vancouver-beluga-dies-in-texas/>

Peter Hamilton  
Lifeforce Founding Director  
(604)649-5258  
[lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com](mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com)  
[www.lifeforcefoundation.org](http://www.lifeforcefoundation.org)

## OPEN LETTER

March 8, 2017

To: Vancouver Parks Board  
Cc: Mayor Roberts and Councillors  
Re: Aquarium Circus – The End?

Regretfully I am cannot be there because I am on Vancouver Island conducting Ocean Friends work.

In 1996 Lifeforce campaigned for the Cetacean Bylaw that was supposed to have phase out the captivity of cetaceans. However, in later years, the Vancouver Aquarium (VA) and the NPA made amendments that perpetuated captivity.

### **5 Reasons to End Captivity Now!**

#### **1. The Aquarium will build more pools by 2019.**

More pools mean more captives. This expansion plan is an 11 year old plan from 2006. The Aquarium should apply for a new building permit and permission with their new captivity plans clearly defined! Any expansion approval does not exclude them from a cetacean ban!

#### **2. The Aquarium will spend \$20 million dollars on the whale pools.**

Most of the money for ongoing expansions has been from Federal and Provincial governments. Private donors include a mining company that has been fined for several environmental pollution violations.

They will seek more government funding for experiments on the captives. That will take time and funding away from important field studies that truly help save wildlife!

**3. The Aquarium will import up to 5 belugas in spite of not knowing why the last 2 belugas died.** In addition, 52 cetaceans have died as a result of their pro captivity business in the 52 years since they started cetacean imprisonment.

#### **4. The Aquarium may end beluga captivity by 2029.**

However, the Aquarium would fill the pools with various species as "rescues" from "Canadian shores" that will perpetuate the cetacean captivity. For decades the claims "not suited for release" have been free sources for aquariums and zoos worldwide.

Organizations worldwide do not need to practice on captives for rescue work. And there are many examples of the "untrained" concerned citizens saving cetaceans. Saving human lives on the mountains do not require human prisoners.

#### **5. The Aquarium will rebrand themselves as a "wildlife rescue centre" to continue their entertainment and research business.**

**First**, a noisy public tourist attraction with year round parties is not the proper secluded hospital environment that is necessary for medical recovery in a wildlife centre. The space requirements also cannot be met. The Aquarium can use their offsite non-public locations that could include sea pens and DFO locations.

In the rare event of large cetaceans in need of help there are government agencies, organizations, and others that would lead.

The BC Provincial Lab does the necropsies. The Animal Health Centre provides world class veterinary diagnostic services that protect the health of all animals in B.C. to support disease prevention, control and eradication. They have determined all captive deaths for decades too.

The Aquarium would continue in their other locations such as the Main Street centre, Popham Island research centre (if still available), and the many DFO stations on Vancouver Island and in West Vancouver (<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/locations-bureaux-eng.html> ).

The Vancouver Aquarium site is not needed.

**Secondly**, the Aquarium plans are to combine entertainment with experiments on the captives and "rescues" as "untapped resources and tools" for lucrative jobs under the guise of conservation. Experiments could include implanting tracking and medical devices that has caused major infections during other experiments.

They are presently doing beluga bioacoustics studies in the wild in addition to many other organizations. The Vancouver Aquarium also has belugas in experiments at the Spanish Oceanographic aquarium that is under the management of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Belugas communication started in 1947 and beluga diet/pollution 1970s lead to a sanctuary in the St. Lawrence. Since the 90s the population has increased from 500 to 800.

In 2007 a meeting was held at the VA to look at ways to get use captives and "rescues" as untapped resources. Their report was titled "Marine Mammals in the Lab: Tools for Conservation and Science". It was hosted by UBC Marine Mammal Research Unit, Vancouver Aquarium, Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums. The US Navy also attended.

The report actually revealed the industry's own concerns over the many problems with experiments on captives. They stated that in many ways it does not represent life in the wild. The report included photos of some experimental procedures but is only a glimpse behind the closed doors of animal research laboratories. There was also a photo of an Aquarium employee lying in the sea lion restraint device while 2 sea lions are made to stand posing on each side. Are they joking about their "tools for conservation and science."?

They also discussed how to deal with animal protection groups.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/230705227 Marine Mammals in the Lab Tools for Conservation Science](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/230705227_Marine_Mammals_in_the_Lab_Tools_for_Conservation_Science)

Studies would continue but not on captives at the Vancouver Aquarium. The Parks Board would not be hampering any so call "conservation" studies.

### **The Facts of Wildlife:**

1. There are countless wildlife deaths in their natural homes. That is far more humane than them dying in transport, not recovering after months in an alien prison, being subjected to experiments, and/or kept as part of the aquarium/zoo international animal trade.

2. Euthanasia is part of the operating policies of wildlife rescue organizations. There are worldwide accepted procedures to euthanize stranded, injured and other cetaceans. There are not enough pools and cages in the for all the wildlife cases.

As I said re: my Open Letter today and my earlier Crux of the Matter is that the Aquarium will claim that they need the Aquarium for "rescue" and research. They are running a radio ad confirming this.

The response is that both is being done by many organizations worldwide. The expanded aquarium with a lot more cetaceans is what they want but is not needed. If allowed it will perpetuate captivity. The Board would not be blamed for standing in the way of "conservation"

Did you see the photo? The person might be the veterinarian?

The report actually revealed the industry's own concerns over the many problems with experiments on captives. They stated that in many ways it does not represent life in the wild. The report included photos of some experimental procedures but is only a glimpse behind the closed doors of animal research laboratories. There was also a photo of an Aquarium employee lying in the sea lion restraint device while 2 sea lions are made to stand posing on each side. Are they joking about their "tools for conservation and science."?

See highlites

## **5 Reasons to End Captivity Now!**

### **1. The Aquarium will build more pools by 2019.**

More pools mean more captives. This expansion plan is an 11 year old plan from 2006. The Aquarium should apply for a new building permit and permission with their new captivity plans clearly defined! Any expansion approval does not exclude them from a cetacean ban!

### **2. The Aquarium will spend \$20 million dollars on the whale pools.**

Most of the money for ongoing expansions has been from Federal and Provincial governments. Private donors include a mining company that has been fined for several environmental pollution violations.

They will seek more government funding for experiments on the captives. That will take time and funding away from important field studies that truly help save wildlife!

**3. The Aquarium will import up to 5 belugas in spite of not knowing why the last 2 belugas died.** In addition, 52 cetaceans have died as a result of their pro captivity business in the 52 years since they started cetacean imprisonment.

#### **4. The Aquarium may end beluga captivity by 2029.**

However, the Aquarium would fill the pools with various species as "rescues" from "Canadian shores" that will perpetuate the cetacean captivity. For decades the claims "not suited for release" have been free sources for aquariums and zoos worldwide.

Organizations worldwide do not need to practice on captives for rescue work. And there are many examples of the "untrained" concerned citizens saving cetaceans. Saving human lives on the mountains do not require human prisoners.

#### **5. The Aquarium will rebrand themselves as a "wildlife rescue centre" to continue their entertainment and research business.**

**First**, a noisy public tourist attraction with year round parties is not the proper secluded hospital environment that is necessary for medical recovery in a wildlife centre. The space requirements also cannot be met. The Aquarium can use their offsite non-public locations that could include sea pens and DFO locations.

In the rare event of large cetaceans in need of help there are government agencies, organizations, and others that would lead.

The BC Provincial Lab does the necropsies. The Animal Health Centre provides world class veterinary diagnostic services that protect the health of all animals in B.C. to support disease prevention, control and eradication. They have determined all captive deaths for decades too.

The Aquarium would continue in their other locations such as the Main Street centre, Popham Island research centre (if still available), and the many DFO stations on Vancouver Island and in West Vancouver (<http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/locations-bureaux-eng.html> ).

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Pacific Region Field Offices, Research Labs and Fish ...

[www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca](http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

Pacific Region Field Offices, Research Labs and Fish Hatcheries. Facilities open Monday to Friday, 8-4 unless otherwise noted.

**The Vancouver Aquarium site is not needed.**

**Secondly**, the Aquarium plans are to combine entertainment with experiments on the captives and "rescues" as "untapped resources and tools" for lucrative jobs



under the guise of conservation. Experiments could include implanting tracking and medical devices that has caused major infections during other experiments.

They are presently doing beluga bioacoustics studies in the wild in addition to many other organizations. The Vancouver Aquarium also has belugas in experiments at the Spanish Oceanographic aquarium that is under the management of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Belugas communication started in 1947 and beluga diet/pollution 1970s lead to a sanctuary in the St. Lawrence. Since the 90s the population has increased from 500 to 800.

In 2007 a meeting was held at the VA to look at ways to get use captives and "rescues" as untapped resources. Their report was titled "Marine Mammals in the Lab: Tools for Conservation and Science". It was hosted by UBC Marine Mammal Research Unit, Vancouver Aquarium, Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums. The US Navy also attended.

The report actually revealed the industry's own concerns over the many problems with experiments on captives. They stated that in many ways it does not represent life in the wild. The report included photos of some experimental procedures but is only a glimpse behind the closed doors of animal research laboratories. There was also a photo of an Aquarium employee lying in the sea lion restraint device while 2 sea lions are made to stand posing on each side. Are they joking about their "tools for conservation and science."? PHOTO ON PAGE 12.

They also discussed how to deal with animal protection groups.

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/230705227 Marine Mammals in the Lab Tools for Conservation Science](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/230705227_Marine_Mammals_in_the_Lab_Tools_for_Conservation_Science)

## Marine Mammals in the Lab: Tools for Conservation ...

[www.researchgate.net](http://www.researchgate.net)

Official Full-Text Publication: Marine Mammals in the Lab: Tools for Conservation & Science on ResearchGate, the professional network for scientists.

Studies would continue but not on captives at the Vancouver Aquarium. The Parks Board would not be hampering any so call "conservation" studies.

### **The Facts of Wildlife:**

1. There are countless wildlife deaths in their natural homes. That is far more humane than them dying in transport, not recovering after months in an alien prison, being subjected to experiments, and/or kept as part of the aquarium/zoo international animal trade.

2. Euthanasia is part of the operating policies of wildlife rescue organizations. There are worldwide accepted procedures to euthanize stranded, injured and other cetaceans. There are not enough pools and cages in the for all the wildlife cases.

## **The End?**

The aquarium and zoo circuses are part of the problems not the solutions. They cannot provide the physical and psychological necessities of cetacean life and will never teach people about their lives in the wild.

Since 1981, Liferforce has fought for cetacean freedom through all of the Vancouver Aquarium expansions that has always meant more pools and more captives. Now after 52 cetacean deaths in 52 years of cetacean captivity it is time to end the suffering!

This is a crucial time as the Aquarium has only 3 cetaceans left – a False killer whale, a Pacific white-sided dolphin, and a Harbour porpoise. Five cetaceans died between 2015 and 2016. The plan to built more pools and get more cetaceans must be stopped!.

I hope this is my last poster > Aquarium Circus - The End

It cannot show all the history of all the suffering but it shows the callous harpooning of an endangered orca that started the orca slave trade, the beluga cut by capture ropes in 1990 and dumped, the first belugas inhumanely kept in the tiny shark tank, the orca Skana who went head first into a broken viewing window requiring 100 stitches, and the forced circus tricks.

As Canada looks at a nationwide cetacean ban the Vancouver Parks Board decision could be a historic breakthrough for dolphin freedom. Get the truth from those without vested interests.

Vancouver stopped wild animal acts in circuses. Vancouver closed the Stanley Park Zoo. Cetaceans must not wait for a referendum, must not wait for a Canada wide ban, and must not suffer from more Aquarium broken promises.

The Cetacean Bylaw is the only way to end the suffering. A Bylaw review was supposed to have been conducted in 2015. It is time to make amendments to guarantee the rights and freedoms of cetaceans.

If people are against capturing and imprisoning wild cetaceans then they should also be against capturing frightened, sick, and injured wild cetaceans for any life sentence in a pool prison.

## The End?

The aquarium and zoo circuses are part of the problems not the solutions. They cannot provide the physical and psychological necessities of cetacean life and will never teach people about their lives in the wild.

Since 1981, Lifeforce has fought for cetacean freedom through all of the Vancouver Aquarium expansions that has always meant more pools and more captives. Now after 52 cetacean deaths in 52 years of cetacean captivity it is time to end the suffering!

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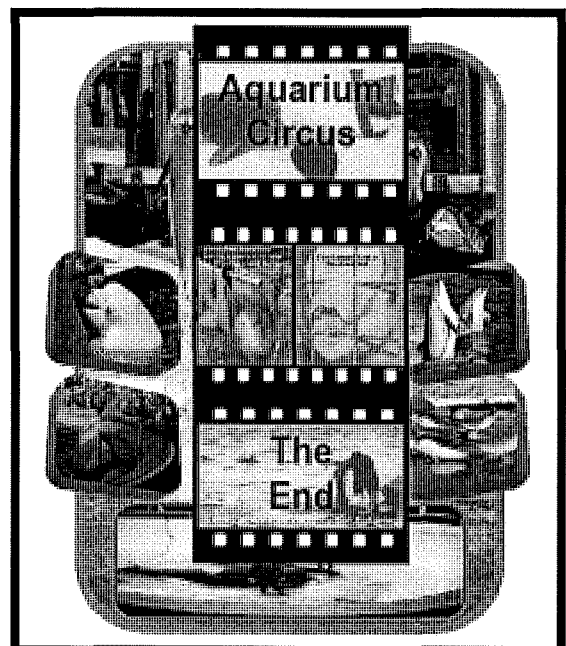
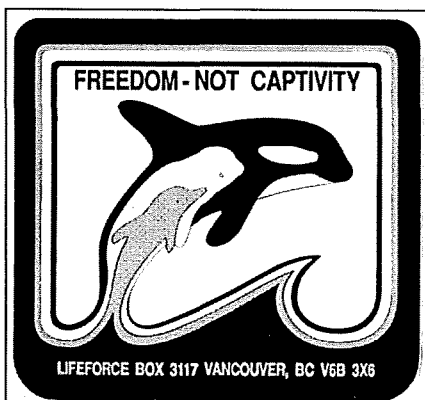
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If people are against capturing and imprisoning wild cetaceans then they should also be against capturing frightened, sick, and injured wild cetaceans for any life sentence in a pool prison.

For Freedom,

Peter Hamilton

Lifeforce Founder



## **Re: Facts about the Vancouver Aquarium**

Peter Hamilton [lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** January 27, 2017 8:40 PM

**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart

I sent this out Stewart and further will be coming. No response necessary.

**Staff Report a Big Step Forward to End Cetacean Captivity! But Some Commissioners Now Getting Hate Mail!**

Finally having the majority of the Vancouver Park Board looking at the most effective, immediate way to ban cetacean captivity in just 1 month is a major step forward. However, now the four Commissioners who voted for the Staff Report are now getting hate mail.

Who would jeopardize this progress and their support? Is it the Vancouver Aquarium supporters who rather have a referendum and not an enforceable bylaw? Or is it misled people hearing incorrect media reports that mainly reported it as some kind of loss/delay by the four Commissioners without any mention of a better Cetacean Bylaw? Or is it the unrealistic view any of any anti captivity organizations that thinks if our side did win any referendum the Aquarium would reverse their cetaceans for entertainment and experiments business and "negotiate" with us.

Lets get the facts straight about the referendum risks:

1. Any delay tactic would be the 2018 referendum proposed by Kirby-Young who was formerly a Vancouver Aquarium public relations employee. That 2-year delay would jeopardize the phase out of cetaceans.
2. Referendum results would be passed on to a newly elected Board. The majority of anti captivity Commissioners may not be elected and then no phase out/ban action.
3. Referendum issue would also involve the City Councillors.
4. The Aquarium has plans to build more pools in 2017. Aquariums expansions and other operations are funded by governments. That's our tax monies! And More Pools Means More Dolphins!
5. Why is the pro Aquarium/captivity NPA party now pushing for a referendum? That is the true delay tactic because the Aquarium does not want a more immediate, enforceable Cetacean Bylaw.
6. Some people supported a referendum unaware that a stronger Cetacean Bylaw would lead to a more immediate end to captivity. During the last election, there was a consensus among many Vancouver organizations (Lifeforce, Sea Shepherd, Whale Friends, No Whales In Captivity, BC Animal Liberation,...) We had agreed to support the Cetacean Bylaw that the ruling Vision Vancouver supported. But at a public meeting one organization broke the agreement by supporting a referendum that they even wanted instead of a bylaw back in 1996. They, alone, have continued to oppose any kind of bylaw. At that time that could have lost the support by Vision Vancouver that wanted a bylaw change to end captivity.
7. The Motion for a referendum does not allow for any public and Aquarium Speakers at the

Parks Board meeting. So the Aquarium did not confirm or denied if they would agree to no more cetaceans and no more pools until any referendum results are obtained. So why would you pass a risky referendum with no Aquarium agreement?

Requesting a Staff Board report that comes back to Parks Board meeting permits such questioning.

8. Any nonbinding referendum win would go back to the bylaw anyways.

The Vancouver Park Board will get a Staff Report that would look at the most effective ways to quickly phase out cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. That could help whales and dolphins by phasing out captivity with a stronger Cetacean Bylaw! End of story then!

It is shameful and stupid to attack these anti captivity Commissioners. They made the right decision! Now we must give them our full support and thank them for looking at all the referendum risks and seeking a more immediate end to cetacean captivity. We can start to try to repair the harm by emailing a simple "Thank you for helping end cetacean captivity." Their emails are > [erin.shum@vancouver.ca](mailto:erin.shum@vancouver.ca); [catherine.evans@vancouver.ca](mailto:catherine.evans@vancouver.ca); [stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca); [michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca](mailto:michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca);

For Freedom,  
Peter Hamilton  
Lifeforce

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**From:** Mackinnon, Stuart <[Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca)>  
**Sent:** January 25, 2017 12:30 PM  
**To:** Peter Hamilton  
**Subject:** RE: Facts about the Vancouver Aquarium

Thank you Peter. Been getting a lot of hate mail. I'm a bit overwhelmed with work right now but will want to talk to as we get closer to the report back meeting.  
S.

Stuart Mackinnon, Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

t: @betterparks      blog: [www.betterparks.ca](http://www.betterparks.ca)

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**From:** Peter Hamilton [[lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com](mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com)]  
**Sent:** January 25, 2017 12:12 PM  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; Carr, Adriane  
**Subject:** Facts about the Vancouver Aquarium

Kudos for asking for a Staff Report in order to get information needed to make a fully informed opinion.

Sent this to Pete McMarten:

The media has reported many untruths during this referendum versus Cetacean Bylaw debate. From saying that the Vancouver Aquarium does not receive any government funding to failing to ask why the former Aquarium pr person wants her referendum that would delay the issue for 2 years to this article not clarifying that the smarter Parks Board Commissioners requested a staff report to be done in order to phase out cetaceans faster through more effective means such as the bylaw! It also took two referendums to close the Stanley Park Zoo! Some media have given negative reports of delaying any referendum and not the positive alternatives such as a better bylaw.

During the last election, there was a consensus among numerous organizations. We had agreed to support the Cetacean Bylaw that the ruling Vision Vancouver supported. Any nonbinding referendum win would go back to the bylaw anyways. But at a public meeting the No Whales in Captivity person broke the agreement by supporting a referendum that they even wanted instead of a bylaw back in 1996. They, alone, even have continued to oppose any kind of bylaw.

That support of a referendum with major risks instead of a strong Cetacean Bylaw have been and will continue to inhibit the end of captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium.. The goal has to be strengthening the Cetacean Bylaw. Any delay tactic would be the 2018 referendum. That 2-year delay, that the results would go to a newly elected board, would jeopardize the phase out of cetaceans. The Aquarium has plans to build more pools in 2017. Aquariums expansions and other operations are fund by governments. That's our tax monies! But we don't get to vote! More Pools Means More Dolphins!

Let's help whales and dolphins by phasing out captivity with a stronger Cetacean Bylaw!

<b>From:</b>	<a href="mailto:amorris@spca.bc.ca">"Amy Morris" &lt;amorris@spca.bc.ca&gt;</a>
<b>To:</b>	<a href="mailto:pbmeetings@vancouver.ca">"Park Board Meetings" &lt;pbmeetings@vancouver.ca&gt;</a>
<b>Date:</b>	5/2/2017 10:45:45 AM
<b>Subject:</b>	BC SPCA Official Submission to Senate regarding cetaceans
<b>Attachments:</b>	Submission to Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans S203 BC SPCA 05022017.pdf

Dear policy and planner staff in the Office of the General Manager of the Park Board,

Please find attached our submission to Senate regarding Bill S-203, currently in committee stage. We wanted to send it along in case there was any interest in the BC SPCA's position in regards to cetacean captivity.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch.

Thank you for your time,

Amy Morris, MPP  
Policy and Outreach Officer  
BCSPCA  
1245 East 7th Avenue  
Vancouver BC V5T 1R1  
direct: 604-647-5503  
1.800.665.1868 • [amorris@spca.bc.ca](mailto:amorris@spca.bc.ca) • [www.spca.bc.ca](http://www.spca.bc.ca)

1245 East 7th Avenue, Vancouver, British Columbia, V5T 1R1  
P 604.681.7271 • F 604.681.7022 • 1.800.665.1868 • [spca.bc.ca](http://spca.bc.ca)  
Charitable Registration # BN 11881 9036 RR0001

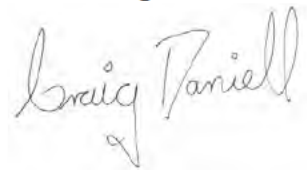
Standing Senate Committee on Fisheries and Oceans  
The Senate of Canada  
Ottawa, Ontario  
Canada, K1A 0A4

May 2, 2017

Dear Senators,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission regarding Bill S-203. While we are unable to attend the committee hearings as a witness, please find our submission below. For any questions, please contact Dr. Sara Dubois, Chief Scientific Officer for the BC SPCA at [sdubois@spca.bc.ca](mailto:sdubois@spca.bc.ca) or (604) 647-6403.

Sincere regards,



Craig Daniell  
Chief Executive Officer



## Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission as part of the Senate committee hearings for Bill S-203. The BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is a registered charity that is responsible for enforcing provincial and federal legislation regarding the neglect and cruelty of domesticated animals and wildlife in captivity. We represent 80,000 donors and 80,000 supporters on social media across the province of British Columbia.

The BC SPCA operates the second largest licensed wildlife rehabilitation centre in the province – Wild ARC - where we take a compassionate conservation approach<sup>1</sup> to rescuing and rehabilitating the more than 3,000 wild animals that come into the centre each year. Wild ARC does not publicly display any patients, nor rely on display for funding its operations.

One statement governs all of the work we do at the BC SPCA: animals are sentient beings. This means they have the capacity to feel. As such, it is our role, as humans who have the capacity to reason *and* to feel, to be attentive to the experiences of the animals where our actions have intentionally or unintentionally caused harm to them.

At the BC SPCA, we recognize that extreme arguments are often used to polarize issues and bring them to a stand still, creating an environment of “us” versus “them”. We wish to avoid this approach in our below analysis. Our statements are grounded in both scientific research and economic analysis.

In the last 30 years, new research has emerged on the complexity of cetaceans<sup>2,3,4,5</sup> and their ability to communicate, create social structures and culture, and demonstrate cognition. Cognition includes memory, problem-solving, concept formation, and self-awareness, among other elements. For example, cetaceans studied in the wild have demonstrated the ability to use tools<sup>6</sup> and to learn and remember individuals within their communities<sup>7</sup>. Bill S-203 was drafted to take this scientific evidence into consideration.

There has been a significant swell of media attention around Bill S-203 and the rhetoric has been largely values-based. Fears surrounding S-203 include those that cetaceans will no longer be saved (affecting conservation), that such animals will not be allowed to be displayed in captivity (affecting the economy) and that whales will no longer be able to serve as a food source (affecting culture). This submission will challenge these perspectives and provide guidance from current research on how cetaceans experience captivity.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/animal-issues/wildlife/issues/compassionate-conservation.html>

<sup>2</sup> Dudzinski K, Frohoff T (2008) Dolphin mysteries: Unlocking the secrets of communication. Yale University Press.

<sup>3</sup> Marino L (2004) Dolphin cognition. *Current Biology* 14(21): R910–R911.

<sup>4</sup> Simmonds M (2006) Into the brains of whales. *Applied Animal Behavior Science* 100(1): 103–116.

<sup>5</sup> Whitehead H, Rendell L (2014) The cultural lives of whales and dolphins. University of Chicago Press.

<sup>6</sup> Krützen M, Mann J, Heithaus MR, Connor RC, Bejder L, Sherwin, WB (2005) Cultural transmission of tool use in bottlenose dolphins. *Proc Natl Acad Sci USA* 102(25): 8939–8943.

<sup>7</sup> Connor RC (2007) Complex alliance relationships in bottlenose dolphins and a consideration of selective environments for extreme brain size evolution in mammals. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences* 362(1480): 587–602.

## 1. Affecting Conservation

Studies conducted in wild environments have led to significant findings<sup>8</sup>. These include the tracking of migration patterns, monitoring cetacean health in the ocean and learnings about what kind of ecosystem is required to sustain cetacean populations. Such learnings have informed how people operate in the ocean environment, reducing our impact on wild cetacean populations.

Studies conducted in captive environments have not significantly benefitted wild populations, though these studies help researchers better keep animals in captivity. While this research could be used for an animal that must be kept in captivity for rehabilitation, it does not impact conservation. This research also has not been effective in maintaining quality of life for cetaceans in captivity. Cetaceans continue to die in captivity at ages far younger than their lifespan in the wild. As of now, Canada's two facilities that keep cetaceans in captivity are unable to provide a life that approximates their wild-living counterparts<sup>9</sup>. Further, cetaceans born in captivity are non-releasable given they would not have the social and learned experience to be able to survive on their own in the wild.

## 2. Affecting the Economy

The Vancouver Aquarium has demonstrated concern that future marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation will be at risk as a result of legislation that prevents the display, import and captivity of cetaceans<sup>10</sup>. Bill S-203 is expertly worded to grandfather existing cetaceans in captivity and permit the rehabilitation of a cetacean that is in need of assistance, care, or rehabilitation. These generous provisions allow for captivity to continue for cetaceans where it is going to be beneficial to the individual cetacean.

Funding rescue, rehabilitation conservation and research is not directly tied to the keeping or display of animals in captivity – we know this because we and the dozens of other wildlife rehabilitation facilities across BC that care for more than 15,000 animals a year do not rely on such funding. Further, a willingness to pay study conducted in Tofino, B.C. confirmed that whale watchers in nature are willing to pay up to \$15 for whale conservation in another country<sup>11</sup>. Economists in New Zealand also researched willingness to pay for dolphin conservation and found that 52% of the population was willing to spend some amount annually as a dolphin protection tax<sup>12</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup> Marino L, Frohoff T (2011) Towards a new paradigm of non-captive research on cetacean cognition. *PLOS One* 6(9), retrieved from <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3168481/>

<sup>9</sup> Small RJ, DeMaster DP (1995) Survival of five species of captive marine mammals. *Marine Mammal Science* 11(2): 209–226.

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vancouver-aquarium-pushes-back-on-cetacean-ban-1.4089130>

<sup>11</sup> Warren S (2008) Passenger preference for whale watching tour attributes and payment for grey whale habitat protection: A case study in Tofino, B.C. (Research Project) Retrieved from [http://rem-main.rem.sfu.ca/theses/WarrenSandra\\_2012\\_MRM553.pdf](http://rem-main.rem.sfu.ca/theses/WarrenSandra_2012_MRM553.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> Hoyt E, McGrath G, Bossley M, Knowles T (2014) Assessing New Zealanders' willingness-to-pay to protect the endangered New Zealand dolphin (*Cephalorhynchus hectori*): A benefit-cost analysis comparing three scenarios. Economists at Large, Melbourne, Australia and Critical Habitat Marine Protected Areas Programme, Whale and Dolphin Conservation, Chippenham, UK. Retrieved from <https://uk.whales.org/sites/default/files/new-zealand-dolphin-report.pdf>

Likewise, the BC SPCA Wild ARC animal rescue and rehabilitation facility is self-funded, with BC SPCA supporters who donate over \$800,000 annually for wildlife rescue and rehabilitation.

### 3. Affecting Culture

The aboriginal Inuit people of the Canadian Arctic are the only Canadians allowed to legally hunt for whales in Canada. In these instances, whales live their entire lives in the wild before they are hunted and killed for food and other traditional use. The wording of Bill S-203 does not affect this sustenance-driven hunt in any way, as it focuses on **whale import** and **captivity**.

#### Are Cetaceans Really Suffering in Captivity?

As humans, we know that for our species, confinement and social isolation in small indoor spaces without any control over our environment or food sources is emotionally damaging. In our society, this kind of treatment is used as a punishment (e.g. solitary confinement). We have evidence for cetaceans that appropriate social interaction and enough diverse space are basic requirements for their psychological well-being.<sup>13,14</sup> Though the veterinarians and staff try to provide the best possible care for these complex marine mammals, the current captive environments available in Canada do not provide for appropriate social interaction or enough diverse space.

Organizations like the Whale Sanctuary Project are working on a solution to this, a model seaside sanctuary where current captive cetaceans can live out their lives in an environment that maximizes well-being and autonomy and is as close as possible to their natural habitat<sup>15</sup>. This facility would provide for research, rescue, rehabilitation and conservation efforts without compromising psychological and physical well-being. This kind of facility would provide positive impact on the economy as individuals continue to invest in rescue and conservation, while upholding the social well-being of the Canadian population. Bill S-203 would ensure that this kind of rescue and conservation work could continue and that cetaceans continue to thrive in ways that are appropriate to their species.

#### Summary

The BC SPCA is supportive of Bill S-203 as written. The policy approach is balanced, reasoned and will have no negative consequences for the Canadian economy, Canadian citizens or cetaceans. Alternatively, if Bill S-203 is not supported by Canadian senators, there is a risk of significant harms to Canadians' social well-being as well as the well-being of the cetaceans confined in perpetuity with no moral, logical or economic justification.

<sup>13</sup> Clubb R, Mason M (2003) Captivity effects on wide-ranging carnivores. *Nature* 425: 473–474.

<sup>14</sup> Lundin L (2010) The welfare of bottlenose dolphins and killer whales in captivity. Retrieved from [http://stud.epsilon.slu.se/1578/1/lundin\\_l\\_100707.pdf](http://stud.epsilon.slu.se/1578/1/lundin_l_100707.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.whalesanctuaryproject.org/>

April 20, 2017

Dear Mr. Bromley and Mr. Wiebe,

On behalf of the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre's Board of Directors, I would like to thank you for taking the time to meet with me on April 12, 2017. As discussed, our Board of Directors was disappointed by the Park Board's recent vote to seek a total ban on cetaceans in Vancouver's parks. I requested the meeting as a proactive and collaborative step in working with the Vancouver Park Board to address the situation and hopefully identify a path forward.

During our meeting, I raised several points that I would like to reiterate:

- The total ban of cetaceans will have extensive operational, financial and programming impacts for the Aquarium. Given the aggressive timeline the Park Board is currently pursuing, our staff is still in the process of developing a more comprehensive impact assessment. However, it is already clear the proposed bylaw would dramatically undercut or eliminate our Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. We save more than 100 injured and stranded marine mammals annually, and while our goal is always to rescue, rehabilitate, and release rescued marine mammals, there are situations where cetaceans cannot be re-introduced into the wild. This is a determination made by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, which assesses whether an animal is non-releasable due to significant injury, disability, or lack of necessary survival skills. The Aquarium is currently the only marine mammal rescue facility in Canada with the requisite accreditation, infrastructure, and personnel to provide long-term care for non-releasable marine mammals. However, the proposed bylaw would eliminate this capacity – not just in British Columbia, but nationwide.
- The proposed bylaw has generated concern among our staff, members, and the public about the fate of several cetaceans currently in our care. We are presently home to a false killer whale (Chester), a white-sided dolphin (Helen), and a harbour porpoise (Daisy). These animals were brought to the Aquarium through the Marine Mammal Rescue program and have been deemed non-releasable by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. The proposed bylaw raises serious questions – without any answers – regarding how best to ensure the ongoing welfare of these animals.
- We have deep concerns around the Park Board decision-making process. Over the past decade, Vancouver Aquarium has worked closely with the Park Board to review, approve, and permit the overhaul of our Arctic habitat, only for the Park Board to abruptly, and unilaterally, change course in just a matter of months. In addition, the Park Board did not conduct sufficient consultation with subject matter experts – such as the Aquarium and Department of Fisheries and Oceans, which governs aspects of our operations – around such an important and complex decision. Moreover, there also

appears to be a significant gap between the proposed bylaw and public opinion. The Park Board declared its decision reflects public will; however, recent independent polling indicates that more than 8 in 10 Vancouver residents support the Aquarium's marine mammal rescue efforts, which would be a primary casualty of the proposed bylaw.

The abrupt change to our expansion plans, which were approved and permitted by the City of Vancouver and Park Board, will have extraordinary impacts to the physical revitalizations currently underway at the Aquarium. A significant amount of funds has already been invested on design and partial construction of facilities under the approved plans. In addition, because funds for design and construction were specific to facilities for beluga whales, funds from major donors are now at risk.

As you can appreciate, our 500 staff and over 1,250 volunteers are curious about the impacts the by-law will cause, and understand that it will likely mean reductions in conservation programs and activities at the Aquarium. Their very real and personal concerns mean we must begin addressing the potential impacts with them immediately.

Ultimately, the proposed bylaw will undermine the very thing it seeks to protect: the welfare of whales, dolphins, and porpoises. While we acknowledge your position, we view the proposed bylaw as short-sighted and ask that the Park Board reconsider its position on permitting rescued but non-releasable cetaceans who need ongoing care to be housed at the Aquarium.

If you need any further information, or would like to meet in the near future, please contact me via Yasmin Sidi, Executive Assistant to the Board of Directors, at [yasmin.sidi@vanaqua.org](mailto:yasmin.sidi@vanaqua.org).

I look forward to hearing from you, and working toward a solution that will support the goals that we all share, including the conservation of our oceans and marine wildlife.

Warm regards,



Derral Moriyama  
Chair, Board of Directors, Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre

cc: Vancouver Park Board; City of Vancouver Mayor and Council

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 02, 2017 11:39 AM  
**To:** Mayor and Council Correspondence  
**Subject:** Support for the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Members of the Council -

I write to urge you to support the Vancouver Aquarium and its new plans for research on Canada's arctic and beluga whales.

The Aquarium is among Vancouver's oldest and most cherished institutions, not only as a tourist attraction and educational centre but also as a highly respected research centre focused increasingly on the Arctic and the new pressures on that region's vulnerable environment. It is also Canada's only marine mammal rescue centre, able to rescue stranded, sick and injured whales, dolphins and porpoises.

My interest in the Aquarium developed from an investigation of fisheries management (having conducted a Royal Commission on the Pacific fisheries some years ago) which left me with a highly favourable impression of the quality and relevance of research done by the Aquarium's scientists.

The current need of support for the Aquarium arises from the planned expansion of its Arctic exhibit (as approved by the city of Vancouver and Park Board) and its beluga conservation research program. I'm sure you know that the latter is being criticized by some groups who disagree with research on whales. Some of this criticism seems to be based on a misunderstanding insofar as the Aquarium is one of the top five marine science centres in the world, with exceptional standards of animal care and welfare. Moreover it plans to discontinue its on-site beluga research program in 2029. But the criticism is nevertheless vocal and a continuing threat to the Aquarium's contributions to Vancouver and to Canada.

I hope you will participate in this debate and add your voice in support of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Yours sincerely,

s. 22(1)





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*An international organization dedicated to conservation through public display, education, and research*

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March 6, 2017

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC

Dear Park Board Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA), an international association and accrediting body of zoos, aquariums and marine parks throughout the world, to urge you to reject any option on the cetacean question that would harm or impede the critical rescue and rehabilitation work, scientific research, ocean conservation and public education efforts of Vancouver Aquarium, one of the most respected and prestigious zoological institutions in the world.

Vancouver Aquarium is an accredited and active member of AMMPA and as such has demonstrated in accreditation and re-accreditation inspections over the years that it meets or exceeds our rigorous Standards & Guidelines covering a dozen different areas from animal husbandry, animal training, and water and environmental quality to education, scientific research, breeding, transportation and more. These standards, based on the expertise of thousands of veterinarians, animal care specialists, operations personnel, and scientists throughout the world, are meant to optimize the physical health of and environmental conditions for individual marine mammals in each facility's care and maximize their educational and scientific impact.

AMMPA-accredited facilities also must make available multiple levels of learning opportunities for the public on the marine mammals exhibited in their facilities, their ecosystem and wildlife conservation. These educational efforts and the inspirational experiences visitors have at Vancouver Aquarium have helped foster an appreciation for these animals and the threats they face in the wild.

AMMPA member facilities are also required to conduct or support scientific research and/or conservation projects related to marine mammals. Vancouver Aquarium's important work in these areas is well known and has distinguished it as a world-class aquarium. Marine mammals in the wild today are threatened at unprecedented levels from pollution, ship strikes,

entanglement in fishing debris, novel diseases, and prey scarcity, and Vancouver Aquarium's scientific research on marine mammals and ocean conservation is needed now more than ever.

Like many AMMPA facilities, Vancouver Aquarium also employs its resources and marine mammal expertise to help rescue and rehabilitate sick or injured marine animals in the wild. The aquarium gained this expertise through its study of and experience with the marine mammals it exhibits. Any prohibition on the public display of marine mammals at Vancouver Aquarium would inevitably deteriorate the aquarium's expertise, resources and ability to continue to perform this important work.

We respectfully urge you to support the important work of Vancouver Aquarium and reject restrictions on the display of cetaceans at the aquarium.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen Dezio". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathleen Dezio  
President & CEO



March 16, 2017

Vancouver Park Board  
Commissioners  
2099 Beach Ave.,  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4, Canada

RECEIVED

MAR 22 2017

To the Members of the Vancouver Park Board:

I follow the Vancouver Aquarium, for it's outstanding programs and rescue, so was more than a bit distressed at your recent decision to prohibit the display of cetaceans at the aquarium. This was unbelievable to me, as the Vancouver Aquarium is known for it's education and research with these aquatic animals, as well as it's widely known practices in rescue and rehabilitation, via the Vancouver Aquarium's Marine Mammal Rescue Centre.

The absolutely beloved cetaceans, Helen, Chester and Daisy, who are currently housed at the Aquarium, are the very finest examples of rescue and rehabilitation, as well as educational ambassadors, of the importance of non-healthy and/or safe oceans. These ambassadors can do more by their mere presence to educate the visiting public, than human educators can do in days. There is something so powerful in meeting an animal who was rescued and why, and then seeing that same animal thriving in it's safe environment. It is inconceivable to me that you would so thoughtlessly throw this educational opportunity away when there are so few educational opportunities for education like this and you have one that is already established.

You have a first class contributor to cetacean research and conservation in the programs of the Vancouver Aquarium, as I'm sure you know. Your animal care staff knows no equal and you must know that as well. When animals can be returned to their homes in the ocean, they are returned, after rehabilitation assures that they will be able to survive, but when an animal is not able to successfully survive, as is the case with Daisy, the humane thing to do is to keep her as an ambassador, so we can learn more about her species and she can be safe and well cared for. She is paying her way in spades and should be protected, not discarded, as you seem determined to do.

I live in the U.S., in the State of Oregon and from time to time, whales strand themselves on our shores. This is so distressing to the residents, who rush to the aid of these animals, only to find little success in helping them. Here you are with this top-notch team of experts, who have the expertise to save stranded cetaceans, and it seems like this means nothing to you. How can that be possible? You have invested in these people, this facility and these programs, only to throw them away when the political wind does not blow your direction? This seems so weak and irresponsible. Someone has to have the spine to stick with these animals and know they are doing the right thing, not only for the cetaceans in your care, but also for the thousands of people who come to the Vancouver Aquarium to visit their favorite animals. These animals mean a great deal to us. They are our friends. And some of us never let our friends down, no matter how tough things get.

You can do better than you did with this decision. This was an irresponsible decision and one that you just cannot uphold and still sleep well at night. Please do the right thing and allow our friends to remain in their home at the Vancouver Aquarium. I want to be able to come and see them when I visit and introduce my grandchildren to them, now that they are just old enough to understand the importance of these animals to our ecosystem. I want them to learn about the health of the ocean and how their actions will help determine the success of these beautiful and intelligent animals over time.

I will always be proud of the Vancouver Aquarium for their wonderful research and the work they do to save and rehabilitate injured and struggling cetaceans. Instead of breaking their hearts by removing animals that they, and we, have all grown to love dearly over the years, show them your support, as well as your pride in them. These professionals have never let you, or these dear animals, down. Ever. Please don't let them down now.



s. 22(1)

Very Sincerely,

John



Vancouver Parks Board  
181 Roundhouse Mews  
Vancouver V6Z 2W3,

To All the Commissioners of the Vancouver Parks Board.

It is said writing a handwritten letter has a lot of merit. I do hope you will take my letter seriously and respond to my requests.

The people involved making decisions do not understand the importance of research I am including a section from "About Cetaceans" to help you understand the research that has been going on at the Aquarium for many years. This booklet was written 1986. Please note the mention of Dr. Murray Newman.

Being a member of the Aquarium for over 20 years, my children, my grandchildren and I have learned so much. We have participated with "Animal Encounters with Belugas", "Adopt a Whale Project", visited behind the scenes. My son and I had the opportunity to attend a lecture by Dr. Valeria Vergara whose research identified and classified distinct calls of beluga whales especially "the contact call".



(2)

the communication between the mother and her calf. The aquarium continues to do research in Cunningham Inlet Nunavut which is especially important due to increasing traffic in the north and other things that disturb the whales habitat.

Have you been behind the scenes at the aquarium? Our family experienced how particular they are about cleanliness and infection control. Our shoes are cleansed with special solution then enter a clean area. Excellent precautions.

It is really sad the beluga whales died. Foul play has not been ruled out! Do you realize what a tremendous loss to the doctors, caregivers and trainers of these beloved belugas. A new habitat with the other belugas that belong here would help.

Beviga Retired Registered Nurse, We are conscientious caring for people mammals and other living things. As you noticed in the article enclosed that whales & dolphins have a brain similar to humans. I cannot understand how you do not take in consideration the impact of closing of the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. Where will the mammals go that are injured and left to die in the wild? It is a fact that the whales & seals have been rescued & recovered at the centre. It is a great concern! I value to be a nurse and during my life have helped

(3)  
people and mammals.

Buses of children come to the Aquarium to learn and experience live creatures. Each summer the Marine Rescue Centre is open to members. It is wonderful and you are able to touch while the staff explain and educate us!

In closing it is so disappointing that a decision has been made that affects so many here in Vancouver and around the world. I hope and pray you will reconsider.

I am looking forward to your reply handwritten.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



PS Please excuse writing, my hand shakes



Dr. M. Klinowska, of Cambridge University, has analyzed strandings in the United Kingdom, with similar results. Moreover, further studies by Dr. Kirschvink's group suggest that fin whales in the Atlantic tend to swim along areas of low geomagnetic gradients during their spring and fall migrations.

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## THE CETACEAN BRAIN AND INTELLIGENCE

Roy Tanami

The popular media have often portrayed cetaceans as being capable of understanding and speaking human language, and even having human intelligence. In aquarium presentations dolphins are remarkably responsive to their trainers. Stories abound of wild cetaceans coming to the rescue of injured mates and humans in distress. We know that whales, dolphins, and porpoises have large, complex brains, but . . . are they as intelligent as they seem?

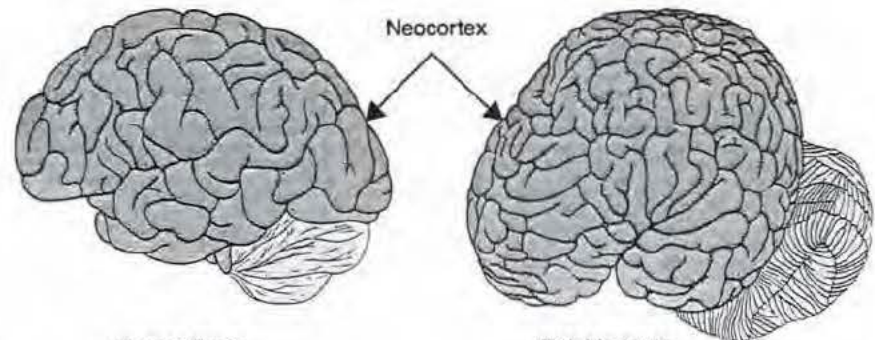
Perhaps the best answer to this question would be "yes" — and "no." Intelligence is a very difficult concept to define. Whether or not cetaceans are intelligent, largely depends on what is meant by "intelligence." In people, it involves the ability to use symbols and solve complex problems. We measure human "intelligence" through "intelligence quotient" (IQ) tests. These tests can provide an accurate measure of a person's mental performance under prescribed circumstances. Although they have a certain predictive value, they don't really seem to tell us how intelligent a person is in the practical sense. This is no surprise, for human brain functions are still relatively poorly understood.

In any event, no non-human animal, not even large brained cetaceans, can ever pos-



Cetaceans in aquarium presentations seem to communicate with their trainers in an almost human fashion. This rapport often leads to speculation about cetacean intelligence.

Tony Westman



sess "human" intelligence. This is because only humans can have it. Human intelligence is an adaptation developed over millions of years of human and pre-human evolution. If other animals are intelligent, they have their own kind of intelligence, which is the result of a totally different evolutionary history.

Intelligence is certainly not a uniquely human adaptation. In fact, it is evident that many species possess intelligence. The problem is that animal intelligence is hard for us to define, understand and interpret, because the only evidence we can get is from brain anatomy and overt behaviour. We can't give animals meaningful IQ tests. Moreover, our perspective of the world is unique to humans, and it is difficult for us to understand a brain that has a different evolutionary history and a different context. Because we cannot view the world exactly as another animal does, our understanding of what is relevant in the lives of other species is limited.

Although we have learned much from animal behaviour studies, some scientists have focussed their attention on the brain itself and its potential capacity to perform the complex mental processes required for intelligence. They view brain size and complexity as indicators of the presence of an adaptation of the brain, i.e. "intelligence." This approach is almost like looking at the circuitry of different computers to determine the information processing capabilities of each. Such studies consider gross brain size, complexity of the different types of brain cells, and the

Both dolphins and humans have a large, convoluted (wrinkled) neocortex. This is the part of the brain related to intelligence. Among mammals, the brains of humans and some cetaceans have the greatest amounts of neocortex relative to brain size.

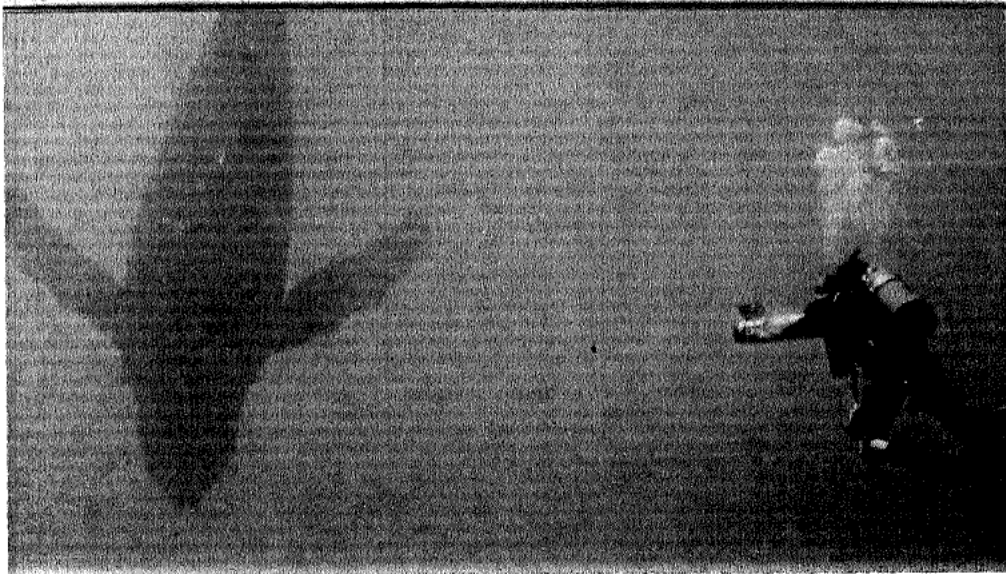
complexity of their cellular interconnections.

Cetaceans are animals with very large, complex brains. However, they are also very large animals. Big animals generally have bigger brains than small animals, because there's more bulk for the brain to take care of. Thus, big brains alone don't necessarily indicate increased intelligence. A more meaningful indicator is the ratio of brain size to body size. Through evolution, birds and mammals have evolved bigger brains relative to body size than have other classes of animals like reptiles and fish.

Brain size can be considered in two separate parts: (1) the amount of the brain that is required to "run" the body, and (2) the "extra" that is left over for information processing. The latter is called the "encephalization factor" by neuroscientists, and some believe it provides a reference number for estimating the potential for intelligence. In these terms, some species of cetaceans have brains which display a degree of encephalization comparable to that in human brains.

Scientists have also been examining the detailed anatomy of the cetacean "neocortex." This is the outer portion of the brain that in both humans and cetaceans is highly





A researcher approaches a "singing" humpback whale to determine the animal's sex. A singing humpback usually hovers 15 to 30 metres below the surface. By carefully sneaking up on the singers and taking photographs of the animals' undersides, scientists determined that the singers were males. Humpback whale songs are complex social signals, and their function is still poorly understood. Males might sing to attract females, or to establish dominance among other males.

Flip Nicklin, West Coast Whale Research Foundation

through visual displays and "jousting" with their horns. The song of the humpbacks may be a form of "acoustic jousting." Whatever the situation, biologists generally agree that male humpback whales are "polygynous" — that is, that they have more than one female mate at a time.

## Comparisons with land mammals

Many biologists currently studying the social organization and behaviour of cetaceans gain insights by making comparisons with land mammals. Some feel that because cetaceans are descended from land mammals,

their behaviour patterns may be similar to those of their closest land relatives, the "artiodactyls." The latter are the even-toed ungulates, such as cattle, deer, and sheep. The example of the humpback song being likened to the behaviour of male bighorn sheep takes this approach.

Other scientists, however, feel that since whales split from their land ancestors so long ago, similarities in behaviour are not due to a common ancestry. These researchers think that the similar patterns of social organization and behaviour might be similar solutions to common problems of survival. Because these patterns are generally better known for land mammals, comparisons with land mammals may help cetacean biologists interpret their observations.

## Discussion

Once the basic social organization of any given population is pieced together to give a reasonably clear picture, researchers can then look at the social ecology of the population. This means looking at the environment in terms of how it relates to the lifestyles exhibited by the animals living there. Incorporating knowledge of the lives and habits

of animals with information on various features of their habitat, biologists can begin to develop and test ideas on what factors in the habitat affect social behaviour — and why. Why, for instance, do different species of cetaceans and sometimes different populations within a species display such different social behaviours? What determines group sizes and what causes some cetaceans to assume different group formations according to what they happen to be doing?

Looking at the accumulated knowledge on some 24 different species of inshore whales, dolphins, and porpoises, one group of biologists has found some correlations between group sizes among these species and their respective habitats. They found that among the smaller toothed whales, those species living in more restrictive habitats, like rivers, lakes, and estuaries, live alone or in small groups of up to ten individuals. Those species living in more open habitats, like river estuaries and coastal areas, tend to form groups of intermediate size, of up to 50 members, and those cetaceans living in the open ocean form the largest groups, sometimes composed of thousands of members.

Biologists have found similar patterns in certain herding land mammals. Studies on antelopes have revealed that the smaller species spread out in "less open" habitats, and that the larger species (that live in open grasslands) tend to form larger, more complex groups. In various land ungulates, social behaviour is strongly affected by such things as the availability of food, presence of predators, and the physical characteristics of the habitat.

Basically, changes in antelope social groups are affected by their respective dietary needs. These determine where they feed, which, in turn, affects their social groupings in terms of defending against predators. Using this kind of information, biologists making comparisons between closely related species can consider whether or not similar types of social groupings observed between different kinds of animals are due to similar responses to the same environmental pressures.

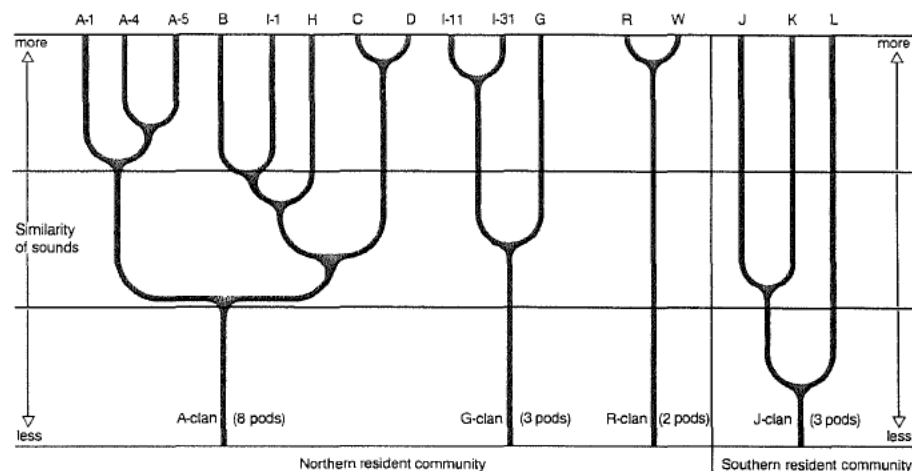
Studies on the social behaviour of mammals have shown that different factors in the interplay between the biological needs of a species and the characteristics of their habitat are either "attractive," causing individuals to group together, or "dispersive," causing individuals to pursue more solitary lives. The balance between these factors is what some scientists believe is reflected in the social behaviour and ecology of different mammal species.

Whales, dolphins, and porpoises are mammals that have evolved incredible physiological and anatomical adaptations for an aquatic lifestyle. Now, thanks to research into their social lives, we are also beginning to understand the behavioural adaptations these mammals have acquired in response to this environment. Besides the inherent interest in understanding the secrets of cetaceans, biologists believe such knowledge may be important for ongoing and future conservation efforts.

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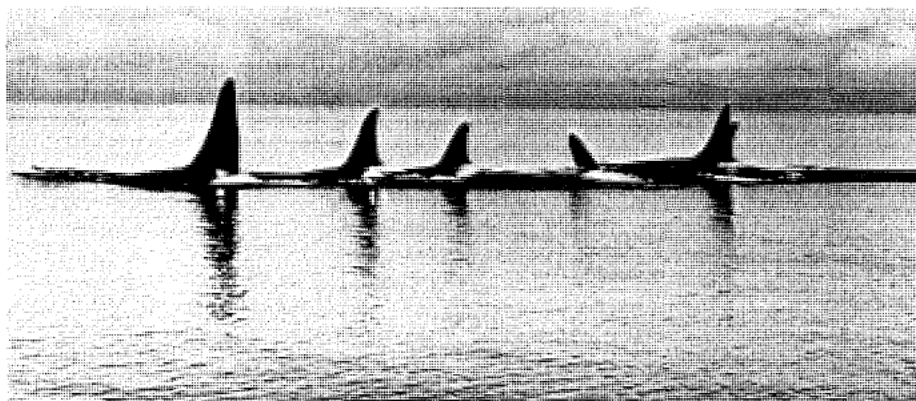
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This "family tree" shows the resident killer whale pods of B.C. arranged according to the sounds they have in common. Pods that share sounds are grouped by biologists into "clans," and may have evolved from a common ancestral pod. The relationships shown here indicate how new pods might be formed by the splitting of older pods. Information supplied by John Ford

B.C. killer whales have a unique social structure. They travel in pods, which are kinship groups based on a mother whale and her offspring. This social structure was revealed through long-term studies involving photo identification and acoustic work. This is a photo of "B-1" pod, of B.C.'s northern resident community. Deborah Cavanagh



rest of the pod may break off and form a new pod.

While resident pods are usually made up of two or more cow sub-groups, the "transient pods" are much smaller. They consist of a single cow sub-group, or else lone males. Pods of one to three individuals are not uncommon. These killer whales look and behave

differently from "resident" whales. First of all, transient whales do not form communities. They travel in and out of areas normally inhabited by resident pods, and they also go into areas where residents never go. Second, the transient killer whales eat marine mammals, while resident animals eat mostly fish.

## Sperm whales

The basic social organization of sperm whales was noticed by early whalers. However, more complete modern observations show that these whales live in different types of groups. Adult females live together along with their calves and juveniles of both sexes. This is called a "mixed" or "breeding" school and numbers between 20 and 40 individuals. The bonds among females in these groups are suspected to be long term.

Male sperm whales form different groupings, called "bachelor schools." The size of these schools generally depends on the age and size of the members. Smaller, immature males seem to form larger bachelor schools of up to 50 members. Larger, sub-adult males form smaller groups of up to around 15 members. The largest males are sometimes solitary or form small groups; most members are sexually mature. During the breeding season, the mixed schools are joined by a small number of mature males, called "schoolmaster bulls." Not all sexually mature male sperm whales breed — only the schoolmaster bulls.

Curiously the social organization of sperm whales is quite similar to that of elephants. Mature, female elephants also lead relatively stable groups, and sexually mature males are separated into breeding and non-breeding groups.

## Bottlenosed dolphins

Bottlenosed dolphins also form complex social groups. Mostly, they are seen in small assemblages of two to 15 animals. Researchers have noticed that some individuals form ties that last for weeks. They call these groups "primary groups," with the members seemingly involved in similar activities. Primary groups sometimes join together to form larger "secondary groups." Secondary groups only

seem to stay together for a few minutes or hours.

Different biologists studying different populations of bottlenosed dolphins have also noted that the dolphins tend to form larger groups in the deeper offshore areas. Larger groups may be more efficient for finding food and guarding against predation in open waters.

Research on a particularly well studied population of these animals off Florida's west coast has revealed that, here, groupings are based on age and sex. Adult males were observed to form small bands that travelled with the different female groups within a part of their range. Younger males form "bachelor" groups and do not generally associate with mature males, or with the female groups. Mothers and young usually stay together for three to six years. Within a given range, different groupings are seen to live in relatively identifiable "home ranges."

## Humpback whales

In the past few years, one type of cetacean social behaviour has become so famous that it is now a tourist attraction in Hawaii. During the winter humpback whales gather at their breeding and calving grounds in Hawaii. Here, male humpbacks sing complex songs composed of a variety of discrete themes. These songs change over time, and all of the singers in a population sing the same basic song. Biologists think these songs are associated with courtship or mating, but they are still unsure of the songs' function.

Some researchers suspect that the songs may be a way to attract females, in much the same way the males of some bird species attract females with their songs. However, other researchers suspect that the songs are one way males compete with each other to form dominance hierarchies. In such a system, the songs may serve a similar purpose to antlers on a male bighorn sheep. In these ungulates males compete with each other





March 3, 2017

Vancouver Park Board Commissioners  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1Z4

### **An Open Letter to Vancouver Park Board Commissioners**

On behalf of Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums, I am writing to express our unwavering support for the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre – a CAZA accredited member for over 40 years.

CAZA was founded in 1976 and today represents the leading zoological parks and aquariums in Canada. Over 12 million people visit our institutions each year. Our members play a critical role in our society by the unique way that they contribute to education, research and conservation. No other organization or institution can spark affective relations between humans and nature like zoos and aquariums.

CAZA's mission is to promote the continuing evolution of Canadian zoos and aquariums from what they were 50 years ago -- exhibitors of animals -- to ethical stewards of biodiversity. Our accreditation standards have evolved over the years, shifting from an initial focus on operations, husbandry and safety to now reflect the principle that accredited facilities have a vital role to play in supporting species conservation. In keeping with that principle, last year CAZA adopted the Canadian Council on Animal Care (CCAC) guidelines for the care and maintenance of marine mammals as part of its standards. CCAC's guidelines represent the most comprehensive, evidence-based framework for the keeping of marine mammals in the world, and they come with a requirement for institutions to promote conservation through education and research, or by supporting conservation initiatives.

When the Vancouver Aquarium was founded in 1956, our planet was losing 2-3 species per year. The devastating reality is now in 2017, our planet loses 2-3 species per day due to human degradation, climate change, encroachment, poaching, and overfishing. This challenge has had a devastating impact on our planet's oceans, and the marine life which inhabit them. Now more than ever, scientific,

technical, and passionate expertise is required to understand the consequences of human effects on our oceans, and conserve the species that occupy them.

Which is why today, World Wildlife Day, CAZA could not be more pleased to support the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre - the only facility in Canada with the skills, expertise and resources necessary to respond to marine mammal emergencies, and conduct essential scientific research to better understand our oceans. With a professional team made up of veterinarians, scientists and marine biologists who are on staff 24/7, the aquarium is the life line for injured and stranded marine animals, a leader in scientific research and a model for engaging youth in educational programming.

Animal welfare is at the heart of CAZA's accreditation system. We are proud to convey that during our inspections we have found the Vancouver Aquarium to be committed to meeting and exceeding CAZA and CCAC's requirements, representing some of the highest standards of care in North America. Aquarium staff manages daily programs to ensure the animals in their care receive a healthy diet, social interaction and enrichment opportunities. Their team of scientists, animal care and facility experts ensure that the habitats are safe and well maintained at all times and monitor the behavior of the animals daily to ensure that they are in the best of health.

The Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is the only marine mammal hospital of its kind in Canada and now rescues, rehabilitates and releases over 100 marine animals a year. With the opening of their new marine mammal hospital this year, the Aquarium has even further improved their capacity to rehabilitate animals and return them to the wild as soon as possible.

The Aquarium is also home to both resident and visiting marine biologists and researchers. The resources available at the Aquarium allow for rare opportunities to conduct important research which would be impossible to lead in the wild. These advancements, coupled with extended research in the field have positioned the Vancouver Aquarium as a leader, activist, and storyteller for our oceans.

The impact of this research relies on its effect to register with public conscious. The Vancouver Aquarium engages millions of visitors each year by helping them become aware of the critical issues facing our oceans and its inhabitants through fostering emotional connections with nature. By taking an out-of-the-box approach to educational programming, the Aquarium is inspiring youth to learn about oceans and make changes in their daily lives. This is evident in programming such as the AquaVan which will be touring Canada this year as part of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

This is just a glimpse of the extraordinary and unprecedented work being done at Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre by their incredible staff of animal welfare experts, veterinarians, scientists, and

educators. CAZA could not be more proud to have them as an accredited member, and would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss our support further.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Susan Shafer". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Susan Shafer

Executive Director

Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums

s. 22(1)



March 21, 2017

Vancouver Board of Parks &  
Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave.  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

Attn. Michael Wiebe & Commissioners

Dear Mr. Wiebe:

I am very distressed about your latest pronouncement about the our Vancouver Aquarium! I do not live in the City of Vancouver but am a long time resident of Greater Vancouver.

This establishment is world famous, but equally if not even more important it is a place of learning and science. How many thousands of children and adults have learned about the lives of cetaceans? To see an animal in real life versus in a book is immensely more life changing.

The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre, as it is and as it will grow in an integral part of Vancouver Tourism, important in leading marine research as well as education and conservation.

How experienced are your board members in aquatics and science? Do they really want to prevent us and the world from seeing at relative ease these marvelous creatures? It is preposterous that you want to close down the pools of such wondrous mammals.

Most sincerely,

s. 22(1)

cc Gregor Robertson, Mayor  
Dr. John Nightingale



March 8, 2017

To Whom it May Concern

My name is Andreas Fahlman and I am a comparative eco-physiologist, I guess that is just a fancy name for a scientist that is trying to understand the relationship between what animals can do and survive in different environments. I have worked on a wide variety of projects studying a number of different animals around the world, from the Arctic to the Sub Antarctic for the last 20 years and what we are currently facing will require the collaborative effort to prevent mass extinction of entire species.

Increasing environmental change caused by humans pose a real and imminent threat to many marine animals. Still we know very little about most of the species in the ocean. Marine mammals, and especially cetaceans, are top predators and therefore important sentinel species. What that means is that when their health changes it may provide important clues to changes in the environment or eco system. Our current understanding about the welfare, physiology and veterinary medicine of cetaceans comes from animals under human care. However, we still have a lot to learn and animals under managed care provide an invaluable resource to understand what normal and healthy animals look like. It is true that cetaceans under managed care may not always behave like their wild cousins, but studies that look at behavior and cognition suggest that there are no noticeable differences. Physiologically there may be differences, but without studies on animals in a controlled setting and that participate voluntarily it will be very difficult to understand the physiological limitations that these animals face with an environment that is changing at an alarming pace.

For example, respiratory disease is a major cause of morbidity and mortality in cetaceans both in wild and managed populations. Still, our understanding of the respiratory system in marine mammals in general and in cetaceans in particular is rudimentary at best. It was recently shown that dolphins that live in close proximity to the Deep Water Horizon oil spill have a high prevalence of lung disease. However, as we had no historical data on the health of these populations before the accident, we cannot prove that it was the oil spill that caused the lung issues. We therefore need to be better prepared before the next disaster will happen.

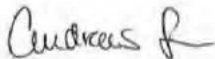
In recent years, we have developed tools to study respiratory physiology in cetaceans. The device consists of a flow meter that measures the amount of air they inhale and exhale, and also measures the concentration of oxygen when they exhale. Together, the flow and gas concentration are used to determine the metabolic rate. In addition to metabolic rate, these measurements can be used to look at other things, like lung health. Human doctors use similar equipment and measurements, in a process called pulmonary function testing, to look at lung health in people. With this device we could study the normal values in different populations of cetaceans to assess what is normal, and thereby assess if there is problem in the ecosystem.

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By comparing respiratory health in different populations of cetaceans, we can learn more about the health of those populations, and the marine environment they live in.

We are also using this equipment to study how cetaceans dive to extreme depths and hold their breath for such a long time. This information is crucial to understand how changes in the environment may impact the ability to survive or rear a young. In short, the studies that we are able to do on managed populations provide vital information that will help wild populations and it is with the support of well managed aquariums, like Vancouver Aquarium, that prioritize animal welfare, research and education that these studies can be done. I have worked around the world in a number of facilities and in my opinion, VanAqua stands out as among the best. I sincerely hope that you take great pride in the amazing staff, animals and resource that you have in Stanley Park as their passion and work will help make the wild a better place.

Sincerely,



Andreas Fahlman  
Research Director  
Fundación Oceanográfica.  
C/. Eduardo Primo Yúfera (Científico), nº 1B.  
46013 Valencia. España  
e-mail: [afahlman@oceanografic.org](mailto:afahlman@oceanografic.org)



RECEIVED

MAR 02 2017

s. 22(1)



Mr. Michael Wiebe  
Vancouver Parks Board Commissioners  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC  
V6G 1Z4

February 28, 2017

Dear Sir:

I write in support of the Vancouver Aquarium's plans for development.

For decades, the Aquarium has been a centre of marine research as well as a major public attraction. Its goals of educating the population and of conserving natural species have never been more needed than now.

The recent setbacks suffered by the Aquarium (the beluga whale deaths) point to the need for improved facilities not greater restrictions. The suspicious nature of these deaths raises questions about the security of the facility, which needs to take into account potential threats from those wishing harm upon the mammals and the fish that live there. The Parks Board needs to address this critical priority.

The Vancouver Aquarium is a world-class scientific research centre. It is not a museum. It is the best of its kind in this country. The promotion of better understanding of marine species, particularly among young people, is a goal that needs the support of our community.

While my own expertise is more theological than scientific, I would point out that greater knowledge of the natural world is important not only from a scientific perspective, but also from a spiritual one. It is how we learn to take our place in the great circle of life.

I encourage you to support the next phase of the development of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Yours sincerely, /

s. 22(1)





Dear Elected Officials of Vancouver,

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre and is recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. As a veterinary scientist, I can tell you that it would be very embarrassing for Canadian science if the cetacean research program there were diminished or shut down for political reasons due to pressure from an uninformed minority. It would also be sadly ironic that "saving" a small number of whales from captivity will ultimately harm many thousands of cetaceans by effectively ending the training of experts in cetacean rescue, rehabilitation, and research.

It is perhaps a romantic notion that cetaceans should remain mysterious and doomed to die as humans encroach on their habitat, but it is only through understanding cetaceans better that we will intimately be able to help them. Scientists are frequently criticized for not engaging with the public about their research. The Vancouver Aquarium is actively and effectively engaging the public, yet faces criticism about doing it. Their arctic research is more important than ever and is specifically focused on Belugas and protecting wild populations. Ending the cetacean program would end this research as well.

Vancouver Aquarium is the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals, including endangered killer whales. They're able to undertake this due to skills gained from on-site cetacean care. If cetaceans are phased out, all future skill development will also cease.

I urge you to support the Vancouver Aquarium and their cetacean research program for the future training of experts in this field and the health of all cetaceans in captivity and in the wild.

Dr. Geoffrey Wood. DVM PhD DVSc  
Associate Professor  
Department of Pathobiology  
Ontario Veterinary College  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, ON  
N1G 2W1

Sarah Kirby-Yung

Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
2099 Beach Ave  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4

March 15, 2017



Dear Commissioner Kirby-Yung,

I am writing to express my sincere disappointment and sadness at the short-sighted, ill informed decision taken on March 9 regarding cetaceans in captivity. I am writing as a citizen of Vancouver, a parent, a scientist, and visitor to the Vancouver Aquarium for many years.

I don't support animals in captivity in most cases. Nature is of course the best place for these animals, but when well cared for and presented in the right context, they inspire generations of people to care, conserve and learn. The cetaceans currently in the care of the Vancouver Aquarium cannot be released to the wild; you suggest that these animals be transferred to other facilities or to the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre run by the aquarium. One reason I am so upset by this decision is that I believe the Vancouver Aquarium is the best place for these animals since they will remain in captivity here or elsewhere. They are world leaders in ethical and humane marine mammal care. They are not a for-profit, unaccountable show aquarium like many others. The rescue centre is best likened to a hospital. It is not a 'home', lacking the space or facilities for long-term care. If you care about the well-being of these animals, suggesting they live at the rescue centre is very un-informed.

I grew up visiting the Vancouver Aquarium, and was inspired by my experiences there to study science. Now I see the interest and joy on my daughter's face when she visits. She asks about dolphins, cares about them and wants to know more. She does this because she has seen them there, in person, not on a TV show, or a computer screen. She is too young to go whale-watching, and only then would see the animals at a distance, quite likely underwhelming to a young mind. It saddens me that my younger daughter (just a baby now) may not get the same experience.

There is nothing quite the same as seeing eye-to-eye with a whale, when it singles you out for a closer look. One million visitors get this experience each year at the Vancouver Aquarium, along with a strong dose of education and conservation. Most of these people will never see a whale or dolphin anywhere else. Whale watching cannot and should not support this volume of guests, regardless of cost and accessibility. People care about what they know, and caring about cetaceans means caring about our oceans, and everything in them. If we are to help our oceans and wild cetaceans, we need people who care.

Your decision to end display of cetaceans in the City of Vancouver does nothing to improve the lives of these animals. Through visitors to the aquarium, the valuable research conducted there (that cannot be done elsewhere) and conservation education, this decision extends well beyond the City of Vancouver. It will harm the lives of these animals, eliminate rescue capabilities on Canada's Pacific Coast (by removing long-term options for non-releasable injured and orphaned animals) and harm wild populations by removing a prime opportunity to inspire and educate. If you care about cetaceans, I urge you to re-consider this decision in light of a more balanced view of the facts that extend well beyond the border of our city.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)





Department of Zoology  
University of British Columbia



Dear Vancouver's Elected Officials,

We are a group of researchers that are writing this letter in support of the Vancouver Aquarium and their collection of cetaceans (whales, dolphins, and porpoises). Members of our group conduct respiratory and hearing anatomy and physiology research on wild belugas in the Western Arctic. Our research conducted on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium provides us an essential comparative framework for these wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is not only a leading marine science centre in Canada but it is also recognized internationally for its high standards of animal care and important research that has direct conservation consequences for wild marine mammals. Our group of scientists are involved with them to study the respiratory physiology and to develop tools to perform lung function testing in captive and stranded cetaceans. Respiratory disease is a major cause of disease and mortality in both wild animals and those held under human care. The studies we are performing with the Vancouver Aquarium and their rehabilitation centre allows us access to determine what is normal versus diseased. These data can then be used to diagnose and determine the efficacy of clinical treatment for specific respiratory diseases. In addition, the tools can be used by stranding networks to triage animals on a beach to increase the success of release.

Moreover, part of our research also focuses on the effects of man-made underwater noise on cetaceans. We analyze the inner ear of stranded and harvested individuals to diagnose whether the animals have suffered present or past acoustic trauma. The hearing measurements that the Vancouver Aquarium is performing on their cetaceans are critical to build normal cochlear frequency maps of several cetacean species. This information is necessary so that when acoustic trauma is found in cetaceans they can then be overlaid onto the map and then the acoustic source(s) can then be extrapolated based on sound frequency level. Without the Vancouver Aquarium's research on hearing ability and cochlear mapping, we would not be able to track the source causing acoustic trauma in wild populations.

For the beluga whale, our research with the Vancouver Aquarium is vitally important as Canada's Arctic is facing increasing pressure and impacts due to human presence. Consequently, without marine science centres like the Vancouver Aquarium, this vital research cannot be performed and we will lose the ability to assess how man-made change affects their ecosystem and ability to survive. Thus, belugas at the Vancouver Aquarium provide critical research opportunities to protect wild populations. If the cetacean program is phased out, so will this vital research.

In addition, the marine mammal rehabilitation center at the Vancouver Aquarium is unique as they are among few places that have successfully rescued, treated and released harbor porpoises. This is a testament to the dedication and expertise that exist among their veterinary and care taker staff. If this facility is closed, not only will the ability to care for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals, including endangered killer whales, be lost entirely, but also the knowledge of how to care for, treat and rehabilitate these animals.

We understand you are reviewing best practices and this is an important process to assure that these animals are given the best care that is possible. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of best practice and they are continuously striving to improve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Andreas Fahlman, Professor, Texas A&M  
Marina Piscitelli, University of British Columbia  
Dr. Maria Morell, University of British Columbia  
Dr. Robert Shadwick, Canada Research Chair, Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia



## PARK BOARD MEETING

January 23, 2017

### CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY

The following is a summary of correspondence received in the General Manager Office, up until 3pm on January 23, 2017, that is in relation to the Motion on Notice, "Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium". Some of these emails were sent directly to Commissioners. Copies of individual emails can be provided upon request.

Method	Oppose	Support	Neutral/Other	TOTAL
Individual Emails	3	117	1	121
Online petition "No new dolphins - no new whales at the Vancouver Aquarium" (copy included for reference)		4521		4521
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4638</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4642</b>

In addition, as of 3pm on Jan 23, 2017, 447 emails were received via an email campaign related to the topic, but not specific to the Motion on Notice. A sample copy of the campaign titled "End of dolphins and whale captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium" is included.

As well, a package of reference materials on the topic of cetaceans in captivity was received and has been distributed to the Commissioners.

## CORRESPONDENCE SUMMARY - Jan-May 2017

The following is a summary of correspondence received in the General Manager's Office on the topic of "Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium". Correspondence was counted up to noon on May 15, 2017.

Method	Opposed to Cetaceans in captivity	Support Vancouver Aquarium	Neutral/Other	TOTAL
Individual Emails	432	610	17	1,059
Individual Emails - Concerns regarding rescued Marine Mammals	-	-	88	88
Correspondence sent to Park Board *included Blackfish DVD	1*	11		12
Campaign - Thank you for your Unanimous Vote to Amend ...	6,521			6,521
Campaign Change.org - Thank PB Commissioners for Banning Whales...	1,216			1,216
Campaign - Please Support Marine Science		1,243		1,243
Campaign - End all Dolphin and Whale Captivity @ Van Aquarium **2017	499			499
Campaign - Vote to End Van Aquarium Cetacean Captivity	179			179
Campaign - No New Dolphins at Vancouver Aquarium	5,847			5,847
Campaign - Overturn PB ruling reg. Vancouver Aquarium		2		2
Campaign - Proposed bylaw has devastating consequences for marine mammal rescue		11,000***		11,000***
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,695</b>	<b>12,866</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>26,666</b>

*\*\*The email campaign titled "End all dolphin and whale captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium" has been active since 2014 and has received 5,300 signatures.*

*\*\*\* Email campaign "Proposed bylaw has devastating consequences..." sent direct to Commissioners email accounts - City server was blocking most of these emails as spam, we do not have complete numbers (Vancouver Aquarium cites +11,000 sent).*

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Dear Vancouver Park Board  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 12:34:27 PM

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The Vancouver Parks Board voting to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks is great.

I support that this vital amendment must continue in order for it to survive.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Cc:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Death at the Vancouver aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2016 11:32:58 AM

---

Dear Mayor,

Once again I am saddened by the death of another mammal at your city's aquarium. Whales, and others, have species specific needs that aquariums cannot afford them. This is particularly true of social species that migrate for many miles as part of their mating rituals (elephants are another). Neither whales nor elephants reproduce well when in captivity. For this reason, among many others, we do a disservice to those with whom we share this planet by keeping them in an unnatural environment and denying them their natural entitlements.

There may, I say may, have been a time when aquariums and zoos served an educational purpose (of sorts). The question isn't whether they still serve any such purpose but whether or not other options are better (Imax technologies, live satellite relay presentations and dedicated TV channels etc..).

We urge you to discontinue any program that includes whales or elephants and to modernize your education programs through technology. Wildlife belongs in the wild, not in captivity other than for rehabilitation purposes,

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Cc:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Death of another animal at the Vancouver aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2016 5:46:34 PM

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Dear Mayor,

It is very disheartening to hear of another mammal at your city's aquarium.

I urge you to discontinue any program that includes whales or other marine mammals. These animals do not belong in captivity. How many deaths and how much negative publicity do you need to make policy changes?!

I do not accept the argument that these exhibits are educational. Advanced technology allows us to study animals interacting in the wild where their behaviour is natural.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** decision on cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 2:11:11 PM

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I sent this message to you but something went wrong and my name/address got blocked out. Here it is again:

Thank you for your decision to no longer allow cetaceans from the wild or from captivity to be shown at the aquarium. You have moved the aquarium into a new paradigm in which respect for the animals is the main criterion for keeping them. Cetaceans are social animals and need a whole ocean to live in, not a small swimming pool. We've entered a new age--I hope.

I'm a marine biologist (animal behaviour/ecology) and have been involved with animal welfare issues for most of my career. Your decision is one of the best events I could have hoped for.

With best wishes,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Ulla Christina Ludewig](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#); [Coupar, John](#); [Crawford, Casey](#); [Evans, Catherine](#); [Mackinnon, Stuart](#); [Shum, Erin](#); [Wiebe, Michael](#); [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** Decision on the future of captive cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 4:35:46 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)

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Dear members of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation,

I am writing on behalf of Whale and Dolphin Conservation, an international NGO working to protect whales and dolphins and their habitats worldwide. With great interest we welcome your decision on how to move forward with keeping these sensitive marine mammals in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium in the future. To that end, we respectfully encourage you to insist on the amendment of the bylaw to phase out the keeping of cetaceans for entertainment purposes at the Vancouver Aquarium. Since whales and dolphins were first held in captivity we have learnt a lot about these highly social mammals and it is evident that it is not possible to keep whales and dolphins in concrete tanks without compromising their needs and wellbeing.

For the cetaceans held in captivity at this stage and also for scientific research a sanctuary in more natural waters would be a great alternative to a concrete pool in an aquarium. There are several sanctuary projects currently in development around the world and the Vancouver Aquarium could be part of this pioneering progress.

We fully support efforts in many parts of the world to end live captures and also the breeding of cetaceans in captivity and we encourage you to keep the bylaw simple and precise so it covers the import, breeding and also rescue (and then keeping) of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

If you have any further questions or if we can support your initiative in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,  
Ulla Christina Ludewig



**Ulla Christina Ludewig**  
Policy officer - End Captivity

Telefon: +49 89 6100 2393

WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation  
Implerstraße 55  
D-81371 München  
Germany  
[whales.org](http://whales.org)



## **Neue Chancen für die Wale in Japan...**

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**WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation**, Implersstraße 55, D-81371 München, Tel: 089 6100 2393, ist eine gemeinnützige GmbH, AG München HRB 126158

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** decision  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 1:30:35 PM

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Hi,

Thanks so very very much for the thoughtful decision about cetacean captivity. The position of the aquarium had me scratching my head down to the concrete in bewilderment. Their stance is as downright crazy as the provincial governments not ending grizzly bear trophy hunting or trophy hunting of any kind. There must be some old asbestos insulation in their offices. There's something nefarious creeping into their frontal lobes. Has to be.

Anyway, my hope is your decision will set a precedent and animals can finally live the free lives they deserve. Capturing animals for display is kidnapping. There's no other honest word for it. The Thesaurus of words people use for how we treat animals has far too many soft options.

Next: Rodeos

A box car of regards,  
s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** decision  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 11:56:38 AM

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Good Morning,

I was deeply disappointed in your decision to ban cetaceans from display or completely at the Vancouver Aquarium. We have visited other aquariums while on family holidays and ours here in Vancouver has always stood out. It is a world class facility which aids in conservation, research and education. The experience we have there is so different from other aquariums. Here our kids (and us) learn something every time we come. We are inspired to care more for these animals, to make choices to aid in conservation, and to marvel at the diversity in our world and oceans. Our family was not simply entertained. The animals are treated well and the vision and purpose of the aquarium are alive and visible throughout. Entertainment and profit are not part of their mandate.

I can only imagine how others react to their experience here. It is a unique opportunity many people have from all over the world to visit this type of facility - to come in close contact with cetaceans and other animals and to go away with a better understanding of these animals and how to take care of them in the wild.

I fully support the aquarium and their cetacean program. I would like the park board to review their decision. The idea that the aquarium will be able to continue as it is without the cetaceans is unrealistic. I think in allowing the aquarium to continue with their cetacean program, you do more good for these animals and others than by introducing this by-law.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#); [min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:min@dfo-mpo.gc.ca); [John.K.Ford@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:John.K.Ford@dfo-mpo.gc.ca); [publicrelations@vanaqua.org](mailto:publicrelations@vanaqua.org)  
**Subject:** DFO and Vancouver Aquarium Caught Deceiving Public  
**Date:** Friday, March 31, 2017 12:28:14 PM

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On March 24th the Department of Fisheries and Oceans along with the Vancouver Aquarium stated that a ban on captivity at the aquarium would likely cause rescues such as Chester to be euthanized.

However, when Chester was found in July of 2014, the aquarium told the Canadian Press they had several institutions around North America offering permanent care for the false killer whale.

Why are they misleading the public? It's due to the Park Boards decision to ban captivity. In response, the aquarium with help from the DFO is using fear tactics in order to keep their display practice alive.

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/mobile/canada/rescued-false-killer-whale-being-treated-in-vancouver-1.1909575>



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Display of cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 3:25:14 PM

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Hello,

My family was so very happy to hear the news that the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment banning the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks.

Evidence around the world has shown that cetaceans and other marine creatures do not even survive let alone thrive in confined, unnatural spaces.

We thoroughly support the commissioners in making the right decision with this draft and the continued effort to do so.

Regards,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Displays of Importation of Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:12:32 AM

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Dear Commissioners,

Please prohibit importation of Cetaceans to Vancouver parks. These wild animals deserve to live in the Oceans as long as they are able to. With over fishing and habitat destruction, their lives are being changed to the point of where it is continually more difficult to survive. The importation of these majestic creatures exponentially adds to their demise.

Thank you for seriously considering my comments and it is my hope you will draft the necessary amendment that will benefit the Cetaceans.

Warmly,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Dolphins And Whales  
**Date:** Sunday, July 06, 2014 3:37:02 PM

---

To Whom It May Concern,

Please discuss the cetacean ban at your next committee meeting.

Thank you.

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Don't Stop Cetaceans in Captivity  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:08:51 AM

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Please read the opinion piece in the Vancouver Sun March 18, 2017 by Patrick McGeer as I agree with him 100%.

You people do not have the capacity to determine the future of cetaceans at the Aquarium. While I don't support catching healthy specimens, I do support the the Aquarium should be able to care for and support injured or sick cetaceans, research is important.

I promise that I won't be voting for any of you next election as you are basing your decisions on emotions and they are not rational. Stay out of it, what are you people thinking?

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 5:49:49 PM

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**From:** [In Defense of Animals](#) on behalf of [Debra Nevin](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** End All Dolphin and Whale Captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, January 02, 2017 5:27:51 PM

---

Jan 2, 2017

Vancouver Park Board Commissioners

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

On behalf of In Defense of Animals, an animal protection organization with over 250,000 supporters, we ask that you end all dolphin and whale captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Earlier this year, the Vancouver Aquarium was featured on In Defense of Animals' Ten Worst Tanks list, earning the #9 spot for its abysmal track record of keeping cetaceans alive. Since 2005, three beluga whales have died within three years of being born. However, this fact does not prevent Vancouver Aquarium from continuing to breed the remaining five beluga whales it "owns." While Vancouver Aquarium operates as a nonprofit, it maintains prominent beluga-breeding partnerships with SeaWorld, a for-profit, commercial business, and Georgia Aquarium, a nonprofit that also has an abysmal record of beluga deaths.

The Vancouver Aquariums' expansion should be halted in its tracks, and its cetacean tanks closed. Any future cetacean needing rescue should always--using careful, scientific, and professional methods--be relocated to seaside sanctuaries offshore in natural habitat suitable to the species of the individual in question. Rescues, rehabilitation, and research do not require permanent beluga captivities at Vancouver Aquarium. Indeed, most research is conducted by institutions that have nothing to do with captivity.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Debra Nevin  
187 Ramona Rd  
Danville, CA 94526-2825  
nevdeb@aol.com

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#); [Mayor and Council Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** End cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 12:10:34 PM

---

I ask that you please implement a Bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium now!

Thank you.

Regards,

s. 22(1)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** End Cetacean Captivity please!  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:12:57 PM

---

Please implement a Bylaw to end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium now!


Kind regards,

s. 22(1)

"Our task must be to free ourselves from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole of nature in its beauty."

— [Albert Einstein](#)

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 This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.  
[www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** End of cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 3:13:26 PM

---

Hello Board Members:

I just wanted to take a quick moment to say thank you. Thank you for making the decision to end cetaceans in captivity. Thank you for doing what is right. The Aquarium can still focus on their rescue and rehabilitation and other programs. They have to learn to evolve with the times. More and more people are waking up and opening their eyes to the cruelty of confining animals/mammals. They are also paying attention to how important it is to protect them in the wild.

You are all being looked upon as great people around the world, as this story goes viral. You should be commended.

Thank you again.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Jennie Richards](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Ending Captivity for Cetaceans in the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 6:08:24 PM

---

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

Thank you for making the decision on March 9th to draft an amendment to prohibit the Vancouver Aquarium from displaying cetaceans in captivity. I applaud you for making a humane decision that supports wildlife and marine animals.

Please stop the aquarium from bringing in cetaceans for exhibition and entertainment, and also prevent the import of five beluga whales that are currently loaned out on "breeding loan" deals with SeaWorld and other commercial facilities.

Thank you for helping to end the captivity of marine animals at the Vancouver aquarium. The deaths of 21-year-old Qila and her 30-year-old mother Aurora in November 2016 prove that these beautiful animals DO NOT belong in captivity, which are prisons to them. Captivity does not teach our children nor adults respect for animals, but instead, teaches them that animals are ours to inflict suffering on, and to entertain us. But it's only all about profits and profit-driven businesses at the expense of animals who did not choose the life we force on them.

Please support this vital amendment to confirm the end of cetacean captivity altogether.

Thank you!

Jennie Richards  
Concord, California

--

Jennie Richards  
Founder, Humane Decisions | [www.humanedecisions.com](http://www.humanedecisions.com)  
Founder, Homeless to Housecats | [www.homelesstohousecats.com](http://www.homelesstohousecats.com)  
Facebook | [www.facebook.com/humanedecisions](https://www.facebook.com/humanedecisions)  
Pinterest | [www.pinterest.com/humanedecisions/](https://www.pinterest.com/humanedecisions/) &  
[www.pinterest.com/jennierichards1/](https://www.pinterest.com/jennierichards1/)  
MBA in Sustainable Enterprise  
Cell 415-505-0064

"I hold that, the more helpless a creature, the more entitled it is to protection by man from the cruelty of man." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

**From:** "Coupar, John" <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**To:** "Chan, Cheryl" <[Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)>  
**Date:** 8/1/2017 7:46:23 AM  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*

None

John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
 Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
 604 761 0795

On Jul 31, 2017, at 12:42 PM, Chan, Cheryl <[Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Hello Comrs.,

As our FOI office needs to finalize our submission, I just want to confirm whether any of you have responsive records for this request – note, it is specifically asking for a summary or copies of materials for any communications you may have had with individuals who could be considered experts in their fields. If you met or spoke with any "experts", outside of public Board meetings, but cannot recall any details or dates, then please just send me a list of names for the people/organizations you received info from.

This FOI Request is long past due so I would appreciate if you could submit any info you have today (or send me quick reply confirming you have nothing to submit).

Thanks,

C.

-----  
 Cheryl Chan  
 Office of the General Manager  
 Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
 t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
 e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

---

**From:** Chan, Cheryl  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2017 9:28 PM  
**To:** PB Commissioners  
**Subject:** FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*  
**Importance:** High

Hello Commissioners,

As mentioned previously, we have another FOI request on the matter of cetaceans in captivity. While any related email records will have been included in the previous very broad key-word email search request, this one is asking for very specific additional records – including dates & notes from telephone or in-person conversations:

In media interviews, Park Board commissioner Michael Wiebe indicated that leading up to their May 15, 2017 decision to enact a by-law amendment banning importation and display of cetaceans in Vancouver Parks, commissioners and staff had spoken to and received communication from numerous experts (e.g. scientists, members of the zoological community, government officials) on the issue of cetaceans in captivity.

Request is for a summary of said communication including the following information:

- Date and type of communication (e.g. 03/03/2017, phone conversation/email/letter received etc.);
- Name and affiliation of individual consulted (e.g. Dr. John Doe, University of British Columbia);
- Place of meeting (if in person);
- Park Board staff or commissioners involved or recipients of communication (e.g. Commissioners Wiebe, Mackinnon); and
- Brief summary of content and sentiment expressed in communication (e.g. supports or opposes ban, main arguments), if recorded.

Time Frame: December 1, 2016 to May 15, 2017.

Can you please provide me with any responsive information you can as soon as possible (other than the emails I already have). If you did not have any conversations (either on the phone or in person) then please also just send me a quick email stating this. As noted, this would include conversations with Aquarium staff, organizations/societies related to protecting animals, & government officials.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

C.

-----  
 Cheryl Chan  
 Office of the General Manager  
 Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
 t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
 e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

**From:** "Crawford, Casey" <casey.crawford@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 7/21/2017 3:27:12 PM  
**Subject:** FOI request

Cheryl,

As per the FOI request, I received the email below from a representative from Zoocheck Canada. She also called me on or about January 19, 2017. She requested that I read the report referenced in the email and I recall asked questions about the process Park Board was involved in as we considered the keeping of cetaceans in Vancouver parks.

I did not speak with or receive information from any other individual or organization.

**Casey Crawford**  
Commissioner, Vancouver Park Board

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julie <julie@zoocheck.com>  
**Date:** January 5, 2017 at 12:25:17 PM PST  
**To:** "Crawford, Casey" <Casey.Crawford@vancouver.ca>  
**Subject:** Meeting request Jan 18th or 19th

Dear Commissioner Crawford

My name is Julie Woodyer, I am the Campaigns Director for Zoocheck Canada. As you may know we recently published a report about the education and conservation claims made by the cetacean captivity facilities in Canada. Here is a link to the report for your reference: <https://www.zoocheck.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/MM-Education-and-Conservation-Report-Dec-9-2016-fi.pdf>

Debra Probert, Executive Director of the Vancouver Humane Society, and myself would like an opportunity to meet with you to discuss the report and the future of cetacean captivity in Vancouver. We understand that the issue will be coming up at the next meeting of the Park Board and we were hoping to meet with you prior to that meeting to chat about how we can help you and the board deal with the issue in a productive way that would generate positive support for the park board and the individual Commissioners.

I will be in Vancouver on January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. I was wondering if there was a time that you might be able to meet one either of those days.

I look forward to the opportunity to chat with you about the issue and find a positive resolution.

Sincerely,  
Julie Woodyer  
Campaigns Director  
Zoocheck Canada  
Office: 416-285-1744  
Cell: 416-451-5976

**From:** "Evans, Catherine" <catherine.evans@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 7/31/2017 3:04:58 PM  
**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*

Hi Cheryl,  
 I did not have any direct communication with any experts apart from the Aquarium folk. I read and received papers distributed to all commissioners.

Catherine

Catherine Evans, Commissioner  
 Vancouver Park Board  
 604.358.8038

On Jul 31, 2017, at 3:42 PM, Chan, Cheryl <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Hello Comrs.,

As our FOI office needs to finalize our submission, I just want to confirm whether any of you have responsive records for this request – note, it is specifically asking for a summary or copies of materials for any communications you may have had with individuals who could be considered experts in their fields. If you met or spoke with any "experts", outside of public Board meetings, but cannot recall any details or dates, then please just send me a list of names for the people/organizations you received info from.

This FOI Request is long past due so I would appreciate if you could submit any info you have today (or send me quick reply confirming you have nothing to submit).

Thanks,  
 c.

-----  
 Cheryl Chan  
 Office of the General Manager  
 Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
 t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
 e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

---

**From:** Chan, Cheryl  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2017 9:28 PM  
**To:** PB Commissioners  
**Subject:** FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*  
**Importance:** High

Hello Commissioners,

As mentioned previously, we have another FOI request on the matter of cetaceans in captivity. While any related email records will have been included in the previous very broad key-word email search request, this one is asking for very specific additional records – including dates & notes from telephone or in-person conversations:

In media interviews, Park Board commissioner Michael Wiebe indicated that leading up to their May 15, 2017 decision to enact a by-law amendment banning importation and display of cetaceans in Vancouver Parks, commissioners and staff had spoken to and received communication from numerous experts (e.g. scientists, members of the zoological community, government officials) on the issue of cetaceans in captivity.

Request is for a summary of said communication including the following information:

- Date and type of communication (e.g. 03/03/2017, phone conversation/email/letter received etc.);
- Name and affiliation of individual consulted (e.g. Dr. John Doe, University of British Columbia);
- Place of meeting (if in person);
- Park Board staff or commissioners involved or recipients of communication (e.g. Commissioners Wiebe, Mackinnon); and
- Brief summary of content and sentiment expressed in communication (e.g. supports or opposes ban, main arguments), if recorded.

Time Frame: December 1, 2016 to May 15, 2017.

Can you please provide me with any responsive information you can as soon as possible (other than the emails I already have). If you did not have any conversations (either on the phone or in person) then please also just send me a quick email stating this. As noted, this would include conversations with Aquarium staff, organizations/societies related to protecting animals, & government officials.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,  
 c.

-----  
 Cheryl Chan  
 Office of the General Manager  
 Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
 t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
 e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

**From:** "Kirby-Yung, Sarah" <sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca>

**To:** "Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>

**Date:** 7/25/2017 8:57:15 PM

**Subject:** Re: FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*

I do not have any supplemental information to the email access provided for the previous request.

Thank you,

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

On Jul 20, 2017, at 9:27 PM, Chan, Cheryl <[Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Hello Commissioners,

As mentioned previously, we have another FOI request on the matter of cetaceans in captivity. While any related email records will have been included in the previous very broad key-word email search request, this one is asking for very specific additional records – including dates & notes from telephone or in-person conversations:

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Time Frame: December 1, 2016 to May 15, 2017.

Can you please provide me with any responsive information you can as soon as possible (other than the emails I already have). If you did not have any conversations (either on the phone or in person) then please also just send me a quick email stating this. As noted, this would include conversations with Aquarium staff, organizations/societies related to protecting animals, & government officials.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

C.

~~~~~

Cheryl Chan  
Office of the General Manager  
Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

**From:** "Mackinnon, Stuart" <Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>  
**Date:** 7/21/2017 10:31:58 AM  
**Subject:** RE: FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*

Hello Cheryl,

I do not keep notes from telephone or in-person conversations. I never have. Nor do I note phone calls in my calendar. I do not keep a personal diary either.

The only notes of interest in my calendar are a meeting with Dr. John Nightingale of the Vancouver Aquarium on 30 January 2017 at 2:30. Also a coffee with Roy Sassano, who was one of the speakers at the March hearings, on 15 March 2017 at The Grind coffee shop. This was more of a social meet up as I had wanted to learn more about Mr. Sassano's time with the Sea Shepherd Society. We did talk about the public hearings and cetaceans in captivity in general during the meet up.

As stated, I did not make notes during the meetings nor subsequent to them.

Stuart Mackinnon, Commissioner  
 Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

t: @betterparks      blog: www.betterparks.ca

---

**From:** Chan, Cheryl  
**Sent:** July 20, 2017 9:27 PM  
**To:** PB Commissioners  
**Subject:** FOI Request 2017-214 (Cetacean Expert Communications) \*DUE ASAP\*

Hello Commissioners,

As mentioned previously, we have another FOI request on the matter of cetaceans in captivity. While any related email records will have been included in the previous very broad key-word email search request, this one is asking for very specific additional records – including dates & notes from telephone or in-person conversations:

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- Brief summary of content and sentiment expressed in communication (e.g. supports or opposes ban, main arguments), if recorded.

Time Frame: December 1, 2016 to May 15, 2017.

Can you please provide me with any responsive information you can as soon as possible (other than the emails I already have). If you did not have any conversations (either on the phone or in person) then please also just send me a quick email stating this. As noted, this would include conversations with Aquarium staff, organizations/societies related to protecting animals, & government officials.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,  
 c.

~~~~~  
 Cheryl Chan  
 Office of the General Manager  
 Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
 Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
 t: 604.257.8451 m: 604.313.0629  
 e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Free the Belugas  
**Date:** Friday, February 10, 2017 10:19:29 AM

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We as humans have no right to imprison other beings. Just the ones that break laws. Animals are meant to be free, we should not interfere s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Future of whales at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 7:34:19 AM

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To John Coupar, Casey Crawford, Catherine Evans, Sarah Kirby-Yung, Stuart Mackinnon, Erin Shum and Michael Wiebe,

This letter is addressed to members of the Vancouver Park Board regarding the future of captive cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I would like to voice my support for the Vancouver Aquarium. As a born and raised Vancouverite now living abroad, I can personally attest to the importance of an institution such as the Vancouver Aquarium. My career as a scientist can be directly attributed to the educational and inspirational experiences that the Vancouver Aquarium provided as a youth. I am sure I am not alone in saying we need places that the general public can easily view, understand, and enjoy the natural world around us.

However, no institutional effort to provide a view into the natural world will be without detractors. We do not live in a perfect world. In a perfect world, cetaceans and other large animals would not be captive, but in a perfect world they would not live in a natural environment where human-kind threaten their short and long-term survival. In a perfect world, everyone would be able to easily access the natural world around us. In a perfect world everyone would be imbued with the ethos of stewardship of our planet and would be knowledgeable and mindful of all of its wonders. Organizations such as the Vancouver Aquarium live in a world of compromises. We need organizations to be stewards and educators to perform scientific inquiries to gain knowledge of what we care for. To make responsible stewardship possible, captivity is a compromise, and captivity should be done responsibly. The Vancouver Aquarium is such an organization.

Often, the loudest voices are ones that are heard, but society's current demands may not always match the demands of the future. Those voices are not going to be present at today's meeting. It is my hope that my voice will reinforce the importance of organizations such as the Vancouver Aquarium and its cetacean research program, for the future.

s. 22(1)



**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Futures in Beluga stock  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:23:16 PM

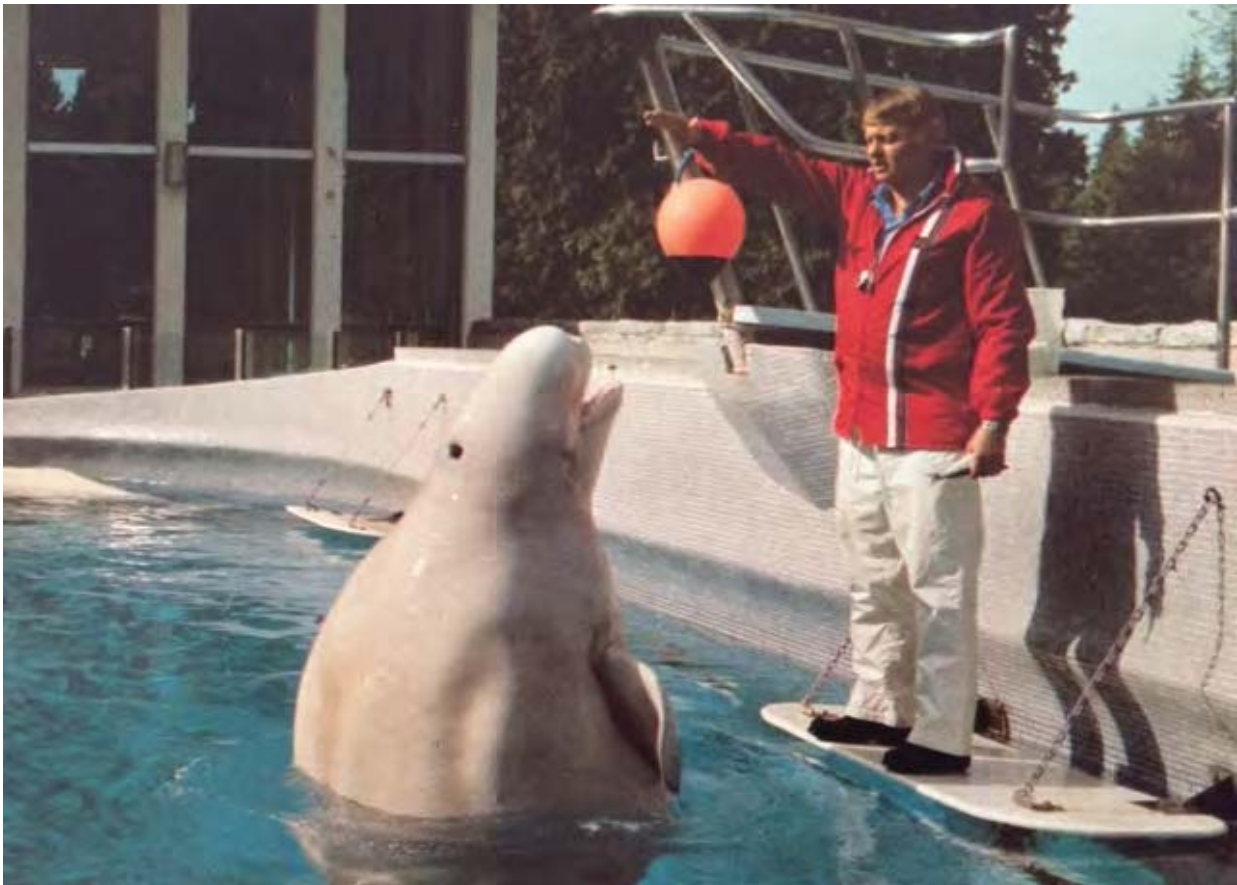
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Commissioners,

The Board needs to take an opportunity to act--to pass a motion--against the presence of the Belugas at the Aquarium. As you know, past referenda have been ambiguous in phrasing and/or the position. The Board, the Aquarium, and the public only slowly learned to concur. Do it clearly this time.

You will hear from others the arguments I would make. Perhaps, though, I can amuse you with a post card of one of the goals that research achieved when aquariums turn into performing zoos. Exciting to neither, it seems.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW:  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 8:53:07 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 53:05 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:**

Dear Park Board Commissioner,

My name is s. 22(1) and I am a sophomore in high school, hoping to pursue a career in psychology and marine mammal training. I am sending you this letter, to urge you to repeal your decision to ban the Vancouver Aquarium's cetaceans.

The Vancouver Aquarium has been an invaluable resource to the conservation and protection of marine mammals. Nearly 2/3 of the beluga whale population resides in Canadian waters, making their preservation incredibly important to the survival of the local ecosystem. Not only this, but seeing how the Vancouver Aquarium is the only Marine Mammal Rescue Centre in Canada, they must be allowed to continue sharing information about their marine mammals to the general public.

When I was 13, I visited SeaWorld for the first time. I saw a dolphin dance in the water with a trainer and a killer whale splash the crowd. I fell in love with marine mammals, and since then I have become adamant to the preservation of wildlife. If not for SeaWorld, I would have never discovered this fire I have inside of me or this love I have for wildlife. I never would have become a volunteer with the Florida Aquarium. I never would have worked to raise awareness for Shark Finning within Florida's YMCA Youth in Government program by giving a 7 minute speech to a room full of 1 hundred high school students.

Zoos and Aquariums have inspired people all over world, like me, to fight for the preservation of animals and our ecosystem. This is only possible through the work zoos and aquarium do. The Vancouver Aquarium has rehabilitated and rescued hundreds of animals (<https://www.vanaqua.org/act/direct-action/marine-mammal-rescue/patient-list>). Without the Vancouver Aquarium's ability to rehabilitate cetaceans, there would be no one left for miles around to save these injured and dying animals.

The environment needs places like the Vancouver Aquarium to remain operational and to keep un-releasable cetaceans in their facility. This is a crucial part of their job, which they will not be able to do through this ban. Please, repeal your decision to ban the park's cetaceans. Don't follow the popular PETA trend. Stand up for marine mammals and fight for their preservation. They need you to be a voice for them.

Thank you for your time and I hope you reconsider your decision,

s. 22(1)

A grey rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: "Rescues"/Research will perpetuate captivity  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 11:16:35 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 11, 2017 11:16:30 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael; Mackinnon, Stuart; Carr, Adriane; s. 22(1)  
**Subject:** Fw: "Rescues"/Research will perpetuate c

Hi Michael:

In future, they would have to use a private, off site sea pen for cetaceans. They can't be trusted to use aquarium pools since they will claim "non releasible" and/or use as a tourist attract/research tools for \$\$\$ to perpetuate captivity.

They should get on with setting up such a sea pen/sea pen options. The bylaw could state that alternative locations must be located for the present 3 cetaceans as the goal is to phase out all cetaceans.

It could also be done on a case by case basis such as Springer (pen acquired first in US waters then Telegraph Cove area with many government/organizations involved). There are many DFO type stations throughout BC waters. They can do rescue and research at these locations.

The Aquarium wanted my support to keep Springer at their nearby research station on Popham Island. But Lifeforce and mostly everyone else were planning to get her back to her Northern home waters and her family. She quickly reunited in spite of the Aquarium attempt to keep her down here.

Where there is a will there is a way...

s. 22(1)

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FYI

Lifeforce Statement Re: Vancouver Aquarium Experiments

For more government \$\$\$ the sentient captive and "rescued" cetaceans are considered as "untapped resources" as mere "tools for conservation and science." No respect and "love".

If people are against capturing and imprisoning wild cetaceans then they should also be against capturing frightened, sick, and injured wild cetaceans for vivisection and a probable life sentence in a pool prison. For decades aquariums/zoo industry has abused them as free sources for the worldwide animal trade.

As Canada looks at a nationwide cetacean ban the Vancouver Parks Board decision is a historic breakthrough for dolphin freedom. Vancouver also stopped wild animal acts in circuses and closed the Stanley Park Zoo. We are the leaders!

Cetaceans must not wait for a referendum, must not wait for a Canada wide ban, and must not suffer from more Aquarium broken promises.

Aquariums and zoos didn't stop extinction because they are part of the problems NOT the solutions. You don't get the truth from businesses with vested interests.

For further information: [lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com](mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com)<<mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com>>

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 4 month old  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 12:54:18 PM

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**From:** Robin Pimm  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 12:54:09 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** 4 month old

Hello,

My name is Robin and I have a 4 month old daughter. I want my daughter to be able to experience wildlife. I want my daughter to connect with nature and animals and science on a personal level. This by-law you are proposing severely limits my ability to teach her about the natural world, about how we can help animals, and about how there are good people in the world looking after it for her. The cetaceans in the Vancouver aquarium need our help; they need your help. You are failing them, and in doing so, are also failing my daughter. Please, please reconsider. And short of that, get more involved in the issue to help plan a way forward, instead of leaving these animals in need in the lurch. To say that in the future non-releasable dolphins who are rescued from the perils of living in the wild and the problems people create there will have no where to go and will need to be euthanized breaks my heart, and it should break yours too. I beg you not to make this decision rashly. My daughter deserves to live in a world where people help animals, not just hurt them. She deserves to see what a dolphin is, and the beauty in them. I hope you will take my comments seriously.

Sincerely,

Robin

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: A better way forward for VanAqua  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 12:54:28 PM

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**From:** Lucas G  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 12:54:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** A better way forward for VanAqua

Dear Elected Officials,

I'm not one for long, ranting letters, so I'll try to keep this short.

I'm incredibly disappointed with the recent cetacean ban. I sympathize with the evolving public sentiment toward cetacean captivity in the post-Blackwater age, but Vancouver Aquarium is not certainly not Seaworld. I fear this decision was made without a full awareness of it's consequences, both toward Vancouver Aquarium's rehabilitation efforts, and to the incredible value in public outreach that (ethically-managed) captivity has.

There certainly must be room for a mandate that both preserves VanAqua's program of rehabilitation and conservation, and addresses the concerns of those who fear for the animals' captive well-being. As a proud resident of the city for nearly 10 years now, I urge you to consider a better path forward.

Sincerely,

- Lucas Green

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: A Plea for Compassion - Let the Cetaceans Live at the Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:42:59 PM

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**From:** The Butlers  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:42:04 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Cc:** 876sdbutler@telus.net  
**Subject:** A Plea for Compassion - Let the Cetaceans Live at the Aquarium

Dear members of the Parks Board,

It is with deep disappointment and much sadness that I learned of the decision of the board to abruptly end the cetaceans' lives at the Vancouver Aquarium, and I would respectfully ask that you please re-consider your decision.

While the Aquarium puts much efforts and talent in saving the lives of the remaining cetaceans, we cannot ignore the tremendous part the Vancouver Aquarium has in educating the public on the role we, as human beings, play in our planet's survival. It is, indeed, at the aquarium that I learned about the damage drag net fishing does to cetaceans. It is at the Aquarium that I learned about the beautiful diversity found in the B.C. coastal waters. And it is at the Aquarium that I found rescued marine mammals that have been brought back to health thanks to the good care of the Vancouver Aquarium folks.

I do not understand exactly what lead to such a hasty decision by the Parks Board when the Vancouver Aquarium had already announced that they will end the beluga study program within the next decade or so, anyway. The Vancouver Aquarium's remaining cetaceans are not fit to survive should they be released in the wild, and moving them to a different location may cause them such stress that could jeopardize their health. They are already used to their current surroundings, and the Vancouver Aquarium goes to great length to ensure their wellbeing. I do not understand those individuals who claim that the Parks Board's decision is a victory. What glory is there in knowing that helpless innocent animals will have to either be destroyed, or relocated when they are already being cared for in a world class facility? Why not grant the Vancouver Aquarium the time they need to find a suitable viable solution?

The Aquarium is one of the Parks Board's best assets, with tourists from all over the world flocking in the summer, and where so many families go to spend time all year round.

As we all agree that animals born and raised in the wild are better left alone in the wild, we, as human beings, owe it to those who have been so badly injured by human interactions that we will care for them, for the rest of their natural life. That is what the Vancouver Aquarium does: it cares for the rescued animals. Please let's give them a chance to continue to do so.

Thank you for taking the time to read my email,



*Sylvie B.*

C: 604.369.6905

H: 604.876.4920

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: A plead from a new volunteer at Vancouver Aquarium- Please protect marine science  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 3:42:15 AM

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From s. 22(1)

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 3:42:10 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
Subject: A plead from a new volunteer at Vancouver Aquarium- Please protect marine science

Dear Elected Officials,

For the last few weeks, I have the privilege of joining the Vancouver Aquarium volunteer team as an Gallery Educator. As a scientist and a proud marine protector, I fully support the Vancouver Aquarium's mission in conserving the aquatic life through display, communication, education, research, and direct action. Since my first scuba diving trip in my teens, I have been preserving the marine ecosystem by cleaning up the ocean floor with every trip into the water. Now, my role as a Gallery Educator with the Aquarium has expanded my effort in protecting the ecosystem I love to outside of the water.

As a Gallery Educator, it is my duty to educate the public on the importance and urgency of marine conservation. Through my short period of volunteering, I have concluded that the only way for the public to physically invest in marine conservation is to get them emotionally attach to the marine animals they will be helping; and the best way in achieving this emotional status is by spreading our conservation messages through story tellings. All the resident animals in the Vancouver Aquarium have their own unique stories. Many of them started their journey with a tragedy, being helplessly stranded on the beach or distressfully tangled in a fishing net. Fortunately, they were rescued and rehabilitated by the amazing Marine Mammal Rescue team. Now, they are ambassadors of their species at the Vancouver Aquarium. Some of the residents animals are also participants of ground breaking scientific research that will aid the survival of their wild counterparts.

The Vancouver Aquarium is doing extraordinary works in saving marine species in Canadian and global waters. Up to 150 distressed marine mammals per year are rescued, rehabilitated, and released by the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre; and the effort is exponentially advancing through the many research that contribute to the rescue and rehabilitation process of a species. The Aquarium is home to many rescued marine mammals who are deemed non-releasable, giving them a second chance in life. The organization has launched the Ocean Wise program, which gears suppliers and customers to demand sustainable seafoods. Last but certainly not least, the Vancouver Aquarium has teamed up with various established scientific institutes and initiated research programs that will help the survival of many marine species in the wild; this include the multiple research efforts to safe the endangered belugas in the Arctic.

The Board's recent decision in banning all cetaceans in the facility will most certainly devastate many conservation and rescue efforts the Vancouver Aquarium has put forth in saving cetaceans in local and international waters. The ban will halt multiple important research that might provide the only solution to a species' survival. The Marine Mammals Rescue Centre will loss their ability to save a cetacean in distress without the authorization to rescue the animal and the facility to nurse it back to health. Most importantly, the current three resident cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium might be forcefully stripped from their home, and the undesired move will distraught their mental and physically health.

Story telling is powerful, and I would like to end my letter with a story of Levi. Levi is an adult male harbour porpoise. On March 26, 2013, he was found stranded and close to death on the beach of Sanich Inlet. The Marine Mammals Rescue team rushed over in time to rescue him. By referring to the

studies done on the previously rescued harbour porpoises Daisy and Jack, the team successfully rehabilitated Levi back to health; and on September 10, 2013, he was released back into the ocean. Levi was the first successful case of releasable harbour porpoise. The knowledge and experience attained through rescuing and rehabilitating Levi will contribute to more successful release of harbour porpoises by the Vancouver Aquarium.

I hope this letter and Levi's story will inspire you to work together with the Vancouver Aquarium, and come out with plans that prioritize the survival of all marine species. Please reevaluate the decision you have made and will be making, and please protect marine science.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: About the ban of cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 6:33:54 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 6:33:53 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** About the ban of cetaceans in Stanley Park

I understand that the aquarium rescues cetaceans and that many of these would not survive in the wild on their own. If people could see that the aquarium is a rescue facility, they would be in favour of the aquarium acquiring cetaceans. I believe it is wrong to capture healthy cetaceans just to put them on display, but rescuing injured cetaceans is totally a different matter. Please do not sentence these beautiful creatures to death because you are afraid that the general public will accuse you of keeping them in jail. Instead, educate! Tell the public what this is really about! We count on you to take a stand on behalf of the animals.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: AGAINST keeping whales captive  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 7:40:04 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 7:39:59 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** AGAINST keeping whales captive

Hello Commissioners,

When I was a kid I was fascinated with whales. I was the first one in my elementary school to present reports on whales explaining they are sea mammals, how their young are born - tail fin first, how their blow holes work, what is baleen, fins, dorsal fins, eyes, and all those fascinating things that drew me to fall in love with the largest mammals to ever be on earth. By the way they are the only mammals in which their mouth is not connected to their lungs. In other words they can't breathe through their mouths. Interesting.

I learned everything about whales from Dr. Roger Payne and National Geographic - **not** the Vancouver Aquarium.

To catch these mammals is akin to immediately sentencing them to death. The Vancouver Aquarium has got to cease and desist this practice forever. The CEO says they need to continue hunting and catching whales to further their research. Nonsense. The best research comes from the field not from watching a captive Orca or Beluga swim back and forth in a chlorinated tank until they finally die.

With all the knowledge the VA has apparently gathered from their own captive programs and hopefully the observations that may be shared from other facilities, the best they could do was nothing when not one but two Belugas died within weeks of each other. *"Aurora had been stricken by an unknown illness since her offspring Qila died suddenly at the aquarium last week."* This headline will be repeated again in about 15-20 years if you allow another round of Belugas to be caught, transported, and dumped in the tank at the aquarium where staff try to keep them healthy and happy. It can't and shouldn't be done.

We really don't know anything about these animals. And certainly the phenomenal hubris on display from John Nightingale and the bold stance he's made to continue to bring sea mammals to the aquarium won't get us any closer to understanding them. Catching a whale in open water isn't pretty, it's horrible. You are either catching a very young whale or taking a cow from her herd and she may in fact be the alpha female. I find John Nightingale

repugnant in his intractable policy that the VA will continue to display living whales.

As far as the plebiscite is concerned realistically, this plebiscite should be made available to all citizens of the world, if at all. I would like the Park Board to make decisions on their own without tossing it to the masses. You should have enough information to make sound, logical, empathetic, decisions that keep captive whales away from the Vancouver Aquarium.

NOT ONE MORE WHALE SHOULD BE CAUGHT FOR THE VANCOUVER AQUARIUM CIRCUS.

It might be time for the Vancouver Aquarium to re-think their relationship with whales. Instead of bringing whales to them, take people to the whales. Start taking aquarium patrons out on the water to watch whales, sea birds, sea life. You'll learn far more valuable information doing that than one ever will standing behind glass.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: AGAINST keeping whales captive  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 7:40:04 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 9:59 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** AGAINST keeping whales captive

Hello Commissioners,

When I was a kid I was fascinated with whales. I was the first one in my elementary school to present reports on whales explaining they are sea mammals, how their young are born - tail fin first, how their blow holes work, what is baleen, fins, dorsal fins, eyes, and all those fascinating things that drew me to fall in love with the largest mammals to ever be on earth. By the way they are the only mammals in which their mouth is not connected to their lungs. In other words they can't breathe through their mouths. Interesting.

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s. 22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: AGAINST keeping whales captive  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:55:47 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:55:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: AGAINST keeping whales captive

I commend you all.

Thank you! You have made history and hopefully inspired other jurisdictions who insist are using whales as box office draw to reconsider their own programs.

Have a wonderful weekend dreaming of whales and their sounds of freedom.

s. 22(1)

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 9, 2017 7:39 PM  
**To:** sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca; Mackinnon, Stuart; john.coupar@vancouver.ca; casey.crawford@vancouver.ca; catherine.evans@vancouver.ca; erin.shum@vancouver.ca; michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** AGAINST keeping whales captive

Hello Commissioners,

When I was a kid I was fascinated with whales. I was the first one in my elementary school to present reports on whales explaining they are sea mammals, how their young are born - tail fin first, how their blow holes work, what is baleen, fins, dorsal fins, eyes, and all those fascinating things that drew me to fall in love with the largest mammals to ever be on earth. By the way they are the only mammals in which their mouth is not connected to their lungs. In other words they can't breathe through their mouths. Interesting.

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continue hunting and catching whales to further their research. Nonsense. The best research comes from the field not from watching a captive Orca or Beluga swim back and forth in a chlorinated tank until they finally die.

With all the knowledge the VA has apparently gathered from their own captive programs and hopefully the observations that may be shared from other facilities, the best they could do was nothing when not one but two Belugas died within weeks of each other. *"Aurora had been stricken by an unknown illness since her offspring Qila died suddenly at the aquarium last week."* This headline will be repeated again in about 15-20 years if you allow another round of Belugas to be caught, transported, and dumped in the tank at the aquarium where staff try to keep them healthy and happy. It can't and shouldn't be done.

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s. 22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Against the Ban of Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:42:59 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 2:42:53 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Against the Ban of Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello Parks Board Commissioners,

My name is s. 22(1). I am a resident of Vancouver, and I am disappointed that misinformation won over scientific facts in the case of the ban against cetaceans. A small group of vocal, misinformed people have used misinformation and a clear disregard for what actually happens at the aquarium to fuel their agenda.

I would be vehemently opposed to the creation of a bylaw banning citations. The Parks Board is being pressured by a small group of activists that believe animals are better dead than in an aquarium.

The Aquarium does not breed cetaceans. The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility from other organizations that have captured the world. The cetaceans that reside in the Aquarium are rescued animals that can not survive in the wild. If people have told you otherwise during the hearings, they were lying to you.

IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.
- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!
- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the

wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

Funding won't magically drop out of the sky for looking at the north. Funding doesn't work that way. This motion will harm animals, science, and education in one sweep. Quite impressive.

Do the scientifically correct thing and reverse the motion for a ban.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Against the cetacean ban in Stanley park.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 12:37:31 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 12:37:25 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Against the cetacean ban in Stanley park.

To whom it may concern.

I am strongly against this ban and ask that you do not pass this bylaw. The only thing that it will promote is the death of innocent animals who were originally acquired by the Vancouver Aquarium as rescues or in need of care.

This ban would be detrimental to marine research and care. Please see the consequences of this ban before giving into some angry protesters who have not educated themselves about the situation.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my mobile office

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: AGAINST Vancouver Aquarium Captivity Ban  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:02:12 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:01:58 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** AGAINST Vancouver Aquarium Captivity Ban

To whom it may concern,

I am a resident of Surrey, BC, and I do not support the ban of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I am a vivid marine mammal advocate, who has volunteered with marine mammal research in the wild, along with working alongside these beautiful creatures on a whale watching vessel in Richmond, BC, and I can find a balance for allowing the marine mammals in captivity for

The Vancouver Aquarium engages in long term scientific research and marine mammal rescue missions, and preventing the allowance of marine mammals in captivity would provide suffering to many rescued mammals that are deemed non-releasable. If we can find balance for rescue, rehabilitation, and education then why not? Why euthanize an animal because we have banned them in a healthy environment. Not all mammals can be released back into the environment and we would be limiting the rescue centres' effort.

I sincerely hope you look deeper into this issue as there are many people in our community who support the Vancouver Aquarium and their efforts. Not all Aquariums work in the same manner, and people need to check their facts before advocating the ban amongst all Aquariums.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Against Vancouver aquarium cetacean ban  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:57:38 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:57:33 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Against Vancouver aquarium cetacean ban

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I'm a Vancouver resident s. 22(1) and I wanted to write to say that I don't support the proposal to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium.

I'm an early childhood educator and the Vancouver aquarium is the place where many of my students first get to interact and be amazed by sea animals and sea life. It is where they learn to love and respect the ocean and become passionate about animal lives and environmental preservation.

The Vancouver aquarium's policies and procedures are respectful to animals and support scientific research that will help preserve wild populations.

Please vote against the ban. Keep cetaceans in the Vancouver aquarium.

Thanks for your time,  
s. 22(1)

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Allow cetaceans at the Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 11:22:09 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 11:22:00 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Allow cetaceans at the Aquarium

Hello,

I am emailing you once again to urge you to reconsider your decisions regarding banning cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

This article was published : [Vancouver Aquarium cetacean ban could mean animals will have to be euthanized: DFO](#) and it backs up what I am sure is the fear of many; that future cetaceans will be harmed because people who have the gall to consider themselves animal rights activists do not fully understand what the Vancouver Aquarium does. These animals deserve to remain in the place they have called home for so long and the Vancouver Aquarium should continue to be a haven for non-releasable sea creatures.

Please rethink your decisions. Visit the Aquarium and speak to the staff and researchers there. You will see that their dedication to these animals is far beyond considering them to be animals on display for human amusement. Do not allow future cetaceans die.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)



### Vancouver Aquarium cetacean ban could mean animals will have to be euthaniz...

By Jill Slattery and Linda Aylesworth

The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) predicts that the Vancouver Park Board's ban on cetacea...



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**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Allow rescued, unreleasable cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:19:16 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:19:13 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Allow rescued, unreleasable cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello, I am writing to you to beg that you allow unreleasable cetaceans to stay at the Vancouver Aquarium. Even most protesters of the aquarium that I talked with were never against caring for rescued cetaceans. This is a further unnecessary restriction, and it will even be cruel to the animals themselves.

Unlike commissioner MacKinnon says, they cannot simply move their cetaceans to the rescue centre, these facilities are inadequate for long term care, not to mention they are needed for rescues. The aquarium also cannot simply spend their collected \$100 million on something other than habitat upgrades, though since you know they are a non-profit, I am sure you already knew this.

I do disagree with every motivation behind the decision overall, but please, do not take this out on the animals.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: ALLOW Vancouver Aquarium to continue their rescue work for cetaceans.  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:45:43 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 16, 2017 8:45:37 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** ALLOW Vancouver Aquarium to continue their rescue work for cetaceans.

It would seem we are being bullied and fed misleading rumours and wild accusations regarding the work that has been done at this august facility.

For so many of us, this is the only chance we will ever get to see these magnificent animals, and understand why we need to save their habitat.

Please reconsider your hard line stance - better dead than in captivity.

Sounds a lot like Joan of Arc, but then she wasn't exactly a crippled dolphin who would otherwise die if left in the wild.

Please let these gentle creatures continue to have a safe haven, and continue to be ambassadors for their kind.

Yours,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Amendment banning cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:45:40 AM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:45:37 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Amendment banning cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Please rethink the drafted amendment regarding cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium, bearing in mind that these are rescued animals.

Respectfully,

s. 22(1)



From: [Crawford, Casey](#)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: FW: s. 22(1) Vancouver Aquarium - Bylaw to ban Cetaceans  
Date: Mon 2017 12:51:52 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2017 12:51:44 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: s. 22(1)  
Subject: s. 22(1) - Vancouver Aquarium - Bylaw to ban Cetaceans

To the Parks Board Commissioners;

This email to you is to say that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I am a resident of Vancouver Island and have lived here for 40+ years.

My name is s. 22(1) and I am an animal activist that does not agree with the black and white approach to this important and ground breaking issue.

The rescue, research and rehabilitation (releasing whenever possible) of cetaceans must be allowed to continue. The cetaceans that cannot be released need good homes to live out their days so in that regard the tanks need to be improved and enlarged. They should never have to perform for the masses and there should never be any capturing of healthy cetaceans from the wild or breeding. Vancouver Aquarium is invaluable for our ocean's survival and must be allowed to continue to do their groundbreaking work. The animals need them. Our Ocean needs them. Science needs them. The public needs them.

Why is there no reasonable middle ground for this? Why is it all or nothing? I understand the general public feels they are fighting the good fight but they are doing it not armed with all the facts. Knowledge is a key factor. A middle ground can be reached and must be reached so the cetaceans that are currently at Vancouver Aquarium can live out their days in peace in the home they know receiving top of the line care. Getting rid of the cetaceans without any concern or choice over where they may end up or what happens to them will open another huge battle.

Vancouver Aquarium needs to remain viable and productive and allowed to continue to do what they do best. They just need to make a few changes to keep with the times which will allow all of you to be leaders on the world stage for making such groundbreaking changes... together.

In the world of animal activism we are the voice for the animals. All life at Vancouver Aquarium needs our protection and full commitment. The living world of our beautiful oceans needs the science and the care that the Vancouver Aquarium can provide.

Please know that not all the public is behind what you plan to do and we understand there needs to be a balance. There is a way to meet in the middle. I hope the discussion continues and for all the animals living at the Vancouver Aquarium I hope that nothing is set in stone.

Thank you for your time and for reading this.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:45:24 AM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:45:21 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Shum, Erin  
Subject: Aquarium

Hi Erin,  
I do NOT support the Vancouver Park's board intention to band cetaceans in Stanley Park. I agree with the no breeding program but we need a place for refuge, rehabilitation and, if possible, release, and for public education. We live on the west coast. We should all be interested in what lives in our local waters and how we can protect them. The Aquarium stands out in the world as different from other "entertainment" marine facilities. It is an educational and protection facility.

Thank you.

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Aquarium Vote  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 5:45:30 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 11, 2017 5:45:28 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** John Coupar; Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Aquarium Vote

John,

Sorry I missed you at the NPA dinner a few weeks ago. Impressive crowd and optimism for next year's election.

I just wanted to express my considerable disappointment with you and the other NPA Parks Board Commissioners support of the motion to end the Aquarium's cessation management program.

With respect, the fact that a group of politicians decided to support a group of narrowly focused and unscientific radical activists over years of scientific expertise on this matter is just fundamentally mind numbing.

Global Climate change has put the Belugas at risk to both new predators such as killer whales in their soon to become ice free habitat and man, as they migrate as far south as the St. Lawrence Seaway in search of food.

Surely taking at risk marine mammals and protecting them from their changing environment in a science backed living laboratory is essential to their survival. Closing the rescue and rehabilitation program is just inhumane!

None of you were elected with a mandate to undertake such a massive change to our beloved Aquarium and trust me you have lost much support from the progressive community who believe in science backed decisions not emotional "from the gut" ones!

s. 22(1)





**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:18:17 PM

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**From:** Debra Probert  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:18:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Aquarium

Dear Commissioner Wiebe,

I would like to offer you my deepest gratitude for your courageous and compassionate decision to stop the Vancouver Aquarium from displaying cetaceans. We at VHS realize this was a difficult decision and that you had to take many factors into account. I attended the meeting on Wednesday night along with my colleague, Peter Fricker, whom you were kind enough to allow to speak. The pressure from both sides of the issue was relentless and it must have been exhausting for you; especially when you knew you were going to do it again the following day.

Thank you – on behalf of all of us who care deeply for animals.

Debra Probert

Debra Probert  
Executive Director  
Vancouver Humane Society  
303-8623 Granville St.  
Vancouver, B.C. V6P 5A2  
Ph.604-266-9744/Fax 604-266-1311  
Charitable # 8897 13178 RR 0001

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Care about animals? You can save 18 lives a year if you stop eating chickens. They suffer from birth to death - get the facts at:

<http://www.vancouverhumanesociety.bc.ca/factory-farming/>

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:31:56 AM

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From s. 22(1)  
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:31:51 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: aquarium

Good Morning Michael,  
Just a quick note re: bringing back beluga wales and keeping cetaceans in the vancouver aquarium...  
let's not!!  
This is a cruel way to treat animals that normally swim many km a day and are part of a social group.  
The aquarium is only interested in the money these creatures generate. They have proved they cannot  
care for belugas.  
I avoid the aquarium like the plague... it just makes me so sad to see those animals caged up.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:02:22 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:02:16 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** aquarium

I am writing this email to urge you to take a look at the facts of the research done by the aquarium and how well reknowned they are among the world of scientists, please reconsider your decision and provide for the wonderful research done by this facility and recognize the signifigance of your decision which believe was make from pressure from a few uninformed activists and should not be the basis of an intelligent choice. Yours sincerely s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 2:07:15 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 17 2:07:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Aquarium

folks, how can you support the release of Chester, Helen and Daisy? Please reconsider your, you will KILL them!

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: As a local resident, I do not support the bylaw banning cetaceans from Stanley Park  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 2:48:15 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 2:48:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** As a local resident, I do not support the bylaw banning cetaceans from Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Vancouver,

As a resident of the Lower Mainland, and as someone who grew up visiting the Vancouver Aquarium and still visit yearly, I believe your decision to ban cetaceans from Stanley Park, and therefore the Vancouver Aquarium, is a terrible decision that will only have negative impacts.

I'm sure you've been informed many times, by many different people, that the Vancouver Aquarium is important not only as a rescue center for marine animals who cannot survive in the wild, but also as a learning tool for us humans who seem to be rapidly destroying Earth's oceans. To learn of our effects on their habitats (cetacean and others) and how those effects can be dealt with is an important part of what the aquarium teaches us.

The Vancouver Aquarium taught me how to respect the ocean and it's inhabitants as a child by giving me the chance to see animals that I would have had no chance to see in the wild up close. By depriving the next generation of the same, we distance ourselves from human's impacts on these beautiful animals and their habitats.

- The Vancouver Aquarium does not capture wild animals, they simply give those that would have otherwise died a chance to live and teach us about themselves and how human's impact their environment. If an injured cetacean is found and deemed unable to survive in the wild, should we simply kill them? Is that really the better solution?

- The Vancouver Aquarium is an important resource for today's generations and the generations to come, teaching us to respect our oceans and it's inhabitants.

So please. Please reconsider your decision over banning cetaceans at Stanley Park. There is far more positive that comes out the Aquarium then negative.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [COV webforms](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ask a question : Cetacean display ban @ van aqua  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 6:00:33 PM

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Dear Office of the General Manager - Park Board:

Can you please respond to s.22(1) regarding his inquiry? "What will happen to the cetaceans currently on display at the aquarium? And what will happen with the belugas currently on loan that belong to the vancouver aquarium?"

s.22(1) mail address is s.22(1)

If you are unable to assist with the citizen's request, please reply to: 311@vancouver.ca or contact us at 84311.

Regards,

Bobbi  
City of Vancouver  
3-1-1 Contact Centre

----- Original Message -----

**From:** COV.webforms@vancouver.ca  
**Sent:** 2017-03-17 12:32:14.0  
**To:** COV.webforms@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Ask a question : Cetacean display ban @ van aqua

[q1.0] Part 1: Your message | I want to:  
Ask a question

[q1.1] Part 1: Your message | About:  
Cetacean display ban @ van aqua

[q1.2] Part 1: Your message | Share details:  
What will happen to the cetaceans currently on display at the vancouver aquarium? And what will happen with the belugas currently on loan that belong to the vancouver aquarium?  
[photo]

Upload a photo of the issue or service: (Optional)

[q2.0] Part 2: About you | Name:  
s.22(1)

[q2.1] Part 2: About you | Email:  
s.22(1)

ou | Phone:

[q2.3] Part 2: About you | Address:

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Attn: Parks Board Commissioners  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:24:21 PM

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From: [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:24:16 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Attn: Parks Board Commissioners

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

In light of the recent news of a ban on the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park, I am writing to personally and privately beg you to reconsider. I understand this decision has been made in the interest of Metro-Vancouver residents, but this is not what we want.

I've been visiting the Vancouver Aquarium since I was a child, and I find the rescue work they have been doing for the past 20+ years to be very admirable. Although I remember watching an orca show there as a little kid, they have moved as far away as you can get from such practices. No one else does it like them - the Vancouver Aquarium is ethical and educational. If you visit them and sit to watch a beluga "show", you'll see the animals showing off only their smarts as they practice vet visits (or get a real checkup)! If you are lucky, the whales will do some splashing. The goal is to keep these animals healthy, not to breed them or use them for entertainment. Please consider visiting the aquarium to see for yourself.

My nieces [s. 22\(1\)](#) value the Vancouver Aquarium as a place of learning and discovery. They know and understand that Chester (who loves to hang out by the habitat windows to say hello to us nose-to-nose), Daisy, and Helen (whose torn fin wouldn't work quite as well in the ocean as Nemo's does) would not be able to survive if released into the wild. It would be a heartbreaking thing to know they were being abandoned into open waters or that they were being euthanized (as releasing them would arguably be the more cruel option).

I am not in any way affiliated with the Vancouver Aquarium or Stanley Park. I am simply a Metro-Vancouver resident who wanted to cry at the thought of these animals being removed from their safe home at the aquarium, where they are loved personally by thousands of people who remember their names and know their rescue stories.

These animals are not better dead than in the Vancouver Aquarium. Many aquariums around the world are unethical, entertainment-driven, and dishonest. Generally and historically, I do not at all support aquariums or zoos, but the Vancouver Aquarium is different; it is a leader in marine rescue efforts and teaching people of all ages about marine biology. It also conducts cutting-edge research which lends itself to the way the aquarium is conducted, and to the truthful experience visitors now have there.

I dearly hope the suggested motion to remove these cetaceans from their habitats does not move forward. Please reconsider.

Thank you very much for your time,

[s. 22\(1\)](#)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Attn: Vancouver Park Board Commissioners Re: Captivity ban on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:35:15 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:34:51 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Attn: Vancouver Park Board Commissioners Re: Captivity ban on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I had read about your recent decision to amend the current bylaw allowing the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. To be blunt, I am appalled.

I have lived in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland all of my life and I've seen the Vancouver Aquarium grow into being a foremost facility in marine research and having a key role in learning and helping preserve marine life.

I would like to share this letter written by Laurene Schiller with you as it describes my feelings perfectly:

Dear Commissioners Coupar, Crawford, Evans, Kirby-Young, Mackinnon, Shum and Wiebe:

Admittedly, this will be a difficult letter for me to write. It will be difficult because for over two decades I have bit my tongue and refused to toss back even one insult at the activists who shouted abuses through the front gates of the Aquarium and wrote bullying slander from behind the comfort of their computer screens—even during times of our deepest grief. It will be difficult because only a few days ago, Commissioner Mackinnon called my colleagues—my work family—arrogant and compared us to Nazis. It will be difficult because I have dedicated the last decade of my life to marine conservation and research and in one sweeping statement you have insulted my chosen profession as a scientist and cast the work I do as wrong, meaningless, and harmful to the natural world I love so deeply and seek to protect. It will be difficult because you are relying on alternative facts, propaganda, and hateful rhetoric from a misguided community to form your beliefs and in so doing, you turn a blind eye to rational judgment and truth. Yet, in spite of all of these challenges, I will do my best to remain calm. Because I need to write this letter.

I work as a research analyst for Ocean Wise yet I could not attend the meeting in person last week since I am currently living in Halifax and working on a PhD in fisheries management. It's alright though because there is nothing my colleagues said that I could have said better. They are the experts on marine mammal care, I just study tuna. Actually, that's not totally true: I study people. Because fisheries management has almost nothing to do with fish. Rather, it's about the power struggle between different nations and fishing fleets, and how they contort policies and overlook scientific facts to meet their unique political agendas. So, as painful as it was to listen to your decision last week, it was a shock but not a surprise. I've seen it before in the research I do, time and time again. In a practical sense, politics is the reason that overfishing continues at a global scale and harmful subsidies threaten the recovery of fish stocks. Like the rest of the world, I have also seen the triumph of slanted politics in recent months through the ongoing abuses of power, rejection of science, and reliance on unfounded radical perspectives by the Trump Administration. As I read your statement from Thursday's Park Board meeting and listened to Commissioner Mackinnon's interview on the CBC Early Edition, I could not help but see many parallels.

Activists say our practices are cruel and that we kill whales. I can assure you that neither are true although human activity does kill whales regularly. In the Northwest Atlantic, entanglement in fishing gear was the primary

cause of large whale deaths between 1970-2009. Since 1998, 70 orcas from the endangered BC Southern Resident population have gone missing or died. The infant mortality rate in this group is also incredibly high (13 deaths of juveniles one year old or younger), and the bioaccumulation of toxic chemicals—from human systems—is a key threat to the health and survival of these cetaceans. Similarly, the population of belugas in the St. Lawrence has been declining since 2000; it is now estimated at less than 1,000 individuals and 32 calves have been found dead in the last four years alone. Loss of habitat and human-induced noise are believed to be key contributors to this problem.

The day Chester was moved to the Wild Coast exhibit many of us shed tears of joy. When Qila and Aurora died, our collective heart broke. As I heard Commissioner Mackinnon suggest that our current rescued animals be moved to a different facility, or back to the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre on Main Street, I realized just how little the Park Board understands what we do. I also wondered why—if you are so deeply moved by the plight of these animals—you are comfortable with their captivity away from the public eye and off city property. I wondered why you would be comfortable moving our rescued animals to a site that is designed to be a temporary home and in so doing prevent the public from learning about and being inspired by them. A dolphin who lost her flippers in a drift net instantly teaches about harmful fishing gears. A false killer whale who is the first of his species to survive stranding as an infant conveys the importance of veterinary research and care. I have worked for a whale watching company in Vancouver and yes, seeing whales in the wild is incredibly powerful. But at \$300 a person, a day trip is also unrealistic and inaccessible for most families. The importance of the animals at the Aquarium is second to none. Why do you not understand their value as ambassadors for their species?

Without a shadow of a doubt the reason I became a marine biologist is because my Nana took me to the Aquarium every month when I was young. The belugas captivated my attention from the very beginning and, since then, learning about and protecting the ocean is all I've ever wanted to do. I wonder if you can imagine how hurtful and infuriating it was to hear someone with no formal education in marine biology, no practical experience in veterinary care, and a tainted, erroneous view of our facility attack my colleagues and paint our work as immoral and unethical. Please try to consider what that must have felt like. The decision you have made—all of you—is unfounded in anything but political power and cardboard signs. And due to your desire to make a name for yourselves, it is the marine mammals of the Canadian west coast and the future generations of our society who will suffer from this decision.

Yours,  
Laurenne Schiller

—

#### References:

Alava, J.J., Ross, P.S., and Gobas, F.A.P.C. 2016. Food Web Bioaccumulation Model for Resident Killer Whales from the Northeastern Pacific Ocean as a Tool for the Derivation of PBDE-Sediment Quality Guidelines. *Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, 70:155–168. doi:10.1007/s00244-015-0215-y

CBC News Montreal. 31 July 2016. Are Quebec's rivers getting too loud for belugas? Accessed 12 March 2017 from: <http://www.cbc.ca/.../belugas-drones-noise-endangered-1.37024...>

CBC News Montreal. 29 September 2014. Beluga whale population in St. Lawrence on 'catastrophic' path. Accessed 12 March 2017 from: <http://www.cbc.ca/.../beluga-whale-population-in-st-lawrence-...>

Center for Whale Research. 2017. Southern Resident Orca Community Demographics, Composition of Pods, Births and Deaths since 1998. Accessed 12 March 2017 from: <https://www.orcanetwork.org/Main/index.php...>

Van der Hoop, J.M., Moore, M.J., Barco, S.G., Cole, T.V.N, Daoust, et al. 2013. Assessment of Management to Mitigate Anthropogenic Effects on Large Whales. *Conservation Biology*, 27: 121–133. doi:10.1111/j.1523-1739.2012.01934.x

As a representative of my interests as a citizen of Vancouver and as a user of Vancouver Parks, I want you to reconsider how your actions are effecting not just Vancouverites but marine life as a whole.

**I do not** support a bylaw that would ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium.

Best,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ban Cetacean Bylaw ?  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:05:22 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:05:17 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Ban Cetacean Bylaw ?

Hello Parks Board,

I am a resident of UBC and a passionate Environmental and Biology student at UBC. I do not support a bylaw to ban the display of cetaceans at the Aquarium. As a young child, I did not know what I wanted to do with my life and what I was really interested in. Having a display of the creatures I could help rescue and release inspired a passion in me to study animals and learn the best way to preserve their habitats and wellbeing. If I had not had access to the Aquarium and other exhibits like the San Diego Wildlife park, I would have never discovered this amazing interest and determination that has fuelled my academic career for the past decade. The larger creatures that have been rescued and are on display at the Aquarium are a significant factor of interest to the public and if they were to be banned, the visits to the Aquarium would likely decrease and there would not be as many people being educated on the vast marine lives that exist. Since I am a university student, it is easy to access research and professors that have experience and knowledge in these subjects, but as a younger student or a person who does not have the privilege of attending a university, the Aquarium is an experience that hints at the amazing wonders the ocean contains and it would be a shame if it were to be limited by laws that would likely result in an eventual closing of the park. As well, I know that the Aquarium has contributed to marine research, which is another important idea to consider, as we should be promoting the exploration of the unknown. All in all, I think that the value of the Aquarium is majorly influenced by the presence of rescued cetaceans and would be negatively impacted if they were to be banned.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ban of cetaceans in Stanley park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:41:58 PM

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From **s. 22(1)**

Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:41:44 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Shum, Erin; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Ban of cetaceans in Stanley park

Hello to all,

I am writing this email to encourage all of you NOT to ban cetaceans in Stanley park. The Vancouver aquarium only has rescued cetaceans in its facility, refusing to capture from the wild unless the situation is dire, meaning the animals would not survive without their intervention.

Ethically, the Vancouver aquarium is one of the most advanced aquariums I have ever been to. The people who are urging you to get rid of cetaceans are overlooking the fact that those already in captivity will be sent to a less sound facility or even euthanized if this ban goes through. If this ban proceeds, you will knowingly decrease the quality of life of these animals, or worse yet, take away their lives altogether. All of this would be based on the opinions of individuals who quite possibly do not have their facts right or simply overlook the animals' quality of life so they can stand against aquariums in general as a "big picture" idea.

Now, before you begin to view me as biased against the individuals promoting the ban, please read my following argument.

Another major factor you should all consider is the education of our youth. Myself and all of my friends went to the aquarium multiple times in our youth, both on educational field trips and as recreational trips on our own. Each time we went to the aquarium we would leave with new knowledge about our oceans and the role we play in sustaining them. One good friend of mine has developed a passion for marine biology, in part because she had access to marine life in a controlled environment that is focused on the animals' quality of life, and on researching them.

The research that the Vancouver Aquarium conducts is extremely important! By learning about the mammals within our oceans, it allows us to understand how to best help them, knowing that humanity's actions have a large impact on their lives. Also, with global warming becoming more and more of a crisis, the natural habitats of these animals are being effected! This means it is more critical than ever to learn everything we can about these animals so that we can help them in the wild. If you have ever taken a biology course that includes a unit on ecosystems, you know that each individual species has a unique place in the environmental hierarchy, meaning that if one dies out or a new one is introduced, the ecosystem will experience significant damage. Research is VITAL to preventing such a situation, and that is precisely the aim of the Vancouver aquarium.

The Vancouver aquarium is also a site that attracts visitors from FAR more than just the city of Vancouver. If this ban goes through, residents in all of greater Vancouver will be deprived of the opportunity to learn and experience mammals that they know are getting a second chance at life and were NOT captured from the wild to do shows for the public. It's also a tourist destination! Meaning that even people from different countries come to learn about and appreciate the animals at the aquarium. In my own personal experience for example, I took my significant other to the aquarium last year, as he had never been in his four years after moving to Canada from Kazakhstan. The entire time he was asking questions to me as well as any employee he could track down and when we left, he couldn't stop talking about how much he'd learned since going there, and the cetaceans were one of the things he was most interested in.

If this ban goes through, you will knowingly have decreased the quality of, or simply taken away the life of multiple cetaceans vital for the research of our oceans, as well as the education of our youth.

Currently, there is no valid reason to remove these animals from the care of the Vancouver aquarium! I strongly urge all of you to please ruminate on the points I've made in this email. You affect many

different important parts of life for residents of Greater Vancouver, this does not just concern the aquarium itself. The cetaceans in the aquarium do not deserve to be pushed aside without even a valid reason for doing so.

Thank you for your time.  
s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ban on Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:35:39 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:35:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Coupar, John; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart

**Subject:** Ban on Cetaceans

To Whom It May Concern,

I am very disappointed in the decision by the park board to draft the by-law amendment that bans cetaceans at the Aquarium forever. There needs to be exceptions added to allow for animals who cannot be released to still find sanctuary at Vancouver Aquarium s. 22(1) and it was Vancouver Aquarium that was a major influence on our coming to focus on sustainable fisheries. We joined Oceanwise and stopped selling much of our seafood that was unsustainable. They have a Marine Mammal rescue that I was able to see first hand where these mammals would otherwise die in the wild. I saw so many rehabilitated and released it is an incredible program that you have chosen to bring a complete halt to (I believe to appease public outcry with a lack of evidentiary support and due to inflammatory documentaries about other facilities that bear no resemblance to the Vancouver Aquarium). The animals who need somewhere safe and on the cutting edge of marine mammal research and rescue as well as programs such as ocean wise and others to enhance sustainability in fishing and other businesses deserve better than certain death because people think it "looks better". Some animals need sanctuary. Please consider adding exceptions to this new by-law at the very least.

A concerned citizen,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ban on Vancouver Cetaceans  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:40:06 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:40:01 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Ban on Vancouver Cetaceans

Hello,

I am a resident of Greater Vancouver, and a frequenter of the Vancouver Aquarium, and I do not agree with getting rid the homes of un-releasable cetaceans in Stanley Park. They represent a fascinating research opportunity and are flagship attractions that inspire children to pursue biology, as they did for me. You do not speak for me with his ruling. Please consider dropping the bylaw, or at least amend it to allow for what the aquarium already does.

Regards,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Ban to display cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 7:09:23 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 7:09:19 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Ban to display cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello,

With recent events there has been a trend of minimizing the forefront of Science, and the general disregard of it's important and crucial research.

While I do agree that there have been questionable events related to The Vancouver Aquarium, to ban it's operations by banning the display of cetaceans is a huge step backwards in forward thinking and understanding.

I like to think that while here in Canada we do have a high value of Morales, but that we do not turn our backs on research and science to do so in hopes that we have "The Morale High Ground".

Please do reconsider this bylaw as closure or hindrance of the Vancouver Aquarium does not only affect their ability to operate, but also hinders and reduces the learning opportunities for our youth and next generations. I fondly have memories of visiting the aquarium as a child, and learned and developed a great fascination in biology as a result of visiting there.

I beg and request that you reconsider the fallout that this decision would have.

- s. 22(1)  
[Redacted]

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- the fastest way to spoil your pleasure is routine

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: banning cetacea in captivity - unforgivable and irreversible consequences  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:33:39 AM

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**From:** Laura Graham  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:33:34 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** elizabeth.hubley@sen.parl.gc.ca; fabian.manning@sen.parl.gc.ca; daniel.christmas@sen.parl.gc.ca; tobias.enverga@sen.parl.gc.ca; Eric.Forest@sen.parl.gc.ca; marc.gold@sen.parl.gc.ca; Nancy.Hartling@sen.parl.gc.ca; martin@sen.parl.gc.ca; elaine.mccoy@sen.parl.gc.ca; thomasjohnson.mcinnis@sen.parl.gc.ca; jim.munson@sen.parl.gc.ca; don.plett@sen.parl.gc.ca; nancy.raine@sen.parl.gc.ca; Senator.Sinclair@sen.parl.gc.ca; charlie.watt@sen.parl.gc.ca; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Cc:** dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca; ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca; justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca  
**Subject:** banning cetacea in captivity - unforgivable and irreversible consequences

Are you people who want to ban cetaceans in captivity seeing this? This is the face of one of the species you are condemning to extinction either through misguided moral superiority or shameful ignorance of the precariousness of wildlife populations or both. We should have started a captive breeding program before their numbers dropped below 100. Now it is highly unlikely we can save them. It is unforgivable and you should be ashamed of yourselves! <https://phys.org/news/2017-03-vaquita-porpoises-dead-mexico.html>

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## One of last vaquita porpoises found dead in Mexico

phys.org

Environmentalists said they have found the body of a baby vaquita marina porpoise, one of the last of its kind, washed up dead in northern Mexico.

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**From:** Laura Graham  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 26, 2017 5:09 PM  
**To:** elizabeth.hubley@sen.parl.gc.ca; fabian.manning@sen.parl.gc.ca; daniel.christmas@sen.parl.gc.ca; tobias.enverga@sen.parl.gc.ca; Eric.Forest@sen.parl.gc.ca; marc.gold@sen.parl.gc.ca; Nancy.Hartling@sen.parl.gc.ca; martin@sen.parl.gc.ca; elaine.mccoy@sen.parl.gc.ca; thomasjohnson.mcinnis@sen.parl.gc.ca; jim.munson@sen.parl.gc.ca; don.plett@sen.parl.gc.ca; nancy.raine@sen.parl.gc.ca; Senator.Sinclair@sen.parl.gc.ca;

charlie.watt@sen.parl.gc.ca

**Cc:** dominic.leblanc@parl.gc.ca; ec.ministre-minister.ec@canada.ca; justin.trudeau@parl.gc.ca

**Subject:** Bill S-203 An Act to amend the Criminal Code and other Acts (ending the captivity of whales and dolphins)

Dear Senators

I'm writing to give my expert opinion on how Bill S-203 is a very bad idea in terms of the conservation of cetacea species. For the past 3 decades I have focused my research program on studying the physiology of endangered species with the aim of generating data that can help with their conservation. Captive facilities like zoos and aquaria are essential for housing wildlife species so that we can obtain data we could not obtain from a free-ranging individual. And that data is then used to optimize management of the species in the wild. Using an example from my research program, any non-invasive technique for assessing physiological parameters must be developed and validated using captive individuals.

Furthermore, maintaining healthy breeding populations of wild species in zoos and aquaria are essential to provide emergency back up populations to recover species in the wild. For example, I am involved in the captive breeding/reintroduction program for the Vancouver Island marmot. When their populations crashed in the 1990's due to clear cutting, the remaining animals were brought into captivity to set up a captive breeding/reintroduction program to increase numbers to sustainable levels. However it took several years to optimize captive conditions for consistent breeding to take place and we still have not perfected it. We have lost valuable genetic diversity in the species because we did not already have a successfully breeding captive population when their wild populations crashed beyond natural recovery. Another example is the vaquita, a cetacean. This is the most endangered mammal species in the world and with fewer than 50 individuals left captive breeding is their only hope of avoiding extinction. Yet, like the marmot, they have not been housed in captivity before, largely due to push back from willfully ignorant animal rights activists, so we have no idea if we can do it successfully. If we already had a successful captive breeding program for the vaquita the outlook for avoiding extinction would be much more positive. As it stands, it is likely the vaquita will go extinct like the recently extinct baiji, another cetacean for whom we waited too long to set up a captive breeding population. There are many other examples of how this lack of foresight will have doomed a species.

So, in view of the undisputed value of captive populations to the conservation of wildlife species I ask the senate to reject Bill S-203 'An Act to amend the Criminal Code and other Acts (ending the captivity of whales and dolphins)'. We cannot guarantee the safety of wild populations of cetaceans from human-caused population declines and therefore it is imperative we provide safe-havens for breeding populations as a hedge against extinction.

Sincerely

Laura H Graham, PhD

Dept Animal Biosciences, University of Guelph

lgraha01@uoguelph.ca

Director: WRG Conservation Foundation

[www.wrgconservation.org](http://www.wrgconservation.org)

## WRG Conservation Foundation

[www.wrgconservation.org](http://www.wrgconservation.org)

WRG Conservation Foundation ... Like our facebook page or follow us on twitter or instagram to see regular updates on our research activities and interesting animal ...



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**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Banning cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:12:28 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:12:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Banning cetaceans in Stanley Park

I don't support this bylaw. I'm concerned about the rescued cetaceans that need a safe. The Aquarium has done this with integrity for years. You're acting on misinformation - or, more specifically, incomplete information and, as a result, so is the public.

Please don't do this.

Respectfully,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: banning display of cetaceans - Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:38:13 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: March 18, 2017 4:38:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: banning display of cetaceans - Vancouver Aquarium

Hello,

I am writing to express my concern about the ban of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I understand if this happens the current resident dolphins will have to be removed and possibly euthanized. This is very upsetting and i hope that the Parks Board will re-vote and change their minds. The Aquarium is rescuing and rehabilitating not breeding or putting on shows. I understand that they do not accept any cetaceans that have been captured from the wild nor do they condone it. They have also made a commitment to not breed and as long as they stay on this path i believe that they should be allowed to continue with their work.

I am asking as an advocate for all animals that if i thought for one moment that they would be like Sea World i would never support them. Please reconsider it is not better for the animals to be dead than in the aquarium if they cannot survive in the wild.

Thank you in advance for your time.

Kind regards

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Banning of Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:58:27 AM

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From **s. 22(1)**

Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 11:58:19 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Banning of Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing to advise that I do not support your ban of cetaceans at the Stanley Park aquarium which was recently voted on by your board.

If the aquarium is being used for the care & possible rehabilitation of rescued sea animals or to provide a home & valuable research for those that can not be returned to the wild, why would you support them dying instead? Are you not able to stand up to a small group of activists and explain the position of the aquarium & the valuable service they provide? Why would you have approved the 3 phase expansion plan if you were going to be swayed by public pressure from a small group of people?

I hope you will reconsider & overturn the ban, allowing the aquarium to continue their valuable work. If the people of this lovely city get to enjoy watching these sea animals while they are rehabilitated, then all the better. Are you going to shut down the shelters that take care of or rehabilitate wildlife that need help next?

**s. 22(1)**

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Banning of cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:33:45 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:33:42 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Banning of cetaceans in Stanley Park

To The Parks Board Commissioners

I have been going to the Aquarium since I can remember. It has been a wonderful place full of fun and knowledge for the locals and the tourists. I am proud of our Aquarium as it has been the forerunner of aquatic research. I am disappointed to read that this ban is being implemented. I was always under the impression that our cetaceans and many other animals were rescued from the wild for rehabilitation and released when ready. Unless you have sources to say that is not the case, I strongly disagree with this ban and hope you would reconsider.

s. 22(1)

and would like to be able to explain to members of the public why my employers are executing such ban on an important research facility.

Thanks for your time.

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s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Banning the display of cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:17:49 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:17:34 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; erin.shum@vancoiver.ca; Coupar, John; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; stiart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Banning the display of cetaceans

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Resident of the Lower Mainland. Mother of a curious, teachable child. Admirer of creatures of the sea.

s. 22(1)

A large rectangular area of the document has been redacted, appearing as a solid grey block.

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Belugas at Vancouver Aquarium.  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 6:39:29 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 39:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Belugas at Vancouver Aquarium.

I have lived in Vancouver since 1975. The Stanley Park Zoo and the Aquarium have played a significant role in my nephews' lives when they would come to visit me and they now bring their children. My 5 year old niece has been in love with the belugas ever since she first saw them at the Aquarium at the age of 3. When she had the choice of a stuffed toy - she picked the beluga. A little context here - she first said s. 22(1) lives in 'couver then it became visiting s. 22(1) house in Vancouver and going to the Aquarium to see the baby beluga's. We are finding ne s around Vancouver when she visits in order to not have to discuss why the belugas are not at the aquarium.

For most people this is their only opportunity to see whales. By no means am I suggesting capturing more whales but repatriating already captured belugas seems sensible after the new pools are built. This marine environment is one way of helping children learn respect for the marine animals and possibly inspire a possible vocation. Children living in poverty benefit from the few opportunities they have to learn about our coastal marine waters as their parent(s) take advantage of free/ low costs admission to the generous gifts of admission from others.

Please continue to have Belugas at the Vancouver Aquarium. I have generations of experience of children being awed, and respectful for their presence. For those that can afford to see marine animals in the wild, that is wonderful. Many are unable to afford these types of experiences and they shouldn't be denied an experience if we can provide it.

Sincerely  
s. 22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Boards decision regarding Vancouver Aquarium.  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 7:40:14 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 12, 2017 7:40:11 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Boards decision regarding Vancouver Aquarium.

Hi. My name is s. 22(1) and I am a member of C.A.Z.A, A.Z.A. and an employee of the Edmonton Valley Zoo. I do not speak for any of these organizations, however, I believe my involvement with these organizations gives me significant knowledge and experience with keeping controversial animals in captivity. For the most part, animals at the Vancouver Aquarium that are being affected by this decision were either born in captivity or injured wildlife that was deemed non-releasable by the Fisheries and Oceans department. Not allowing the Aquarium to keep these animals, for research and educational purposes is a mistake, for many reasons. The research that the Aquarium, and M.M.R. do or support is invaluable and has taught humanity much about the state of our oceans and what we can do to improve them. Research conducted by M.M.R. and the aquarium is CURRENTLY BEING USED to help save critically endangered Vaquita in the Gulf of California, a population that numbers around 300 individuals. (Ask any cetacean keeper at the Aquarium about them, and you will gain a wealth of information about how you can help). The animals that the Aquarium keeps for their educational programs give that research a face. It gives people a reason to listen to the research. A reason to change their lifestyle to better the world around them. The emotional connection one gets from seeing, hearing, and smelling these animals has SO much more impact than reading about them, or seeing them on T.V., or more likely these days, a tiny phone screen. The staff at the Aquarium, and Marine Mammal Rescue is world class. Instead of taking away their reasons for choosing Vancouver as their place of employment, you should be supporting their tireless efforts to promote conservation and education of the natural world, and their unparalleled dedication to ensuring the health, welfare, and dignity, be it in life or death, of the animals they care for. The next time I'm in Vancouver, I will think long and hard before visiting the Aquarium, or any other attractions the park board oversees, knowing that they decided beautiful animals like Chester and Daisy, and who knows how many countless others in the future, were better off dead than in captivity.  
Sincerely,

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: By law  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:02:09 AM

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From [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 10:02:04 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: By law

I do NOT support the by law banning cetaceans in Stanley Park.  
I understand that I'm not living in Vancouver and my letter may not "count" towards this situation, but I feel that I wanted to be a part of the non- supporters and let that be known.  
The aquarium and all that they do is a wonderful support for the marine environment and a great learning tool for the rest of us ( especially local people living in the area of the aquarium).  
Thank you for your time.

[s. 22\(1\)](#)



Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bylaw amendment cetaceans ban  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:27:28 AM

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From: s. 22(1)

Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 10:27:25 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Cc: mail@vanaquafriends.org; publicrelations@vanaqua.org  
Subject: Bylaw amendment cetaceans ban

Dear members of the Vancouver Park Board,

I was very dismayed when I heard that the Vancouver Park Board will be drafting a bylaw amendment that will ban all cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe that such a wide encompassing ban ignores the vital rescue and rehabilitation role that the Vancouver Aquarium plays for marine animals in BC and all of Canada.

I am sure that the Park Board can not deny the importance of such a rescue and rehabilitation facility on the West Coast of Canada, especially in these times where human interaction and climate change threaten the natural homes of much sea life. Once animals are deemed non-releasable by Fisheries and Oceans Canada, there needs to be a local place where these animals can be provided and cared for, and continue to help their species in what we can learn from them. Where are they to go and what will happen to them if you ban all cetaceans?

I must also convey to you how important the rescue and rehabilitation and educational work done by the Vancouver Aquarium is to not just the residents of Vancouver, but all citizens of BC and the vast number of tourists that visit Vancouver on a daily basis.

I live in Victoria, and I have taken great pleasure in watching from afar the rescue work of the Vancouver Aquarium, especially the rescue of Chester, the false killer whale. It was truly remarkable to follow his rehabilitation and to know that he had a home where he would continue to live and be cared for and teach all of us about his species.

I feel that any decisions made with respect to the Vancouver Aquarium need to be made with consideration to all citizens of the Province of BC. I can understand your desire to appease vocal activists, however, I urge all of you to reconsider your bylaw amendment to allow provisions for rescued and non-releasable cetaceans, to be housed at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Regards,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bylaw Banning cetacean in Stanley park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:28:06 AM

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From [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: March 18, 2017 7:28:01 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Bylaw Banning cetacean in Stanley park

Hello Vancouver Parks Board.

My name is [s. 22\(1\)](#) I do not support the bylaw to Ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

If you put this bylaw in place the current cetacean animals in the aquarium will be hurt. They will have to be transferred to an aquarium that may not be in place to help the cetaceans or they will have to be killed.

I am going to start a club to let other kids my age know the truth about the rescued cetacean in the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please think again about passing this Bylaw.

The children of Vancouver need the aquariums rescued cetaceans to learn to be ocean savers of the future.

[s. 22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bylaw banning cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 3:43:40 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 28 March 2017 15:43:35 (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Cc:** s. 22(1)  
**Subject:** Bylaw banning cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board Members,

My name is s. 22(1) and a part of my friend s. 22(1) Ocean Savers club.

I would like you to reconsider the amendment to the bylaw that would prohibit cetaceans at the aquarium. I am worried that the cetaceans that were rescued by the aquarium and live there now will have no where to go and may be hurt or killed.

Thank you for your consideration,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: bylaw banning cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:36:43 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:36:40 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** bylaw banning cetaceans in Stanley Park

I do not support a bylaw banning cetaceans in Stanley Park. Please do not take the actions of a small activist group as the general will of informed citizens. The aquarium's work with rescued cetaceans and the research to better support wild cetaceans is invaluable. These animals would not be better off dead in the wild which is what would happen should the bylaw exist.

s. 22(1)





**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bylaw to Ban Cetaceans From Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:47:12 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 11:47:04 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Bylaw to Ban Cetaceans From Stanley Park

To whom it may concern,

I do not support the decision to ban cetaceans from the Park and the Aquarium. As a resident of Vancouver, s. 22(1) I've always believed in the work and research going on at the aquarium. Growing up, being able to learn and see first hand these big and magnificent creatures gave me a sense of how important our actions have on marine wildlife. Don't take that away for the future generations.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:27:16 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 9, 2017 6:27:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

To whom it may concern

Please accent this email as notice to the Parks Board Commissioners that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

s. 22(1)



Thank You

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Bylaw to ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:01:55 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:01:51 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Bylaw to ban cetaceans

Good morning

I absolutely do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans. Our aquarium is a rescue center, which should be encouraged. I feel as though your board needs to do better research.

I live in Prince Rupert BC with my 2 children, we support the Aquarium because of the good they do for sea life. We were just in California and did not go to Sea World because we do not agree with their practices. We only go to Aquariums that focus on rehabilitation and reintegration like the Vancouver Aquarium.

By passing the bylaw it seems as if you are putting a death sentence on sick animals. That doesn't look good for anyone.

I hope that you will consider the harm this bylaw would cause. This bylaw will impact people near and far not just the people of Vancouver.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: By-law to ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 8:48:01 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** 8:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** By-law to ban cetaceans

Greetings,  
My name is s. 22(1) and I am a resident of Vancouver. I am deeply troubled by the decision to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. If carried out, this decision will have negative impacts to both cetaceans as well as the public.

I recognize the park board acts to serve public interest but in this case, there are a minority of vocal and irrational activists driving this issue. I implore the park board to listen to the people that actually understand this issue and those that work with the animals directly.

Evidence-based decision making is central to effective democracy and I sincerely hope you will reconsider.

Thank you for your time,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: ByLaw to end cetaceans in Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:05:47 AM

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From s. 22(1)  
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:05:42 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: ByLaw to end cetaceans in Aquarium

Dear commissioners,

My understanding is that all cetaceans presently homed in the Vancouver Aquarium are rescues that would not be able to survive in the wild. Why would you even consider closing this one option that is their best (only) chance at survival?

Please re-consider your stand on this subject,  
and thank you for all your efforts in the past to give these wonderful animals the care they have needed.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: bylaw  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:11:42 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:11:32 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** bylaw

I s. 22(1) do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



Sent from [Outlook](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: by-laws  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:30:31 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:30:29 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** s. 22(1)  
**Subject:** by-laws

I do NOT support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. The scientists who work there are doing amazing and highly principled work. Saving the life of even one cetacean is of value to all of society. Vancouver should be proud this facility and the people who work there.

My address:

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Captivity ban for Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:25:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter Cetacean Ban LaureneSchiller.pdf](#)

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**From:** Laurene Schiller  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:24:59 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Captivity ban for Vancouver Aquarium

Good evening Park Board Commissioners,

I ask that you please read the attached letter of my thoughts on your recent decision to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I look forward to hearing back from all of you,  
Laurenne

—  
Laurenne Schiller  
PhD Student, Interdisciplinary Studies

Marine Affairs  
Dalhousie University  
1355 Oxford St. (Life Sciences Centre)  
Halifax, NS, Canada  
B3H 4R2

[Laurenne.Schiller@dal.ca](mailto:Laurenne.Schiller@dal.ca)  
d. 902.414.8466



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban -- don't do it!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:02:54 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:02:40 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban -- don't do it!

Hello Parks Board,

I'm writing to voice my concern about the motion to ban cetaceans being kept at the Vancouver Aquarium. I'm a Vancouver citizen with a great love for the Aquarium, and this affects me directly.

Though I initially supported the motion wholeheartedly on the grounds that holding these majestic creatures for display is unethical, the sustained and intense backlash from scientists who work in the field has been powerful and convincing.

In many ways, we live in a post-facts age. Today, phrases like "alternative facts" and pervasive incorrect and misguided opinions have taken root in tranches of society. Consequently, I strongly believe we have to pay ever more attention to what the experts tell us.

Please do not pass the motion to ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. Stand with scientists. Stand with information. Stand with the truth.

Respectfully,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban - NO!  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 7:45:54 AM

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From s. 22(1)

Sent: March 17, 2017 7:45:39 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Cetacean Ban - NO!

I am from Abbotsford, currently living in Vancouver, and I do not support this ban. I encourage you to overturn it immediately. Please take the time to read the following facts from Shawna Calderwood:

"THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!

- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!

- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of."

You, the Parks Board, are being pressured by a small group of activists that believe animals are better dead than in an aquarium. I am very against this mindset. I believe the Vancouver Aquarium does excellent, ethical work which should be encouraged.

Thank you for you time.

Kind regards,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban - NOT EVERYONE AGREES!  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 11:35:48 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 11:35:45 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: Cetacean ban - NOT EVERYONE AGREES!

(email acting up) I am against your decision. I hope science will prevail over emotion.

Beth

On Mon, Mar 20, 2017 at 11:34 AM, Beth R. <s.22(1)> wrote:  
I have never written my Park Board commissioners before, but I believe that a small, noisy group of animal activists have swayed your opinion and led you to ban cetaceans in captivity. Why the Park Board should have the power to do this just makes me shake my head - the Vancouver Aquarium should be independent of your opinions. Further, the Aquarium is a regional treasure, yet only ONE municipality has any say about it.

I was born in Vancouver, still live in the city, and am 100% AGAINST

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:08:48 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:08:44 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Re: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Ms. Kirby-Yung,

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my email.

Could you clarify what you mean by your comment? My understanding is that the aquarium currently has only female cetaceans, which would preclude their breeding. Further, if your primary concern is breeding, ban breeding.

Banning the care of injured and non-releasable animals doesn't make sense. Where will they be taken for rehabilitation and, ideally, re-release if their care and keeping is banned from the aquarium? What will happen to those that cannot be release due to the severity of their injuries or other factors?

What will happen to the animals currently in care and not releasable? The false killer whale and pacific white-sided dolphins will die in the wild. Is that your goal? How does the proposed bylaw amendment, in its current form, protect these animals?

How does the proposed bylaw amendment protect injured or sick wild animals that need help?

I understand there has been a public and very emotional response to the death of the belugas at the aquarium. We were all shocked and we still don't know the cause of the death of those beautiful, innocent animals. Until we do, taking such drastic action as if the aquarium's care were at fault (which may yet be revealed to be the case, I am not naive enough to think that impossible), is premature and ill-conceived. Demands to end the care and keeping of cetaceans seems an emotional, knee-jerk reaction not based on science.

The responsible thing to do is to wait until the cause of death is known, then act according to facts, not heated emotion. And, as noted above, if you are concerned in any way that the aquarium may breed these animals now or in the future, you have the ability to ban their breeding without endangering injured, sick and currently non-releasable animals.

Respectfully,

s. 22(1)

Vancouver residents

----- Original Message -----

From: "sarah kirby-yung" <Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca>

To: s. 22(1)

Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:48:21 AM

Subject: Re: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear s. 22(1)

Thank you for your email. Much appreciated. Please note the Aquarium does currently have the ability to

breed its cetaceans and it does.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 16, 2017, at 10:43 AM, s. 22(1) > wrote:  
>  
> Dear members of the Vancouver Parks Board,  
>  
> We are Vancouver residents and we do not support the ban on cetacean animals at the Vancouver Aquarium.  
>  
> The aquarium does not capture animals from the wild, does not breed cetaceans and is performing vital research that will aid wild populations of these animals.  
>  
> Please do not proceed with this ill-conceived plan.  
>  
> Respectfully,  
> s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:43:29 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:43:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear members of the Vancouver Parks Board,

We are Vancouver residents and we do not support the ban on cetacean animals at the Vancouver Aquarium.

The aquarium does not capture animals from the wild, does not breed cetaceans and is performing vital research that will aid wild populations of these animals.

Please do not proceed with this ill-conceived plan.

Respectfully  
s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:34:36 PM

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From s. 22(1)  
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:34:33 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Cetacean ban at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Sirs/Madames,

I am writing to express my concern about the cetacean ban that will affect the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe the Vancouver Aquarium should be allowed to continue to serve as a refuge for rescued animals, to play a vital role in cetacean research, and to display cetaceans that cannot be released to promote public education. I am a Vancouver resident, and I hope that the city will reconsider its position.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban Bylaw  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:49:19 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:49:16 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; sarahkirby-yung@vancouver.ca; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Cetacean Ban Bylaw

Hello,

I am emailing to advise you that I strongly oppose the cetacean ban bylaw. Vancouver aquarium is an unbelievable organization that has rescued many animals and provided them another chance at life. These animals would have died if they were not rescued and left in the wild. Please consider allowing the Vancouver aquarium to continue doing what they do best and helping the animals that need it the most.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:24:26 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:24:20 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
Cc: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Wiebe, Michael; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin  
Subject: Cetacean Ban in Stanley Park

Hi,

I am emailing you to indicate that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

My hope is that you and the other Parks Board Commissioners educate themselves on the harm you are doing to injured cetaceans. Without the Vancouver Aquarium being allowed to house these creatures, they will not be able to receive the support they need, and those unable to survive in the wild will be euthanized when found.

All living things deserve to survive, and I am sure that other Vancouver residents will not want leaders who think otherwise.

Kind Regards,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:04:35 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:04:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban in Stanley Park

Dear Commissioners,

I am disheartened by the recent vote to ban the display of live cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. As a Vancouver resident, born and raised, this aquarium has brought me years of joy and wonderment about our oceans, their inhabitants, and the care of the entire aquatic ecosystem that surrounds us. When I was a child, I once aspired to becoming a marine biologist, in large part due to my positive educational experiences at the Vancouver Aquarium. The opportunity to learn through watching and viewing these majestic animals instilled an incredible amount of respect for them, and their natural environment.

While I didn't end up pursuing a career in marine biology, I did pursue my education in caring for the environment, and supporting compassionate, sustainable communities. I know the impact of viewing these animals and learning about them at the aquarium had a profound impact on me and my environmental ethos.

As a resident of Vancouver, I urge you to reconsider your vote.

Regards,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban in Vancouver Parks  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:10:54 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 3:10:51 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban in Vancouver Parks

Dear Vancouver Parks Board,

I am writing to express my concern over the recent ban of Cetaceans in Vancouver Parks, and specifically the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe that the Aquarium's 29 year plan was the best option for these vulnerable and non-releasable animals. The marine mammal rescue, rehabilitation and release program is one of the best in the world and this ruling will severely impinge on their ability to continue this work.

I believe that the parks board was unduly influenced by the loud voices of a few small groups which do not accurately reflect the findings of science or the feelings of the majority of Vancouverites. Please reconsider your ruling to properly accommodate current animals at the aquarium and ones who are not able to return to the wild in future.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:51:05 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:51:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Wiebe, Michael; Shum, Erin; Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban Stanley Park

Dear Commissioners of the Vancouver Parks Board

I appreciate you listening to the citizens of Vancouver and all who have shared their concerns regarding cetaceans being kept in captivity. However I think there is confusion among even those who wish to keep whales out of captivity. I for one am a strong supporter that whales and dolphins should not be kept in captivity for research and breeding programs. BUT please tell me what will happen to the 3 dolphins we currently have living at the Vancouver Aquarium. These animals are not releasable. There is a large difference between capturing an animal in the wild and bringing him to the aquarium for people's enjoyment and rescuing an animal and giving it a second chance at life. I have heard that these animals will be euthanized as they have no place to go if they cannot stay here. Is this really a solution to saving the whales? I feel like the general public should be aware of the plan for these animals. Please correct me if I am misunderstood and I surely hope I am.

Thank you  
s. 22(1)

who loves to visit the beautiful city of Vancouver.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 1:53:54 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 1:53:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; erin.shun@vancouver.ca; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban Stanley Park

Dear members of the Vancouver Parks Board

I categorically do NOT support a ban on all cetaceans in the Stanley Park Aquarium and I think you have made a major mistake in planning such a ban. Although I do presently live in Victoria, our family has lived in Vancouver until two years ago and we have many friends and relations who continue to live in the Vancouver area.

Raising our children in Vancouver, we have many fond memories of bringing the family to the Aquarium. Although all the displays had educational value and interest, the most exciting displays for all of us were always the whales and porpoises. My daughter was interested for a time in becoming a marine biologist (as were many of her friends) and held one of her birthday parties at the Aquarium. I remember thinking at the time how special it was, what a privilege to see these animals close up and learn about their true natures from scientists, when not so long ago in most of the world whales were considered man eating monsters to be feared, but also killed for their oil, meat, etc. How now that children could interact with these magnificent creatures in person, they felt a bond that would last a lifetime and lead to a wider appreciation of all parts of nature.

Now some professional protesters (always looking for the next "cause celebre"), kind, but naive and easily swayed young people, hysterical and uneducated animal right fanatics, have raised their shrill voices and put pressure on you, the Parks Board members to do the wrong thing, because it superficially sounds politically correct. They say people can still see whales in the wild. Really? How many people actually have that opportunity? How many people live close enough to whale watching charters, or can even afford them. They are very expensive and even having paid all that money, often you can only have far off glimpses of a whale blowing, and tail fin splashing. Not really much of a "bond" there. And scientists say it is not that great for whales in the wild to be approached by human boats, in any case. Even more occasionally and randomly whales do appear close to shore, but not often enough for most people to see them even if they live close by. You can see them in movies, or on t.v., or on the internet, but is that any more real than a video game?

How many years will it take for people to lose their connection to these marine mammals, without their close up contact? Why give money to marine animal research, clean oceans, etc., when you have no connection? Without close up research by marine biologists, already endangered sea creatures will be faced with extinction, through climate change and human activities and pollution. Or, through

the continued close and personal contact to a few representative members of the species, rescued from tragic circumstances, rehabilitated and kept with educated and loving care, people can keep their bond with these cetaceans and keep caring about their long term future.

Hoping for your further consideration

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: cetacean ban  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:35:26 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:35:23 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** cetacean ban

Dear Members of the Park Board,

I am writing this e-mail to voice my very strong disagreement with your recent decision to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and thus at the Aquarium. You say that you are speaking on behalf of the population of Vancouver in making this decision. Well this is one lifelong Vancouverite who you are certainly not speaking for. I implore you to please revisit this decision and not to succumb to the pressure of a few vocal activists who do not speak for the people of this City and in my opinion, are largely uninformed or misinformed about the amazing conservation work that the Vancouver Aquarium does.

Throughout my childhood I visited the Aquarium. We had a family membership and it was one of my favourite outings. I learned about the animals, the importance of our oceans and the work that needs to be done to conserve the oceans and it's creatures for the next generation. The opportunity to see these mammals close up makes all the difference in engaging children and adults in the plight of these species and helping the public to acknowledge the damage we are causing to the oceans and what can be done.

I am now pregnant and will be bringing a daughter into this world very shortly. I am devastated that she may not have the same opportunity to engage with and learn about these animals as I did.

Please know that your decision does not represent the opinions of all Vancouverites and just because I don't come to a meeting and yell at you about my preference doesn't make my opinion any less valuable or any less worthy of being considered. Don't let a vocal minority drown out the other voices.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)





s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 8:56:37 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 8:56:33 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban

Dear Park Board Commissioner,

My name is s. 22(1) and I am a sophomore in high school, hoping to pursue a career in psychology and marine mammal training. I am sending you this letter, to urge you to repeal your decision to ban the Vancouver Aquarium's cetaceans.

The Vancouver Aquarium has been an invaluable resource to the conservation and protection of marine mammals. Nearly 2/3 of the beluga whale population resides in Canadian waters, making their preservation incredibly important to the survival of the local ecosystem. Not only this, but seeing how the Vancouver Aquarium is the only Marine Mammal Rescue Centre in Canada, they must be allowed to continue sharing information about their marine mammals to the general public.

When I was 13, I visited SeaWorld for the first time. I saw a dolphin dance in the water with a trainer and a killer whale splash the crowd. I fell in love with marine mammals, and since then I have become adamant to the preservation of wildlife. If not for SeaWorld, I would have never discovered this fire I have inside of me or this love I have for wildlife. I never would have become a volunteer with the Florida Aquarium. I never would have worked to raise awareness for Shark Finning within Florida's YMCA Youth in Government program by giving a 7 minute speech to a room full of 1 hundred high school students.

Zoos and Aquariums have inspired people all over world, like me, to fight for the preservation of animals and our ecosystem. This is only possible through the work zoos and aquarium do. The Vancouver Aquarium has rehabilitated and rescued hundreds of animals (<https://www.vanaqua.org/act/direct-action/marine-mammal-rescue/patient-list>). Without the Vancouver Aquarium's ability to rehabilitate cetaceans, there would be no one left for miles around to save these injured and dying animals.

The environment needs places like the Vancouver Aquarium to remain operational and to keep un-releasable cetaceans in their facility. This is a crucial part of their job, which they will not be able to do through this ban. Please, repeal your decision to ban the park's cetaceans. Don't follow the popular PETA trend. Stand up for marine mammals and fight for their preservation. They need you to be a voice for them.

Thank you for your time and I hope you reconsider your decision,

s. 22(1)

A grey rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:16:06 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:16:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban

Dear Sir/Madame,

I am writing to add my voice to the pool expressing my extreme concerns for the well being of the cetaceans at Stanley Park.

I wonder if the board has contemplated what will now happen to them now. The animals will certainly have to be euthanized if an alternate location isnt found. It wonder if it had been considered why these rescues were housed there in the first place, how are they expected to survive in the wild. It seems clear as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park the public will be appeased. Why not investigate the good work these scientists are doing and educate the public? Global warming is a very real thing and soon there will be more and more whales in need of this help and experience but with policies like these in place what chance will they have?

If you cared about animal welfare, you would make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen (the current residents) are both also reaching the end of their natural life.

From my understanding the Parks Board is doing this in the publics name. I don't believe that Vancouver residents want Vancouver Aquarium to stop the rescue efforts or to end the valuable research that has the power to preserve these species in the wild. And the ones who do are sadly undereducated on the matter.

I know there are activist groups pressuring you but let my voice be at least one that speaks reason and asks you to reconsider. There is an alternative and I beg you to stand up for these animals and their future. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then you need to reconsider your decision.

Thank you

s. 22(1)

BC Resident

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban.  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:49:04 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:49:01 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban.

Dear Parks Board,

I wanted to voice my concern regarding the recent decision to ban the ability to house cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

There are many arguments on both sides of this decisions, however, as a teacher and someone who is deeply concerned with our environment, I believe that this ban directly and deeply impacts the Vancouver Aquarium's mission to educate, research, and rehabilitate marine life.

A ban on for-profit wild-caught whales and dolphins in captivity makes absolute sense. To blanket ban the housing and display of animals that cannot be safely released back into the wild, when they can do a sterling service in providing us with information and that vital emotional link that can be formed when humans see and experience something in ways other than a screen is unnecessary and extreme.

Part of my love of ocean life and my concern for it stems from my experiences at the Vancouver Aquarium and hearing the talks the hosts gave during the displays. I would urge you to reconsider your ban and allow the Vancouver Aquarium to continue in their research, rehabilitation, and education efforts.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:50:35 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:50:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean Ban

To our Park Board Commisioners,

it has come to my attention today that you have proposed the idea of banning all cetaceans from Stanley Park. Carrying through with this action would be extremely damaging to the reputation of the city, but even moreso to the pride of its residents. The Vancouver Aquarium harbors injured animals, and works to rehabilitate them and nurture them back to health. I cannot see any valid reasons to outlaw their presence in our parks, as it is a wholly mutualistic relationship between these poor animals and the public who supports them. If you believe that Vancouver residents want this to happen, then you are wrong. I dearly hope you heed this call and let justice be done; the impression it would leave for you to have this done is extremely ugly indeed. Frankly, it seems that you are trying to do something benevolent failing to see how malevolent this action really is. Vancouver Aquarium is not SeaWorld, and the work done there is a far cry from anything in Blackfish.

Thank you for reading. Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:16:54 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:16:50 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Cetacean Ban

As I do not live in Vancouver and cannot vet the information below, I can only tell you how I feel if the information below is correct. If so, then I feel the board will have done a less than stellar job in getting this information out through the media and educating the surrounding residents. As an aquarium it is your job to inform and educate and not respond with a knee jerk motion because of ill informed public pressure. Please give this a second "think" and do what is right for the animals rather than what is right for the current optics.

However, if the information below is not correct then please ignore the above and I would really appreciate knowing this so that I can make an informed decision on my stand in this matter.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

#### "THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!

- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!

- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any

animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

#### IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of."

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:53:28 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:53:16 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetacean ban

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

s. 22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the content of the email body.

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: cetacean ban  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:51:40 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:51:37 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey; Coupar, John; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** cetacean ban

To All Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing to express my deep dismay at your recent decision to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. You have allowed misinformation and sentiment on the part of no doubt well-meaning people to overrule facts and reason, a decision that ultimately will cause irreparable harm both to vulnerable animals and to advancement and understanding in fields as far ranging as marine biology, climate research, and potentially even geopolitics. The negative impact your decision will cause on research and rehabilitation efforts conducted by marine biologists and others affiliated with the Aquarium is deeply disturbing.

I'm asking you, please, to reconsider. Don't bow to pressure from members of the public who think themselves heroes and saviours for shopping at Whole Foods, and for watching Blackfish that one time.

Do what is right. Listen to the scientists. Rescind the ban, and reopen the discussion.

Please.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetacean should stay  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 7:38:57 AM

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From s. 22(1)  
Sent: March 17, 2017 7:38:54 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Cetacean should stay

I do not support the ban. I believe the aquariums plan is the right path. Please do not pass this motion. I have read the science and know what the years ahead will bring if you don't pass the ban. But if you do, several cetaceans will have to leave their homes and that's stressful for them. Whereas the cortisol (stress hormone) in the ones at our aquarium indicate they are happy here every if it isn't ideal.

Let them stay and let the aquarium keep up it's important rescue (but trap and catch) work.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:07:40 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:07:36 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Fwd: Cetaceans

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Date:** March 18, 2017 at 9:05:40 AM PDT  
**To:** <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>, <[casey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:casey.crawford@vancouver.ca)>, <[catherine.evans@vancouver.ca](mailto:catherine.evans@vancouver.ca)>, <[sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)>, <[stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca)>, <[erin.shum@vancouver.ca](mailto:erin.shum@vancouver.ca)>, <[michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca](mailto:michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

Good morning!

I'm emailing you today to express that I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans from Stanley Park.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:20:00 PM

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From s. 22(1)  
Sent: March 18, 2017 7:19:56 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John  
Cc: Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine  
Subject: Cetaceans

To whom it may concern:

I have just read a very thorough update on another side of the controversy over the keeping of cetaceans at Stanley Park, and thus the aquarium. The fact that two of these lovely mammals are coming to the end of their natural lives and now face the potential of euthanization is absolutely unnecessary and unacceptable. I have visited the aquarium many many times over the years and have been a member often on for several years. I have watch them constantly adjust to make sure that all animals are in the best possible conditions. The work that they do there is important and necessary.

I hope that you will listen to people who are impassioned about lives of animals and take all the information into consideration when making your choices.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:34:58 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 10, 2017 8:34:56 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

Thank you- it's difficult to change but change we must. You have helped restore the Park Board's good name and purpose.

Cheers

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans and the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:18:53 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** March 8, 2017 3:18:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans and the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

As a resident of the City of Vancouver and a fee-paying user of Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation facilities, I am deeply disappointed with your actions in regards to the issue of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. There has seemed to be a willingness to entertain a small but vocal minority of individuals who have decided that they have a better understanding about the necessary care for cetaceans even though it is highly likely that **none** of these individuals are either marine mammal scientists or veterinarians? I cannot even remotely fathom the foolishness of this, as to why a board elected by residents of the City of Vancouver would be so willing to make such an important decision based on a fundamentally false narrative. It seems that the majority of these "conservationists" believe that they are entitled to determine the fate of cetaceans based on their knowledge gleaned from viewing a documentary on YouTube.

I read today's article in the CBC (<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vancouver-park-board-aquarium-special-meeting-1.4014217>) in regards to tonight's meeting and **strongly urge** that all of you listen to those individuals who are basing their comments on scientific fact and not those trying to elicit an emotional response. At the end of the day your constituents, the citizens of Vancouver, are likely to vilify you more for basing your decision on an emotional response compared to a decision based in science. Please remind yourselves that you are ultimately beholden to those **who have elected you** and not this small minority of individuals who ultimately feel that they can disrupt your process at any turn to undermine your ability to operate as a commission.

This issue has made me more aware of municipal politics and I will be following closely to ensure that I will be able to hold each of you accountable on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 based on your decision in the coming days.

Respectfully,

s. 22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:26:41 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:26:36 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans at Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Members,

While I understand the sentiment behind banning cetaceans from being housed and displayed in Stanley Park, I think in this case concern for the animals is leading to a rash decision.

It's one thing to stop Sea World from exploiting Orcas, and another entirely to ban a reputable aquarium and rescue operation from providing care. From what I've heard and read, the cetaceans at the aquarium are animals that either could not survive in the wild, are in the process of rehabilitation, or are involved in a scientific study.

Please reconsider.

Thanks.

s. 22(1)

.....  
It's not us vs them. It's only and always us.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:52:39 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:52:35 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Cetaceans at Stanley Park

Sirs/Mesdames:

I understand that you are considering a motion to ban cetaceans at Stanley Park Aquarium. May I ask what arrangements you have made for the ongoing care of those animals who live there who cannot be released into the wild as they would not be able to survive (I understand the Aquarium houses at least three large marine mammals that fall into that category)? Will you continue to provide funding to support those animals until the time of their natural deaths (without "displaying" them the Aquarium will not be able to raise funds to offset the cost of their care) or will you force their caregivers to euthanize them?

I understand that another facet of the ban on keeping cetaceans at the Aquarium will be that the Marine Mammal Rescue Association will have nowhere to house any rescued animals requiring treatment or ongoing care in order to survive (meaning that animals that might have recovered and been released back into the wild will have to be euthanized instead). Have you an alternative proposal to provide facilities at another site to house rescued animals until they can be rehabilitated or until their natural deaths if it is determined that they would be unable to survive in the wild, or will the member of the rescue association be forced to euthanize animals who might have had a chance at rehabilitation because of a lack of resources to provide that level of care?

These issues should be addressed if you are going to ban the housing of cetaceans at Stanley Park.

Stanley Park Aquarium determined many years ago not to capture wild marine mammals for display or to accept the transfer to their facility of animals so captured (although I imagine if it was a humanitarian decision in the animal's best interest they might bend this rule). As such, they have invested in their facility so that they might house those rescued cetaceans that could not survive in the wild, to the benefit of all the rest of us who get to see and be educated in the lives/needs of our neighbours in the water. Don't eradicate a valuable facility that contributes so much to our understanding of the ocean and its creatures because someone doesn't like the way it "looks," please.

Thank you.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at the aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:21:29 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:00:56 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans at the aquarium

I do not support a bvlaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.  
s. 22(1)

Sent from my Galaxy Tab® A

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 11:59:13 AM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 11:58:47 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Commissioners with the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation,

Tonight you will be debating the issue of cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium, not for the first, and perhaps not for the last time. I have contributed to the previous debates at the Park Board and won't make it in person this time, but I would like to share with you a few thoughts that I would like to see taken into account:

1.

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's national aquarium. Its tens of thousands of members come from all over the province, and indeed the country. You will be making a decision on behalf of all Canadians, not just those that happen to be residents of Vancouver. Please keep that in mind when considering a proposal to ask Vancouver residents to the polls for a referendum.

2.

There is no other aspect of this issue I care more about than rescue, rehabilitation, release and housing animals that cannot be released (due to illness, age at rescue etc.).

Whatever you decide or the federal government mandates, it must not impact the Vancouver Aquarium's ability to continue its marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation program. This is Canada's only facility equipped with staff and facilities to rescue, rehabilitate and release a cetacean (whales, porpoises, dolphins). No other such facility exists in close proximity, not even in the United States. The Vancouver Aquarium is unique in that respect as that it can take in animals for long-term rehabilitation if necessary, and even house animals permanently if they cannot be released safely into the wild.

There is already a trend of an increase in live strandings of marine mammals, and thanks to man-made climate change and rapidly changing oceans, that is going to get much worse (as we can already see in other parts of the world, e.g. the North Sea). We will see more whales strand and in need of rescue, and we will need competent professionals with extensive experience caring for these animals regularly in order to make sure they have a chance. Otherwise, animals that cannot be simply

re-floated (the majority) will have to be euthanized immediately, as is happening in countries that have no rehabilitation facilities, such as the United Kingdom. That must not be allowed to happen here.

3.

Research with captive animals matters. I serve on the board of directors of a conservation non-profit that advocates on behalf of the world's smallest cetaceans, porpoises. The harbour porpoise is a member of this family, and one representative of this species lives at the Aquarium in Vancouver. This species is very abundant; there are 700,000 of them in our world's oceans, and yet they are facing at times severe threats that can easily decimate a population and drive it to the brink of extinction. In the Black Sea and Baltic Sea for instance, the species (or rather these sub species) is actually listed as (critically) endangered by the IUCN.

The number one threat for small cetaceans, including the harbour porpoise, is by-catch in fixed fishing nets. 300,000 whales, porpoises and dolphins die annually because of entanglement in fishing nets alone. Many of them are porpoises. And of course, with a threat this dangerous, conservationists have moved to develop mitigation measures. And without exception, all of them have been developed (and are still being developed or improved) with the help of research that happened (and happens) in captive facilities. At Fjord & Baelte in Denmark for instance, rescued and rehabilitated harbour porpoise assisted in the development of deterrent devices that are not widely being used; they also helped determine how these animals perceive and react to ocean noise, how they detect prey (and threats) and how all of that interacts. That knowledge is absolutely vital for species management decisions, and something that scientists worldwide acknowledge.

The harbour porpoise is also a close relative to the critically endangered vaquita porpoise, of which only about 30 remain in the wild. The Vancouver Aquarium's harbour porpoises Jack and Daisy helped develop a passive sonar system that can be used to identify porpoises in the water column based on a kind of acoustic image. This system is now part of the desperate conservation efforts by international experts that are working to conserve this species. It will play a vital role in the conservation effort later this year, and that system could not have been developed without calibration with trained captive animals.

Similar research with captive animals has also happened with other species, including beluga whales. As marine mammal populations are in decline worldwide (including Canada's beluga whale populations), any and all knowledge we can accumulate with research on captive and wild animals is absolutely vital for conservation and species management. Extinction is forever, there is no going back. Whatever decision you make, please bear in mind that it may be irreversible with regards to the gap in knowledge you may create by preventing necessary research from happening, whether directly by removing cetaceans from captive care, or indirectly by depriving the Aquarium from a revenue source which might impact its research on wild animals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:47:07 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:47:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

To the Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

I fully support the Vancouver Aquarium and their Cetacean program. I am quite shocked by the fact that the Park Board is not supporting this valuable institution. In my view, you are victimizing the victim. Here they have suffered a major loss and instead of supporting them you are bashing them down. Why????? As there was no bacterial or viral infection detected in their death---the only conclusion would be that the beluga whales were poisoned. Someone poisoned these whales to create a massive public fuss --which they have achieved and instead of quelling the public view --you are pulled into this despicable person's plot to smear the Vancouver Aquarium. That is a shame on your integrity!

As I stated--- I support the Vancouver Aquarium & their program.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:32:26 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 11:32:22 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium

To the Parks Board Commissioners,

I am a Burnaby resident and I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley park.

Kind Regards,

s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:31:54 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:31:50 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

To the members of the board,

While I do not support capturing and displaying mammals strictly for entertainment purposes I have never thought of the Van. Aquarium as an organization that endorses or practices this.

Many years ago, as an advertising copy writer, I worked with the Aquarium on radio ads (over the space of a couple of years) and with material for the opening of a new exhibit. What I found was people who genuinely cared about the creatures they were fostering--with a great desire to learn more about sea creatures and their habitat and provide a centre for education. I believe this work is crucial if we are to improve (even save) our oceans and sea creatures. I also believe that they do a great service to mammals that have been rescued--I know that there are many small and large creatures that are helped and then released. Who will now take over this important work--especially cetaceans--if it is not carried on by the Van. Aquarium?

I would like to see you re-think your decision to totally disallow cetaceans at the Aquarium.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 9:04:17 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 19, 2017 9:04:21 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

The rescue and rehabilitation of cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium is admirable and valuable.

The move to rescue and rehabilitate injured water creatures at the Vancouver Aquarium has set the organization apart as a world class Aquarium.

I do not believe in the keeping of caged pets in general. However, the animals rescued and kept at the Vancouver Aquarium have a second chance at life. This is valuable. These animals are well treated and I believe their psychological needs are being met.

Releasing animals which are dependent on care is irresponsible and cruel.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at VanAqua  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 6:22:59 AM

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From **s. 22(1)**

Sent: March 26, 2017 6:22:50 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: Cetaceans at VanAqua

Dear Elected Officials,

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

**s. 22(1)**

PS - additional information you should be aware of:

<http://www.aquablog.ca/2014/02/an-open-letter-on-cetaceans-in-our-care/>

<http://globalnews.ca/news/3331833/vancouver-aquarium-cetacean-ban-could-mean-animals-will-have-to-be-euthanized-dfo/>

**s. 22(1)**

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium - include an exception for non-releasable animals  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 1:45:12 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 1:45:10 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium - include an exception for non-releasable animals

Dear Commissioner of the Park Board,

Following the board's decision to put forward a by-law banning the importation and display of cetaceans in city parks, I urge you to take into consideration what that means for the non-releasable cetaceans already living at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I ask you to include in the by-law an exception for the non-releasable animals, which I would like to remind you are deemed non-releasable by governing bodies independent of the Aquarium and their staff and often as a direct result of harmful human activity in the wild.

I would also like to remind you that the Vancouver Aquarium has made a commitment and stuck to that commitment of not taking marine mammals from the wild for display since 1996. None of the animals in question at the board meetings this past week were taken into captivity, nor would have been the belugas mentioned to return to Vancouver as part of the proposed research and phase out plan.

I urge you to take responsibility for the consequences of your decision. You need to understand that for the non-releasable cetaceans who call the Vancouver Aquarium their home, this decision means either relocation to another facility (which most likely will not have the same high standard for care) or euthanasia. Relocation would mean ripping these animals away from a place that is familiar and a family of care-givers they have known for a long time. I'm sure I don't have to explain to you how this would affect these animals. And I'm sure I don't have to explain to you what euthanasia means either.

Can you honestly say that you have the animals' best interests in mind when that's what your decision means?

You have listened to the anthropomorphized personal feelings of a handful of misinformed yet passionate activists instead of letting your decision be informed by science, experts and actual evidence. The least you can do is ensure that there is a clause in the by-law to guarantee the safety of the animals that need it the most.

I cannot imagine that any of the animal rights 'activists', however misguided they are in their crusade, actually wanted for any of these animals to be harmed.

Do the right thing and take responsibility for your decision.

Include an exception in the by-law for the non-releasable cetaceans.

Sincerely,

*Best Regards*

s. 22(1)

A grey rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:22:39 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:22:35 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board Commissions

I am a biology teacher in Vancouver and look forward to my field trip to the Vancouver aquarium. Every year I take 45-55 Gr 11 students to the Aquarium to learn about marine animals.

I am a huge supporter of having the rescued cetaceans at the Aquarium. These mammals need somewhere to live when they have become injured or sick. And having marine biologists/veterinarians that can research and learn from these mammals will only benefit the natural world and marine ecosystems. I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

My name is s. 22(1) My home address is s. 22(1)  
s. 22(1)

Please keep cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium!!

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 1:00:01 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:59:56 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I just wanted to add my voice to the many that are speaking out against the cetacean ban in Stanley Park (namely the Vancouver Aquarium). I am not originally from Vancouver, but I moved here seven years ago from elsewhere in BC, and the aquarium, including its cetacean population, has been a significant influence in my life.

It seems a downright shame, and shameful, that the Parks Board would consider this ban at all. If the multitude of research benefits of having cetaceans in captivity isn't enough, then surely the benefit to the individual animals who can't survive in the wild certainly should be.

And frankly, it's disgraceful to end a program that has been a huge benefit, not just to the people who enjoy the aquarium and gain a meaningful appreciation of our diverse sea-life, but also to the animals who have been rescued and are cared for.

I believe this is an important issue, and myself and many others will be keeping a close eye on how it progresses.

Thank-you very much for your time.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:01:23 AM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:01:19 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor

**Subject:** Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Hi,

Thank you for reading this letter, which is in regard to cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Misinformation abound! The Aquarium is facing challenges to the continued care of these cetaceans as a result of your decision.

The fact is that these rescued and in-process-of-being-rehabilitated animals will not survive long outside the Aquarium. Trackers could allow us to determine their fate tomorrow, which would eventually be traced back to the choices you make today.

In addition to participating in important, humane scientific studies, these animals act as ambassadors for their species, steering and educating younger generations. I have a young daughter; I want her to grow up understanding our impacts on the environment. The cetacean exhibits make this possible.

Anyone who visits the Aquarium, highly regarded for its world-class standards of care, can plainly see that its mission is just. It pains me to see that mission come under assault by the small, ill-informed minority of animal rights groups.

Please help us protect what is right for the present and the future. Please act on facts, not fears.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans ban in Stanley park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:39:43 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 7:39:24 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Cetaceans ban in Stanley park

Hello,

I am here writing you an email in regards to the recent bylaw that's being put in place to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park (the Vancouver aquarium). I think the park board has come to this decision to quick and possibly pressured with out actually looking into the facts or what will happen to the current cetaceans at the aquarium. Most of them can't be rehabilitated into the wild, and once this ban is in full affect what is going to happen? Having cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium is spreading awareness and educating not only adults, and my generation but the children. I remember growing up and I had a worker at the aquarium tell me all about the dolphins. I just stood there show after show all day. I was fascinated. I learned more then I would from a book. Seeing things first hand, seeing what the Vancouver aquarium does first hand. It's irreplaceable.

I don't not support this ban. I think you and the the park board need to rethink your decisions. Please rethink this decision.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans Ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 10:07:38 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 10:06:34 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans Ban

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I do NOT support a ban of cetaceans in Stanley Park. I have many fond memories growing up as a child learning about cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I would like my children to have the chance to have learn about marine life in the same fashion. I believe these types of experiences help people learn to appreciate marine line and the environment. Not everyone can afford to travel or have the opportunity to travel to see these animals underwater or in their natural environment.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: cetaceans ban  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 9:35:05 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 9:35:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** cetaceans ban

Hi there. I'm writing to tell you that I'm disturbed about the recent ban on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. As an animal lover and a lover of our amazing city, I feel disappointed that you've let a small group of vocal zealots, represent the rest of us. Do they even understand that the animals are rescues who are benefitted by the Aquariums care? That in the wild they would have already perished? Without facilities like the aquarium, creatures like these who are in trouble will have no help, and will die. I do not see how that benefits the animals or our community. Expanding the Aquarium's facilities, enriching the habitats while providing evidence based, expert husbandry to these creatures not only makes more sense. It is more kind. Please reconsider this ban.

Thank you,  
s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans in Captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:24:28 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:24:24 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Cetaceans in Captivity

I'm writing concerning yesterday's vote to draft a by-law amendment to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I urge you to add an exception to the by-law in the case of ill or injured marine mammals and those deemed non-releaseable by Fisheries and Oceans Canada. At this point there are 3 animals that fit this criteria - Helen, the Pacific White Sided Dolphin, Daisy, the Harbour Porpoise, Chester, the False Killer Whale. These animals call the Vancouver Aquarium home. They are well cared for, they are healthy and active and it is a fact that they would not survive in the wild.

Opponents to the Aquarium say that cetaceans in captivity would be better off dead, but Chester in particular is evidence that these animals have a desire to live. Chester, who was found stranded as a baby, showed his strength and willingness to live when he fought to survive with the help of the Marine Mammal rescue Center staff. He chose to fight to survive, he won the battle, and now he continues to thrive in his home at the Aquarium. He will not be the last cetacean to need help, nor the last to need a home. If you ban the the keeping of cetaceans outright, what will happen to these healthy, non-releasable animals? At this point there are no viable options for them. Sea pens do not currently exist so other than living at the Aquarium there are no alternatives for them.

I am a Vancouver resident and I care very much about the State of our Oceans and the animals in them. I care very much about the welfare of the cetaceans at the Aquarium, both now and in the future. Please consider Helen, Daisy and Chester when you draft your amendment. Add an exception so that they, and others like them, have a chance to live.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans in the Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:07:55 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17 10:05:28 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in the Aquarium

Dear Mr. Coupar,

I would like the Aquarium to continue to keep cetaceans on the understanding that they would only keep cetaceans that were rescued, not captured as healthy animals, and that therefore cannot be returned to the ocean.

Thank you,

s. 22(1)



*"The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." J. S. Bach*

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans in Vanaqua  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:44:18 AM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:44:14 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in Vanaqua

I'm a former Vancouver resident who still resides in the lower mainland for school and plans to return to Vancouver once that has been completed.

I'm rather upset that you would consider banning cetaceans due to the outrage of a small group of uneducated, knee-jerk activists.

The Vancouver Aquarium is something I have always been proud of. It's where I bring visitors still to this day so they are able to see the rehabilitation programs and further understand the vast difference between VanAqua and places like Sea World.

The idea that you're willing to completely abandon a program due to a bit of outrage is so disappointing. I thought we would've been better than that.

In 1957 on the show "The Big Beat" an interracial couple danced on the program. Due to the outcry of a few Southerners believing they were championing for the greater good, the entire show was shut down and cancelled. The show had excellent ratings but they caved to the pressure of a few ignorant viewers.

We don't have to cave the same way. We can be more transparent, and stronger ambassadors for the health and well-being of sea life. Their lives are more important than the ignorant opinions of some Vancouverites.

I have included a Facebook post from Shawna Calderwood below.

Thank you for your time,

s. 22(1)

"Last week the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium). I am livid at how science can be overshadowed by misinformation. I understand that scientists can come across arrogant (and therefore unlikable) – but that doesn't make what they say any less true!

Hopefully the below will offer my friends some insight into my frustration & encourage them to take the time to write an email in support of an organization I am extremely passionate about.

## THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!
- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.
- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!
- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!
- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

## IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions

to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of."



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans in Vancouver  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 9:10:20 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 15, 2017 9:10:16 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans in Vancouver

I support the Vancouver Aquarium's research, rescue and rehabilitation efforts. I'm somewhat appalled that the parks board would ok the expansion planned only to turn around and ban the keeping of any cetaceans (which includes those that are rescued and can't live in the wild) because some vegans are angry. I don't even understand their thinking and assume they must not be properly informed or understand the situation.

I hope the parks board will reconsider their decision. This ban is depressing and ill thought out. Let the aquarium continue the awesome work it does. I'll be talking to my friends and family about this, many of whom live and vote in Vancouver.

Sincerely,  
s. 22(1)

Sent from my phone, please excuse any typos.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans in Vancouver  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:09:16 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:09:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Wiebe, Michael; Shum, Erin; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart

**Subject:** Cetaceans in Vancouver

I'm a PhD candidate at Rice University, but I'm from the Vancouver area. I studied marine ecology among other things at Trinity Western University for my undergraduate degree. You may have heard some of my research on the CBC's Quirks and Quarks.

I've visited the aquarium in Vancouver more times than I care to count, and I was around when there were still polar bears in Stanley Park.

I strongly think that the work the aquarium does with cetaceans is important, especially in their rescue and rehabilitation efforts. In addition, the ethical marine research performed on these animals helps their wild counterparts. We cannot conserve and protect animals we do not understand. In addition, the public outreach performed by the aquarium is important for allowing people to connect with and understand these beautiful creatures. Without public exposure to these animals, the public will care much less about conservation of these animals.

In light of this, I strongly oppose a bylaw that bans cetaceans from the Vancouver aquarium.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans living at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 1:54:26 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 1:54:22 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans living at the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello,

First I want to say that the Vancouver Aquarium has been one of my favourite destinations in Vancouver as long as I've lived here, which is just shy of 26 years. Everything there is beautiful, educational and inspiring. Since I was a little kid my favourite thing in the world has been to run up to the glass between myself and the sea otters to watch them swim and play.

I strongly believe that it is a direct result of the close contact to animals the Aquarium provided me as a child that I have grown up to care deeply about wildlife. The displays and information captivated me right away, and inspired me to want to continue to learn about all animals (sea life or otherwise) for the rest of my life, and I believe the presence of the belugas, dolphins and any other cetaceans is crucial to that inspiration. The opportunity to see how beautiful these creatures truly are is invaluable, and simply cannot be recreated through photographs or documentaries. I've heard the animals there described as "ambassadors for their species" and I can't think of a better way to put it. People being able to step into the building and see these creatures up close and in real life is a massive inspiration to keep their natural habitat healthy and safe.

The research and rescue work the aquarium does is inspiring and vastly important. Having creatures like the belugas and dolphins is a huge draw for people to come visit the center and pay admission; money that goes back into the Aquarium's ability to treat animals in need. In short, their presence is not only vital to the Aquarium's ability to do its job well, but also to the education of the visitors coming to see how beautiful our world really is.

I sincerely hope you will reconsider your decision to remove them, and in doing so allow the Aquarium to continue to perform its extraordinary work to preserve wildlife.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: cetaceans!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 5:55:06 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 12, 2017 5:55:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** cetaceans!

Hi Stuart,  
Excellent speech at park board special meeting Mar9. Thanks for your hard work and initiative over the years in finally achieving unanimous support of Vancouver park board for your bylaw motion to end cetaceans in captivity at Vancouver parks.

I fear this is not the end of the story. There will no doubt be a backlash from Aquarium apologists/supporters who think conservation and protection of marine wildlife populations somehow requires captive animals on display to entertain humans. I cringed when the 2007 Aquarium expansion went ahead - as if bigger tanks would better simulate a wide open healthy ocean ecosystem.

Good luck in next few months with all the politicking to make the new bylaw live and hopefully spur new ethical and effective directions for marine conservation in Canada and worldwide.

Regards,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:39:26 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 8:39:21 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

I do not support the ban of Cetaceans in Stanley park. I live at s. 22(1)  
s. 22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:48:31 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:48:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

Hello,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the bylaw banning cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe that their research programs are vital and it would be a detriment to their work if this ban stays in place.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:48:31 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:48:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

Hello,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the bylaw banning cetaceans in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe that their research programs are vital and it would be a detriment to their work if this ban stays in place.

Sincerely

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:50:57 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:50:52 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

To whom it may concern,

I am writing as a concerned citizen in regards to the decision which has been made recently in respect to the keeping of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. As an environmentally conscious person and someone who believes in animal welfare, I understand more than anyone the desire for animals to live in the wild, untouched by captivity, however this is unfortunately not the reality of our situation. It is hard to hear, but unfortunately many marine animals are falling victim to human activity, and come out of accidents unable to live in the wild on their own. A clear example of this can easily be seen through the remaining cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium. Helen was caught in a fishing net, and as a result had a good portion of her fins amputated. Because of this injury her chances of survival are impossible on her own. Chester was stranded when he was just a baby and never developed the skills required to hunt and survive. They both however managed to make it through their injuries and sicknesses, resilient as ever. How is it fair that after they pulled through, we give up on them by euthanizing and sending them away. Even if they did go to another facility, how could we know that they were being taken care of with the same amount skill and expertise as we know the Vancouver aquarium staff can provide. Furthermore, Helen and Chester have managed to develop a relationship with each other, and deserve to live the best quality of life they can in captivity. I truly believe by removing these animals from the care of the Vancouver aquarium would be detrimental to the animals themselves as well as animals that will come after them. We all want what's best for the animals, and we all share the same end goal, but in the process I think it's important to remember that there's special cases everywhere, and we have to do everything in our power to make sure all the animals welfares are taken into account. Please take this message into consideration, for the benefit of the many unreleasable animals who may find a home at the Vancouver aquarium. Thank you for taking the time to read this. Best regards,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 4:52:54 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 4:52:28 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Cetaceans

Dear Ms. Evans,

I was very disappointed to learn of the decision to discontinue caring for cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I'm currently living in Florida, not far from SeaWorld, so I've had the opportunity to see first hand the difference between the reality of animal care and the misinformation spread by those in favor of what they call "animal rights." Those opposed to the housing of cetaceans in zoological facilities rely heavily on what they believe they've "learned" through their movie watching experiences, while those familiar with those parks have learned through experience and personal observation.

Let me tell you a little bit about the animals I'm familiar with here in Florida: SeaWorld currently houses a small group of pilot whales at the Whale and Dolphin Theater. These animals were youngsters when they were brought in, the only surviving members of their pod following a mass stranding. Our government deemed these animals unreleasable, as they had no elder members of their pod with whom they could be released. They have a home now. They have care, affection, social interaction, as steady diet, roomy pools. They are thriving, thanks to the work of the Veterinary, Animal Care, and Animal Training staff at SeaWorld. If there were no facility to take them in, they would have been euthanized. Clearwater Aquarium is a longer drive from home, and I haven't visited recently, but it is home to bottlenose dolphins Winter, Hope, and Nicholas, also unreleasable. Winter's story is a particularly powerful lesson, because her reason for rescue, the fishing gear entanglement that cost her her tail flukes, is a direct result of human impact on the animals' natural environment. Like her companions, she is cared for, she is given enrichment activities, a nutritious, regular diet, and on top of that, periodic therapy with her prosthetics. Her situation looked grim when her tail began to fall to pieces, but she showed a will to survive, and has become one of the most engaging residents at Clearwater.

There are other great examples of the need for cetacean facilities. When an orphaned California gray whale calf stranded back in the 1990s, SeaWorld San Diego was the only facility with the resources to take her in. She was barely responsive at the time of her rescue, yet was a healthy, active youngster who had learned to feed by herself when she was released fifteen months later (timed to coincide with the gray whale migration). Morgan, the killer whale (I believe she's currently at Loro Parque). Rescued as an orphan and determined to be deaf, so that the staff working with her use visuals to communicate with her. The Delphinidae rely heavily on their ability to echolocate, without her hearing, her odds of survival in the wild would be slim. The authorities have chosen for her to remain in human care, where she thrives.

Please don't cater to the vocal extremists at the expense of the animals or your park. People who aren't coming to the park now aren't going to suddenly become pass members because you let your whales go, and be aware that they'll go after your other marine mammals next. Discontinue breeding and importing, if you feel that it's necessary, but don't abandon your animals over the complaints of would-be activists who project their own ideas of "freedom" onto marine mammals whose lives are very different from their own. Listen to the veterinarians, the trainers, the wildlife experts, and the existing fan base you're alienating. Don't make euthanasia the only option for marine mammals with nowhere else to go.

Thanks for your time,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 7:15:27 PM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 7:15:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Cetaceans

I want you to know that I do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!!!

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: China embraces killer whale shows, even as SeaWorld ends them  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:10:23 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:10:06 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Fwd: China embraces killer whale shows, even as SeaWorld ends them

Hi Michael!

This USA Today article on whale shows in China is why Vancouver should not keep whales. Like Monterey Bay Aquarium, we need to set the example, and not in 10 years from now!

s. 22(1)

A large rectangular area of the document is redacted with a solid grey fill.

Thanks,

s. 22(1)

A large rectangular area of the document is redacted with a solid grey fill.

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Subject:** China embraces killer whale shows, even as SeaWorld ends them  
**Date:** March 26, 2017 at 9:17:11 AM PDT  
**To:** s. 22(1)

Check out this article from USA TODAY:

China embraces killer whale shows, even as SeaWorld ends them

<http://usat.ly/2mDDa5B>

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Congratulations on the Board's decision on cetaceans last night!  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:50:43 AM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 10, 2017 9:50:45 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Congratulations on the Board's decision on cetaceans last night!

Dear Mr. Mackinnon, ,  
Thank you for all your hard work and principled dedication to this cause. I am so proud to have you  
as our Park Board Commissioner.  
Best wishes.

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Congratulations to the Park Board Commissioners!  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 3:41:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [Georgia Straight NEWS Dolphin Import Investigated - April 25, 2002.doc](#)  
[Aug 1, 2001 - B.C. aquarium adds dolphin from Japan.doc](#)

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From: No Whales In Captivity  
Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 3:40:49 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Shum, Erin; Crawford, Casey; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Stuart Mackinnon; Evans, Catherine; Wiebe, Michael; PB Commissioners  
Subject: Congratulations to the Park Board Commissioners!

March 13, 2017

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

On behalf of No Whales In Captivity, I would like to thank you for the amazing job you did at the March 8th and 9th Whale Hearings. We were most impressed by how prepared commissioners were and the tough questions you asked. COPE might have had more in-camera meetings, but you certainly were more prepared than they ever were! LOL

As you know, this is the second time in the history of the Park Board that commissioners unanimously vote to restrict cetacean imports into Stanley Park. The first time this happened was 21 years ago, on September 16th, 1996. However, it took the Vancouver Aquarium's lawyers only two months to successfully lobby the commissioners to insert those four clauses into the wording, which rendered the bylaw useless.

Now you are faced, no doubt, with the same pressure coming from the Aquarium. You know the drill, they will want to keep the clause allowing rescue and will want to add research to the loopholes. Please don't do that. We are really hoping that future Park Boards will also not do that... but that's a battle for another day, as contrary to popular belief, the war on whales has not been won yet.

In regards to the Aquarium's latest red herring tossed out to the public, claiming that they will no longer be able to rescue cetaceans - it is so incredibly misleading of them to use the term "marine mammals" in order to add the 100+ rescued pinnipeds (seals and sea lions) to the argument.

Not only does the proposed amendments to the bylaw not affect pinnipeds, but it doesn't restrict the Aquarium from rescuing cetaceans either. The rescue center is not located in a city park and therefore it is not under the Park Board's jurisdiction, nor can it be regulated by park bylaws.

Obviously, the Aquarium is trying to get public sympathy by falsely claiming that they will no longer be able to continue rescuing cetaceans off our coast. That is absurd! All rescued cetaceans always go to the rescue center first. What the Aquarium will not be able to do anymore is to place those unfortunate animals in a show tank to perform for their food, right after being rehabilitated.

We hope that the restrictions in Stanley Park will push the rescuers to consider supervised releases instead. However, chances are that any infant cetacean rescued by the Aquarium will end up being sold to the highest bidder abroad. That is the nature of the whale business.

We also wanted to mention that the Canadian Senate recently heard from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) in regards to Bill S-203 to end whale captivity in Canada - and we were surprised to find out that in the last 10 years, DFO has only issued one (1) permit to rescue one (1) cetacean in Canada, and that was Chester, the false killer whale currently performing at the Vancouver Aquarium.

We were surprised because if the only DFO rescue permit issued in the past decade was for Chester (2014), why did the Aquarium claim that it also had permits to rescue three Harbour porpoises named Levi (2013), Jack (2011) and Daisy (2008)?

Here's an excerpt from the Senate hearings:

SENATOR: How many licenses have been issued for cetacean rescue?

DFO: 1 license in the past 10 years issued for a false killer whale captured by the Vancouver Aquarium.

SENATOR: That doesn't seem like many. Any live releases?

DFO: NO.

<http://www.cpac.ca/en/digital-archives/?search=S-203>

This completely contradicts Vancouver Aquarium claims that DFO was involved in all aspects of these rescues. It also raises questions about the only release that the Aquarium has ever conducted with the porpoise named Levi, as they obviously did not obtain a DFO permit to release him either.

This 10 year old Harbour porpoise was taken into the rescue center in 2013, rehabilitated for 5 months and unceremoniously dumped back into the ocean, not even where he was found stranded. Thankfully, Levi was too old to be of any use in a show tank, so back he went into the ocean, and it turns out, without a permit!

Many more questions should be raised, but this reminds us of the time that the Aquarium spent (according to John Nightingale) \$300,000 (see attached file) to purchase and import a "rescued" Pacific white-sided dolphin named Spinnaker from Japan in 2001. The import was conducted without first obtaining the Park Board's approval, nor CITES Canada's for that matter (see attached Georgia Straight news article).

At that time, the Park Board received a letter from the Aquarium on a Wednesday, stating that they were going to bring a dolphin. The Park Board sent a letter back on Friday saying to hold off until they could figure things out, but by Sunday morning there was a new performing Japanese dolphin swimming in the show tank.

The Aquarium suffered no consequences for breaking the bylaw, which brings us to our next point: the current bylaw has no penalties in place to keep the Aquarium from pulling another fast one. Please consider including in the bylaw's amendments strong penalties against the Aquarium for violating the law.

At the Senate hearings, DFO was also asked about monitoring captive cetaceans. DFO answered that the province is in charge of monitoring animals on land, and that DFO has no role in ensuring cetaceans are kept



humanely.

However, what DFO didn't tell the Senators is that the provincial government has no jurisdiction over marine mammals in captivity either, as cetacean and pinniped species do not live on provincial land and are therefore not listed under the protection of any provincial legislation.

This is the reason why my group has worked on enacting municipal and federal legislation for the past 25 years. We would also like to see wild marine mammals taken away from the DFO's jurisdiction and instead be regulated by Environment Canada, but that concerns you not.

The DFO mentioned one concern that they did have with Bill S-203, and that was the possibility of imposing restrictions on the trade in cetacean parts, as in Narwhal whale ivory tusks (\$400,000 industry), as well as restrictions on research samples taken from dead cetaceans shipped across the border back and forth to research labs. Of course, this Senate bill focuses on banning only the trade in "live" cetaceans, so there should be no problem there.

The Senators asked the DFO whether the bill would impact any ongoing research on captive cetaceans in Canada. DFO explained that all federally-funded research on cetaceans was conducted in the wild, and no studies have been or are currently conducted in the two facilities keeping performing cetaceans in Canada.

In regards to our concerns with amending this bylaw, we don't have to tell you that they include the possibility that the Aquarium will try to get supporters elected as commissioners in 2018 - and if successful, the next board will either amend the bylaw again to suit the Aquarium's plans, or simply discard it altogether.

We are disappointed that a decision to hold a whale referendum was not made at the March 9th meeting and we would like to explain why. However, we want to make it clear that we are not urging you at this time to take any action, per se. We would just like you to keep a cetacean plebiscite in mind, as you have until September 2018 to make such a decision, especially if things go wrong with the bylaw's wording, or if you are threatened with another Aquarium lawsuit.

The main reason why my group continues to believe that a whale referendum would help, and have promoted the idea of holding one for 8 elections in a row now, is because once a majority of Vancouverites get a chance to vote to ban whale captivity, it would make it so much more difficult for any Aquarium apologists elected to the new board to amend or discard the bylaw. It would also make it difficult for the Aquarium to sue the Park Board for just following Vancouverites wishes.

Even if this Park Board manages to plug the loopholes and amend the bylaw to totally ban captive cetaceans from city parks, it is only strong public support that will keep the Aquarium and future Park Boards in check.

The Aquarium understands this very well, and that is why they have always done everything in their power to block the city from holding a whale referendum. After all, according to former Aquarium director Murray Newman's book "Life in a fishbowl" - the Aquarium actually lost the one and only whale referendum ever held (1960's) asking Vancouverites if the city should spend \$100,000 in building whale tanks. According to Newman, the Aquarium lost the vote, but a crooked city clerk decided to count the spoiled ballots in favour of the Aquarium, and that's how it passed.

Do you still wonder if 5 decades later Vancouverites would support banning whale captivity in Stanley Park? We hope not. Public support was evident back then and it is overwhelming today, no matter how much money the Aquarium spends trying to make everyone believe otherwise.

We wish you good luck in your work trying to make the bylaw's amendments Aquarium-proof, and we really hope it sticks this time!

Thanks again for all your efforts and congratulations on a whale of a job!

Best wishes,

Annelise Sorg  
President  
No Whales In Captivity  
info@nowhalesincaptivity.org  
604-736-9514  
<https://www.facebook.com/NoWhalesinCaptivityBC>

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Congratulations  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 5:25:57 PM

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From [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: March 11, 2017 5:25:54 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Mackinnon, Stuart  
Subject: Congratulations

Hi Stuart,

Thanks for all your leadership around the Park Board vote to forestall further acquisition of Cetaceans by the Aquarium. Good work leading to a good decision and all the more credit that it was unanimous.

[s. 22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Critical science at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:52:11 PM

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**From:** April Penney  
**Sent:** March 8, 2017 4:48:01 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Critical science at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear elected officials,

I am a communications advisor at the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre.

I've been in my role for just one month but have been a regular visitor for the past decade. I have always valued my visits to the Aquarium; each time learning something new, each time being inspired to change my habits to lessen my negative impact on the ocean, like reducing plastic use and buying Ocean Wise-recommended seafood. Since starting work at the Vancouver Aquarium, I have experienced an immersion into the research, education, and conservation programs run by the Aquarium and have met the people that are in the lead. Now, more than ever before, I understand and support the value of their efforts.

To illustrate, just last week I had the opportunity to accompany a team from the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Mammal Rescue Centre to release two rescued and rehabilitated seals back to the ocean. Because of their expert training combined with the opportunity to work with marine mammals, this team was not only able to help two seals; they rescued, rehabilitated, and released 151(!) seals this past year alone. Moreover, as the only facility of its kind in Canada, it is the only real hope for stranded, sick, and injured marine mammals. It is our nation's first response team for emergent marine mammal rescues.

Our oceans are facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat due to a variety of factors contributed by humans, including increases in noise, temperature, and ocean pollution. Continuing the beluga research program at the Vancouver Aquarium will help Canadian scientists better understand the impact of these factors and will keep our marine mammal rescue team trained for future cetacean rescues. This is a time when we need more research, not less. And this is the time to act before it's too late and the already rapidly declining beluga population in the St. Lawrence seaway ceases to exist.

I am a voting resident of Vancouver, a Canadian, and a concerned global citizen who supports the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium; I oppose efforts by animal rights groups to stop this critical science. I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare, and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, the Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice. I also encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority trying to shut down the efforts of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

April Penney

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Death of Aurora and Support for Whales in Captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 7:41:44 AM

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Hello:

See my comments below in response to Rick Cluff's interview yesterday on CBC re: marine mammals at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please forward this to all Parks Board members for their information.

Please note that the question of whether whales in captivity is an issue of significance to more than the residents of the City of Vancouver but is a regional, and indeed provincial issue.

s. 22(1)

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Date:** Mon, 28 Nov 2016 07:42:36 -0800  
**To:** <[earlyed@cbc.ca](mailto:earlyed@cbc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Death of Aurora

Rick:

I was listening to the show this morning and glad that you provided the clip from Dr. Lance Barrett-Lennard. I m also glad that you did not include an interview with Annalise Sorg and heard from someone with a bit more balanced view – head of the Vancouver Parks Board.

While she made the point that we have grown up with the

Vancouver Aquarium and seeing the killer whales and belugas there, she did not make a point about the importance of continuing to educate children through life-changing encounters with marine mammals. Although circumstances are changing, as she has mentioned, more and more people must be educated about the marine world. Our children are becoming more and more isolated from the natural world and need places like the aquarium to begin to understand it. Belugas and killer whales are not only ambassadors for their own species in aquaria, they are ambassadors for conservation of marine ecosystems. Educational institutions like the Vancouver Aquarium are essential to get that message out to the public and are an important teaching tool for our school systems.

The Vancouver Aquarium is not like other aquaria. I have been to a number of them. I have also known and respected VanAqua staff my entire professional life. The Aquarium sets the gold standard for aquaria and few measure up. Dedicated and highly educated staff conduct research, provide top-notch education programs and displays and reach out and support many conservation and marine research programs in BC and around the world.

I am hoping that if such a vote was held about marine mammals in captivity, that the majority of Vancouverites would vote yes, that we need a few marine mammals in

captivity – that are well-cared-for, loved as much as any family member (sometimes more!) and can provide invaluable information to better understand the species in the wild. Unfortunately, although the intent of a vote would be to put the issue to bed long-term, I don't think that would be the result. Instead, it will just polarize and spend a whole lot of money on an issue that affects far more than just Vancouverites. The whole region draws on the world-class facility that is the Vancouver Aquarium and such a vote would need everyone's input.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Decision on the ban of cetacean display at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 1:18:30 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 1:18:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Decision on the ban of cetacean display at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board,

I am deeply disappointed in the Parks Board's decision to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. This is an example of ideology trumping facts and science, and now the ones who have to suffer for it are the very animals you claim to want to protect. Please look beyond the emotional appeals that aren't even accurate, and the true extent of marine conservation and education the Aquarium and its cetaceans contribute to, and reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)





**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Decision on the future of captive cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 4:35:47 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)

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**From:** Ulla Christina Ludewig  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 4:35:38 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Decision on the future of captive cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear members of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation,

I am writing on behalf of Whale and Dolphin Conservation, an international NGO working to protect whales and dolphins and their habitats worldwide. With great interest we welcome your decision on how to move forward with keeping these sensitive marine mammals in captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium in the future. To that end, we respectfully encourage you to insist on the amendment of the bylaw to phase out the keeping of cetaceans for entertainment purposes at the Vancouver Aquarium. Since whales and dolphins were first held in captivity we have learnt a lot about these highly social mammals and it is evident that it is not possible to keep whales and dolphins in concrete tanks without compromising their needs and wellbeing.

For the cetaceans held in captivity at this stage and also for scientific research a sanctuary in more natural waters would be a great alternative to a concrete pool in an aquarium. There are several sanctuary projects currently in development around the world and the Vancouver Aquarium could be part of this pioneering progress.

We fully support efforts in many parts of the world to end live captures and also the breeding of cetaceans in captivity and we encourage you to keep the bylaw simple and precise so it covers the import, breeding and also rescue (and then keeping) of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

If you have any further questions or if we can support your initiative in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,  
Ulla Christina Ludewig

**Ulla Christina Ludewig**  
Policy officer - End Captivity

WHALE AND  
DOLPHIN  
CONSERVATION



Telefon: +49 89 6100 2393

WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation  
Implerstraße 55  
D-81371 München  
Germany  
[whales.org](http://whales.org)



## Neue Chancen für die Wale in Japan...

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**WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation**, Implerstraße 55, D-81371 München, Tel: 089 6100 2393, ist eine gemeinnützige GmbH, AG München HRB 126158

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**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Decision regarding cetaceans in human care  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 7:22:07 PM

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**From:** Scott Taylor  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 7:21:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Decision regarding cetaceans in human care

I write in response to recent news items reporting a decision to end human care for cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

As a scientist who has studied the human relationship with cetaceans for over 30 years, I must challenge the choice to end the care of the cetaceans at the Aquarium. The Vancouver Aquarium has a long and excellent history of contributing to improvements in human care for rescued marine animals, especially whales, dolphins, and porpoises. It has set high standards for other institutions, has contributed to improved care and greatly improved lives of many other cetaceans in human care.

It is important to consider that those in your care have, quite literally, nowhere else to go. They must, if we are to practice the compassion that comes naturally to humans, be cared for in perpetuity. The plight of injured, disabled, and otherwise unreleasable cetaceans is often the direct result of human actions. We owe them the care we can give.

It is not reasonable to move the cetaceans in your care elsewhere when you have an excellent, standard setting facility in place and working. Your staff is highly trained, experts in their work, mentors to many others. Their expertise and efforts cast a brilliant light on Vancouver, highlighting the caring attitudes of most of your citizens. It would be a great shame to end this, and to further harm the cetaceans in your care.

The social needs of cetaceans, which are complex and ongoing, require social groupings. It would be better to allow importation of other cetaceans in need of social interaction, to be brought to Vancouver, setting another precedent. Allowing them to reproduce is not 'breeding for profit', but meeting a vital need for cetaceans whose culture needs support. Albeit a changed culture due to their changed lives, they deserve to be afforded lives that parallel those of cetaceans in the wild. Doing so, allowing them to reproduce and pass on their knowledge to their offspring, will afford the people of Vancouver the chance to take part in interspecies care of a high order. Young people will learn much from this, seeing how humans can give back to a damaged world, to help other animals regain a measure of health in a world that faces so much damage. As the natural world continues to be changed by humans, diminishing the wildness we all cherish, humans must step up their caring, their research, and their expertise to share with others.

Don't let the demands of poorly educated, emotion driven people take from Vancouver its reputation as a city who cares, who has its priorities right, who set

standards for compassion and excellent work on behalf of the more-than-human world.

Please reconsider the choice to end care for the cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Return to the admiration and high reputation you, as a city, have held for so long. Support the ongoing care these wonderful animals require.

Sincerely,  
C. Scott Taylor, PhD  
Exec. Dir. Cetacean Studies Institute  
Australia

[www.dolphinembassy.blogspot.com.au](http://www.dolphinembassy.blogspot.com.au)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: decision to ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:04:29 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:04:26 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** decision to ban cetaceans

To whom it may concern,  
I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and believe that this decision is short sighted. As the only marine mammal rescue center in Canada we need somewhere to send injured wildlife. If unable to be reintroduced into the wild these animals serve a tremendous purpose of educating the general public on their conservation.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do not ban cetaceans at public parks!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:42:14 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:42:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Do not ban cetaceans at public parks!

This move is awful and appalling. Vancouver does world-class rescue and research work and whomever is resisting this is not interested in the welfare of the animals they are claiming to protect.

Without places like the aquarium, where do we take responsibility for the impact we have on our oceans? Where do we foster curiosity and wisdom of the ocean we share with these animals? Where do we research and learn to have a better understanding of how to co-exist with them?

I bring children to this park and they have had their hearts and minds expanded by the work of this educational space.

Those who resist this do so with such a small mind and no care as to the consequences are a dangerous minority. Please suspend this until you have consulted with conservation biologists as to the impact of institutions like across spheres of research, conservation, education, and environment. Test the claims of these critics against the mandates and long term plans of the Aquarium itself.

Their claims won't ... hold water.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do not ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:26:00 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:25:56 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Do not ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

As a Vancouver resident, I would very much like to see the Vancouver Aquarium continue their efforts in marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation. Please do not ban cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium.

Thank you.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do not ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:47:12 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:47:07 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Do not ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Good morning,

It has been brought to my attention that there is a movement to move forward create a bylaw that bans cetaceans in Stanley Park, specifically the Vancouver Aquarium. I STRONGLY DO NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park for obvious reasons. The Vancouver Aquarium is the first of its kind to focus exclusively on the rehabilitation and research on helping marine animals. The Vancouver Aquarium does not support nor encourage captivity of wild animals, they focus solely on housing animals that would otherwise NOT survive in the wild - either due to injury or other causes (trauma, sustainability etc.) If for any reason cetaceans are banned in Stanley Park, many, if not all, marine animals being taken cared of and studied at the Vancouver Aquarium would die if forcefully released in to the wild. These animals do not have a standing chance of surviving - not because they have become acclimatized to aquarium living but because they do not and have not ever acquired survival skills for the wild. The cetaceans are the only reason these animals are alive today, allowing researchers, marine biologists and animals lovers to admire, study and learn more about marine wildlife.

My name is s. 22(1) and I DO NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

If my attention or support is needed for further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address or by replying to this email.

Regards,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: DO NOT MAKE ANIMALS YOUR POLITICAL PLAY  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 1:49:58 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 1:49:54 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** DO NOT MAKE ANIMALS YOUR POLITICAL PLAY

Hello Vancouver Park Board,

I am appalled by your blatant use of the cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium to make a political play for the sake of your popularity without truly considering the welfare of these animals. You are condemning cetaceans that may have been rescued, rehabilitated, and/ or supported in the past to now a certain death by preventing the Vancouver aquarium from housing these cetaceans. Additionally, disrupting the cetaceans currently at the Vancouver Aquarium by enacting a removal of all these cetaceans is cruel, will cause undue stress, and potentially the death of Chester, Helen, and Daisy. I am an animal welfare student, I understand that cetacean captivity requires due respect, and due process to ensure animal welfare is optimized. Yet, rather than push for animal welfare, via larger enclosures, more enrichment to the enclosures, or a breed and situation specific ban that would be grounded in scientific evidence and animal welfare you are choosing to jump on a popular ship and just ban cetacean captivity to boost your political careers. I strongly urge you to allow the cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium to peacefully live out the rest of their lives supported by a world class aquarium and veterinary team. I also strongly urge you to allow rescues to be housed at the Vancouver aquarium to preserve life. If you truly cared about animal welfare rather than your political careers you would have approached this issue with the animals first rather than yourselves, please reconsider your path.

Sincerely,  
s. 22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do NOT pass the bylaw banning cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:39:50 PM

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From [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Wednesday, March 29, 2017 10:39:48 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Do NOT pass the bylaw banning cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commissioners

I write this email to express my concern about the proposed bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. While I appreciate the ideals of such a bylaw (and would be happy to see it enforced in other facilities around the world); I believe the bylaw fails to recognize the reality of the work and science being done by the researchers and staff of the aquarium. I believe the bylaw is short sighted in failing to recognize the impact on marine rescue work and arctic research science enabled by supporting rescued belugas at the facility among other things.

In the last few years there has been a lot of national and international debate about governments muzzling scientists doing research on climate change. I understand that the aquarium scientists do a significant amount of research into arctic climate change here in Vancouver and this would be severely hampered by this ban. It would be a shame for our Parks Board to be seen as taking an active role in further muzzling scientists doing valuable research into climate change.

Respectfully,  
A concerned Vancouver citizen,

[s. 22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do not pass the bylaw banning the Vancouver Aquarium from housing rescued cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:24:57 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:24:53 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Do not pass the bylaw banning the Vancouver Aquarium from housing rescued cetaceans

Don't put the wishes of uninformed laypeople over the recommendations of a long established and well populated community of scientific conservation experts. Don't put optics ahead of good science. Optics have a short half life, especially when it comes to euthanizing animals to prove a misinformed point.

s. 22(1)

#### Remarks from [Shawna Calderwood](#)

March 14 at 11:08am ·

Last week the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium). I am livid at how science can be overshadowed by misinformation. I understand that scientists can come across arrogant (and therefore unlikable) – but that doesn't make what they say any less true!

Hopefully the below will offer my friends some insight into my frustration & encourage them to take the time to write an email in support of an organization I am extremely passionate about.

#### THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!

- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!

- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals

deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

#### IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

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**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:07:16 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:07:12 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Fwd: do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** 32 2017 <>  
**X-Mozilla-Status:** 0001  
**X-Mozilla-Status2:** 00800000  
**X-Mozilla-Keys:**  
**To:** [john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)  
**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Subject:** do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans  
**Message-ID:** <[4d100326-f57d-006d-7e43-851d66bbb501@shaw.ca](mailto:4d100326-f57d-006d-7e43-851d66bbb501@shaw.ca)>  
**Date:** Sun, 19 Mar 2017 07:05:28 -0700  
**User-Agent:** Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X 10.10; rv:45.0) Gecko/20100101 Thunderbird/45.7.1  
**MIME-Version:** 1.0  
**Content-Type:** multipart/alternative; boundary="-----659CB07324F685B32F7BF031"

I **do not** support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. As a teacher and parent I have taken numerous children to the Aquarium. The work of the scientists there is needed and appreciated.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do not support Ban of cetaceans at Vancouver aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:46:17 AM

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**From** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:46:01 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Do not support Ban of cetaceans at Vancouver aquarium

Hello Park Board,

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park at Vancouver aquarium. I lived in Vancouver and surrounding area for the last 10 years and have now moved to Vancouver Island. I see no reason why rescued cetaceans who cannot be returned to the ocean can not stay at the aquarium for research and conservation efforts. Please reconsider this ban.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Do not Support Bylaw to Ban Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:58:18 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 19, 2017 11:58:08 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Do not Support Bylaw to Ban Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Good Afternoon Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing to indicate my opposition of the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

More zoo's need to be on the rescue side of the industry. Let Vancouver be the example!

Please acknowledge this email.

Sincerely,  
A fellow Biologist and Frequent Vancouver Visitor

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Don't agree with your decision to ban all cetaceans from Vancouver parks  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:58:24 PM

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From [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:58:19 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Don't agree with your decision to ban all cetaceans from Vancouver parks

To all the Parks board commissioners,

As an actual resident of Vancouver and not a professional protester I am disappointed that you have chosen to ban these mammals from being at the Aquarium. Those other beluga whales that are in other centres that they wanted to being back will end up being euthanized and you will be held responsible for that, not the Aquarium.

Your reasons that the two beluga whales died in the Aquarium are part of your reason, doesn't hold water, as the mother had already lived within a regular lifespan of a beluga whale. Every living thing on Earth has their time when they pass away, it's too bad you can't accept that.

As a Vancouver voter I will be sure to remember your poor decision making based on emotions rather than logic.

[s. 22\(1\)](#)

Sent from my tablet



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: don't ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:39:56 AM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:40:05 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** don't ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!

Vancouver Parks Board Members,

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: DON'T BAN CETACEANS  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:11:28 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** , 2017 8:11:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** DON'T BAN CETACEANS

Dear Parks Board Commissioner,

I do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!!!

My mailing address is s. 22(1)

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Email of NON SUPPORT  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:48:31 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:48:26 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Email of NON SUPPORT

The Vancouver Aquarium does valiant work in support of marine research. I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park / Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Exception for Rescues  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:25:45 AM

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From [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:25:40 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Exception for Rescues

I want to include my name in the petition to make an exception so that unreleasable rescues are not included under this new by law. If this motion is supposed to be for the welfare of animals then why is it okay to ship them off somewhere that may not be as suitable? Or euthanize future rescues? You're putting these animals at risk by moving them. They are in the best place they can be to live our their lives as they are now.

Leave Chester, Daisy and Helen at the aquarium so they can be ambassadors for their species and people, especially children can continue to grow fond them and learn to protect our oceans. We need them to help educate people for the hope of the future in regards to healthy ocean life.

This is so many steps backwards in everything Vancouver Aquarium stands for and it is NOT OKAY!

[s. 22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Exceptions to the cetacean ban by-law amendment  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:15:35 PM

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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:14:53 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Exceptions to the cetacean ban by-law amendment

Hello Mr. Wiebe,

I would like to express my concern for the cetaceans currently housed at the Vancouver Aquarium and what this new by-law might entail for them.

These are animals that have been deemed non-releasable by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, meaning they would not be able to survive on their own in the ocean.

Having volunteered with the Vancouver Aquarium for the past three years, as a public educator, a fish husbandry volunteer, and at their off-site rescue centre, I feel privileged to be able to get to know the animals that reside there. To be able to see Chester, the two year old false killer whale learn to play with his food by watching Helen the pacific white-sided dolphin tempt the seagulls. To be able to see Daisy the harbour porpoise play around with guests who take out their cameras or see her face light up when she catches a glimpse of a wristwatch. And especilly see the amazing bond that those three cetaceans have with their trainers. Spending the past three years with this aquarium has not only expanded my love for the ocean, but kindled a passion for ocean conservation, a subject that resides at the very heart of all those who care for the animals.

These animals are ambassadors for their species. Daisy has helped in research dedicated to helping the critically endangered Vaquita porpoise - a close relative to her species - and currently one of the most endangered species in the ocean with only thirty or so left. Before the passing of Quila and Aurora, the mother-daughter pair helped with groudbreaking research on classifying beluga calls and how calves learn calls from their mothers-contact calls.

With this, I am deeply saddend that if an exception to be able to house non-releasable cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium cannot be made, the lives of these amazing animals will be unjustly cut short. Long-term care facilities such as the Vancouver Aquarium are essential for helping animals that are deemed non-releasble live out their lives in comfort and with love, and for the animals in the ocean such as the Vaquita, through conservation research.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this email,

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Fed. Not dead.  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:17:21 AM

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From: s. 22(1)  
Sent: 2017 9:17:17 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Fed. Not dead.

To whom it may concern,

I felt it was time to make my voice heard as quiet as it may be. I am a 20 year old student that has dedicated my life to learning about animals and how to better their lives in captivity and in the wild.

The mere fact that people that know little about animals, especially species as complex as those residing in the cetacean family, infuriates me. Not only that but it is clear that the park board can be bullied by activists but it appears that much like the activists, the park board doesn't know what the Vancouver Aquarium is doing on a global scale.

You are jeprodising not only the health and lives of the residents at the Vancouver Aquarium but you are ACTIVELY disrupting critical research that the Vancouver Aquarium is doing that contributes to the understanding and conservation worldwide.

If you look at the Vancouver Aquarium's work, you would realize that having whales is not to generate revenue but to further aid their wild peers. Without the research that the Vancouver Aquarium does, you are not only literally killing the cetaceans that they care for but also leading to possible (accurately, most likely) ecological collapse of our oceans.

Please reconsider and think carefully about what you are doing. Please don't ruin the planet that I am to inherent. I would prefer not to be fixing your mistakes.

Thank you for your time, hopefully someone is hearing me,

s. 22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Halt the ban on Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 4:34:25 PM

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**From** s. 22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 4:34:17 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine

**Subject:** Halt the ban on Cetaceans

To the Vancouver Parks Board members,

I support the environmental efforts of the scientists at the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe their research and conservation efforts are important for the Cetaceans species of all Canada. I do not support your proposal to ban all Cetacean species in Stanley Park.

I see your proposal as a knee jerk reaction to uneducated pressure from misinformed "enviromentalists".

Do not allow someone's opinion to sway you without fully researching all aspects of a subject. ESPECIALLY with the policy making power that you have! You should be getting the full testimonials of ALL sides affected! If you had received a full briefing from the scientists working with Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium, I believe you would not be considering this ban. I also urge you to get a more accurate representation of the opinion of your citizens. And ask yourself this. Are these people pressuring you to ban Cetaceans because they are not properly educated on the reasons why they are at Vancouver Aquarium? Is it ethical of us to propose legislation due to this uneducated opinion?

Please read this post by a concerned citizen and someone involved in the area of Cetacean studies and then schedule a meeting with the scientists at the Vancouver Aquarium.

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=10155051346213516&id=516423515](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10155051346213516&id=516423515)

The moment that you start believing that a small group of people demanding something from you represents your entire constituent area, is the moment you stop being a good representative. Please educate yourself and think of the bigger picture.

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: How marine science at Vancouver Aquarium impacted my life  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 2:05:30 AM

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From: s.22(1)

Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 2:05:25 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: How marine science at Vancouver Aquarium impacted my life

Good Evening,

My name is s.22(1) It's a little scary emailing some of the highest ranked people who work in the park board, but I guess this is worth a shot.

I know this may seem out of the blue, but I am coming before you today to inform you that the Vancouver Aquarium has always been so kind to all marine mammals under their care.

When I was young, my mother brought me to the Aquarium almost everyday. I have many fond memories of entering through the gate and the rush that went through my blood when I saw a big sturgeon greet me as walked pass. I would run along the tropic zone and be mesmerized by the many sea creatures, some that I wouldn't even have known if it wasn't for the Aquarium.

My most favourite part of the Aquarium was watching the 1:00 "caring for a beluga show." I would drag my mom across the aquarium just to get there on time. My mom would always buy me food around that time but I would never take my eyes off of those belugas. Watching them, hearing them and even learning about them has lead me into finding my deep love for marine mammals.

All this fascination would not be placed in my life if it wasn't for the Vancouver Aquarium. I was able to interact with these marine mammals like I never had before. At the underground viewing area, I was able to come face to face with a little beluga, her name was Tiqa. I stuck my hand out and she smiled at me. When I was young, I didn't have many friends, but at that moment, I believed that the beluga understood me. Seeing the trainers get so close to the marine mammals and interacting with them physically made me say to myself, "I want to be one of them one day, I want to wear that bright red uniform with pride."

That was around 8-10 years ago, but flash back to now. Being 15, I am able to stir myself into the direction I want in life. My passion for marine science has grown so much over the years and I am determined to reach for the stars and one day become a marine scientist. I now am working at the s.22(1) and still am mesmerized by the many sea creatures that live at the aquarium. I know this job is nothing close to where I want to be, but it's baby steps to my big dream that awaits me in the future.

With your help, you can help me achieve a dream that I have been chasing for many years. Conserving the research of marine mammals at the Vancouver Aquarium will give me a chance to wear that red uniform with pride and educate many young children who step foot into the Aquarium, like I once did. Being born and raised in Vancouver, I am proud to say that we have one of the most amazing research centre. Growing up near a research centre has influenced me to love everything from big to small, land or water. I hope one day to get employed in this area to continue the conservation and research of the many marine mammals that need our help.

This is my dream, a dream to unite people with nature.



Best Regards,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Howdy Folks  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:26:53 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:26:49 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Howdy Folks

Though I am a fan of free whales, I am emailing to ask that Stanley Park still be involved in whale rehab and rescue. Never breeding, and release if possible. But if not, then long term care is a great thing.

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"In the end it is not the years in your life that count, it is the life in your years"--Lincoln

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I beg you do not let misinformation win in Vancouver  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:06:32 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:06:25 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** I beg you do not let misinformation win in Vancouver

Dear Park Board Members,

I don't understand why we are listening to the uninformed people, who mean well, but are directing anger they have about irresponsible captivity programs around the world towards our Aquarium, which should not be lumped together with SeaWorld and all those inhuman practices. Our aquarium is different, they have made a responsible plan to end their captivity programs while still taking care of the animals that are in our care before that can happen. They stopped catching wild animals a long time ago and only keep those that would be able to survive otherwise, why can't we take care of them and learn about them?

This really breaks my heart, I have travelled the world and proudly told people that MY CITY, MY VANCOUVER's aquarium has really progressive rules and programming for rescue and rehabilitation. If they cannot be released, they don't just give up and euthanize them, they give them a home and using them as an example let the public learn about why it is important to take care of our waters and marine life.

People tell me about Seaworld and about awful zoos, and I am always so proud to show them the aquarium's website and show them what a responsible animal care facility looks like, what public programming opportunities there are.

We are the city of water, of beautiful seas, of a citizenship that grows up loving the water and the life within it and let me tell you, we got here because of the work of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please I beg you, make the informed choice, listen to the expert and scientist and animal rights researchers that work so hard there and dedicate their lives to these animals.

Don't listen to the people who have just lazily assumed things about our aquarium. Don't let misinformation win!

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I believe in the essential work of Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 1:57:53 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 1:57:46 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I believe in the essential work of Vancouver Aquarium

Hello Comissioners!

I am writing today to ask you NOT to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Misinformation has lead activists to campaign against something that isn't a reality. I have friends who work at/with the Aquarium who have shared the true nature of the animals that are in their captivity (info below).

Thank you for your time and consideration,

THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!

- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!

- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

#### IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The Parks Board is doing this in your name! They are saying Vancouver residents do not want us to have cetaceans at the Aquarium. I don't believe that Vancouver residents want us to stop our rescue efforts or to end our valuable research that has the power to preserve these species in the wild.

This issue may seem bigger than you but I promise it is not. The Parks Board is being pressured by a small group of activists that believe animals are better dead than in an aquarium – your voice can make a difference!

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support - Bylaw to ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:39:23 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:38:37 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** I do not support - Bylaw to ban cetaceans

Please let it be known that **I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I am a Vancouver resident and I DO want cetaceans in the aquarium.**

After educating myself on the topic, I've come to the conclusion that the ban is shortsighted and doesn't solve the problems it intends to.

- The Vancouver Aquarium was the first aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago
- The Vancouver Aquarium does not breed cetaceans, they are the only marine animal rescue facility giving these animals a second chance at life
- If the ban goes forward, the aquarium will no longer be able to offer a home to rescued cetaceans, where there is still a strong need for this rescue program, evident with the jump in problems cetaceans are facing in our oceans - see here and here
- If the ban goes forward, rescued cetaceans currently living in the aquarium would have to be removed or euthanized - some cannot survive in the wild (are they really better off dead rather than alive?!)
- If the ban goes forward, the aquarium will no longer be able to further advance their research on beluga whales, integral to understanding and helping the population and this program is only done with other non-breeding belugas, usually from other aquariums
- The Parks Board previously approved a 3 phase expansion, which includes expanding the cetacean habitat - why would the board approve this if they're now deciding to ban cetaceans all together?

My current mailing address is s.22(1) I live in Burnaby, but have frequented the aquarium many many times and before six months ago I was a Vancouver resident at s.22(1) and living in Vancouver for over 4 years.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a by-law to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:33:35 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:32:51 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support a by-law to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I would like to put on record my objection to the recent Parks Board decision re cetaceans at the Aquarium. This decision seems ill-informed and petty, not driven by science, and will seriously impact the Aquarium's research and other work. Please reverse this decision.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:53:55 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:53:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** ohn.coupar@vancouver.ca; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

It is very typical, especially in our society these days, for the voices of a vocal minority to overshadow the will of the silent majority. The Vancouver Aquarium is doing excellent science with cetaceans and all animals. Do the right thing.

Feel free to email or call me on this matter.

s.22(1)





**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:51:35 AM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: , 2017 8:51:32 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

I am writing to let you know that I do believe the Vancouver aquarium has an important role in education, research and in rescuing cetateans that have been injured. As such, I do no support a bylaw that bans cetateans in Stanley Park, with the provision that:

1. They are only rescued cetatceans that would not be able to survive in the wild i.e. they are never captured from the wild
2. They are released back into the wild after rehabilitation, if this is possible (to be determined by an independent board)
3. The aquarium does not accept cetaceans or other mammals that have been captured from the wild
4. There is no breeding of cetaceans

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:28:10 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:28:05 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

To those concerned,

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I believe the park board has been swayed by ill informed activists whom I am sure have their intentions in the right place, but not the facts.

The Vancouver Aquarium provides valuable research and rescue to these lovely creatures that would not survive without the hard work and care of scientists, veterinarians and staff of the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please reconsider your stance on this decision.

Kind regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:38:31 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:38:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Members of the Park Board,

While I understand that there has been a significant amount of pressure on the Park Board to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park, I feel that there is an appropriate middle ground that was being considered but has now been abandoned in favour of this absolute bylaw.

While I do not support capturing wild animals for display and I do not support breeding programs in captivity, I was alarmed to learn that this proposed bylaw would ban the display of all cetaceans in Stanley Park, including those rescued and deemed unfit for release into the wild. What will become of Chester, Daisy, and Helen?

I would like to echo the sentiments of Shawna Calderwood who maintains that without a suitable long-term home, rescued cetaceans will have to be euthanized. I do not believe that an animal is better off dead than in an aquarium. The research that is conducted at the Vancouver Aquarium is making a significant impact on our understanding of marine life and the effects of climate change.

I would urge you to reconsider the bylaw and find an appropriate middle ground that strikes a balance between animal welfare and research.

Thank you for your time.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I DO NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:18:43 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:18:37 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I DO NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Dear Parks Board Commissioners:

I DO NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

These rescued cetaceans deserve to live out their lives with the care, attention, and family that they have always known. Further, future cetaceans in distress and in need of rescuing deserve the kind of care and attention the Vancouver Aquarium can provide.

The learning and knowledge that comes from these rescued cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium is immeasurable and irreplaceable. That knowledge is being passed on to all who chose it when visiting the aquarium, namely to children, who are learning how to be stewards of our planet. The symbiotic relationship between the rescued cetaceans and the public is priceless.

Please reconsider this ban.

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 1:47:02 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 1:46:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hi there,

I am a Vancouver resident:  
I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Regards,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park ,  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:32:02 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:31:53 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park ,

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park , I believe the research they do is very important to saving our wild populations

s.22(1)



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.  
[www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I DO NOT SUPPORT BYLAW TO BAN CETACEANS  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:57:14 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:57:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I DO NOT SUPPORT BYLAW TO BAN CETACEANS

Good afternoon,

I am appalled by the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I DO NOT SUPPORT THIS DECISION.

My friends and family hope this will not be the case and the small group of uneducated and misinformed activists you so highly regard will not be able to sway such a neglectful decision.

I will be reaching out to all my social networks to also inform you how they too DO NOT SUPPORT such a bad decision.

Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do NOT support the ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park!!!  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:58:16 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:58:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do NOT support the ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park!!!

Dear All,

I do not support the currently proposed motion to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!

As you all well know:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild.
- The Aquarium does not breed cetaceans.
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.
- The Aquarium runs Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. The Aquarium's goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision.

The Aquarium is an extremely valuable tool for informing the public of the amazing and wonderful diversity of our marine mammal life – and they do that by displaying the rescued creatures while rehabilitating them.

Please do not remove this important and valued part of Stanley Park!

Sincerely s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support the ban  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:18:32 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:18:28 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support the ban

To all members of the Parks Board

I do **not** support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park's Aquarium. The Aquarium does not support wild captures so all cetaceans that are there would otherwise be dead. The value of the research the park is doing is enormous. So is the education of our children. Many of my friends and family members feel this way.

Please do not pursue this bylaw. Please do not be influenced by a small number of noisy activists who are obviously mis-educated on what the Aquarium is all about.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 3:39:30 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 3:39:21 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Shum, Erin; Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Parks board commissioners,

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park!

These animals need a place to be rehabilitated and cared for and if unable to be released to be given a second chance at life it is the least we can do considering humanity makes their lives so difficult. Please cast down this unfair bylaw for a few people with other ideas that make no sense.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support the bylaw to ban ceatceans in Stanley park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 5:22:54 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 5:22:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin  
Subject: I do not support the bylaw to ban ceatceans in Stanley park

Good afternoon,

I'm a long time BC resident. I grew up in Vancouver, and now purchased a home in Coquitlam.  
My address is [s.22\(1\)](#)  
I have a new baby, and we have memberships to the aquarium. I think they do a fantastic job of rescuing animals and releasing those that can be released. They take great care of those that cannot. We would never go to sea world or support that organization due to their treatment of animals. I'm so proud of Vancouver for the research that is done at the aquarium and other sites to further our knowledge and help these animals.  
I do not support the bylaw that would make the aquarium get rid of ceatceans, and would then not allow the public to fall in love with, learn about, and understand these animals the way we were able to while growing up. The alternatives for the animals they rescue are far worse than playing with researchers and interacting with the public.

Thank You,

[s.22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support the cetacean ban at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:48:05 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 16, 2017 8:47:58 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support the cetacean ban at the Vancouver Aquarium

That small group of activists DO NOT speak for me or my family. I know there is a need for a rescue facility here and that the animals who live there will either be euthanized or moved to a facility unlikely to have the quality of care as the Vancouver Aquarium.

A compromised can be made and while few people support wild capture, there will always be a need to care for wild injured cetaceans.

Banning wild capture or breeding is one thing. I support the Vancouver Aquarium's ability to rescue and keep cetaceans who need their help and expertise.

I am a registered Veterinary Technologist, and I and my colleagues know what good work this facility does and how much the staff cares. WE know what constitutes good care and what amounts to cruelty more than that small group of activists does.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I DO NOT support the cetacean ban in Stanley Park!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 9:13:20 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 19, 2017 9:13:10 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** I DO NOT support the cetacean ban in Stanley Park!

Hello,

I have been reading a lot about the ban of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium, and I just wanted to let you know that I DO NOT support the ban.

I have visited the Vancouver Aquarium many times since I moved here from Ontario 11 years ago, and without a place like this and the work they do with the care and rehabilitation of sea animals, I wouldn't have learned the many great things I have about the ocean and the creature that live in it. They seem to use very ethical practices and have done many good things about educating people about how to be a more responsible co-habitants of this coastline.

Again, I DO NOT support this ban, and hate to think what will happen to the remaining animals they have in their care that are unfit to live in the wild.

Please consider this carefully and don't be swayed by the loud voices against this issue.

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I Do not support the Decision made to band Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:49:58 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:49:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** I Do not support the Decision made to band Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello,

I strongly disagree with the decision made by the Parks board to band Cetaceans in Stanley Park. As a Vancouver Resident you have lost my vote as an elected official. I pledge to make it my duty to ensure you are not re-elected. It is your duty to represent all of Vancouver, and not simply the loudest one in the room.

Sincerely

s.22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I DO NOT support the decision to ban Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:04:36 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:04:21 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I DO NOT support the decision to ban Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello,

I strongly disagree with the decision made by the Parks board to ban Cetaceans in Stanley Park. As a Vancouver Resident you have lost my vote as an elected official. I pledge to make it my duty to ensure you are not re-elected. It is your duty to represent all of Vancouver, and not simply the loudest one in the room.

Sincerely

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do NOT support the parks board decision!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 5:15:08 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 5:15:05 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do NOT support the parks board decision!

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is s.22(1) and I am a long-term resident of Vancouver. I want to express my profound disappointment and disagreement over your latest parks board decision which affects the Vancouver Aquarium so negatively.

I believe that animals that cannot be released into the wild due to their health and/or lack of survival skills deserve to be able to live and be shown at the Vancouver Aquarium. Your decision will have a profoundly negative impact on the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre and on the animals that it saves. Where shall the animals go that the MMR save that cannot be released? Back in the wild to die? Your decision is cruel for the most vulnerable animals that need the Aquarium.

Not only that, the research that takes place at the Aquarium is extremely valuable to protect the animal population in the wild. We need to understand more about the dolphin and whale population in order to better protect them.

I hope that you will reconsider your decision. Please look at the science and the good work that the Aquarium does, rather than listen to the loud anti-aquarium protesters, which are by far in the minority.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I do not support the pending by-law banning the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 5:42:48 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 5:42:44 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I do not support the pending by-law banning the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park

A concerned Vancouver resident

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I DO NOT support your decision about the Aquarium, I do NOT support the bylaw!  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:08:41 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:08:19 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; PB Commissioners

**Subject:** I DO NOT support your decision about the Aquarium, I do NOT support the bylaw!

As a scientist, I am deeply offended by this recent decision. As a Vancouverite, I am deeply offended by this recent decision. As someone that loves animals, had dedicated their life to animal research, and believes that the Aquarium is a vital part of cetacean and ocean research, rehabilitation and rescue, I am deeply offended by this recent decision. I do NOT support it.

You have succumbed to activists with loud, uninformed voices. In doing so, you have BECOME those loud, uninformed voices. You are not MY voice. You are not the voice of the cetaceans at the Aquarium. And I believe you are not the voice of the majority of Vancouverites despite your claims.

Please explain to me what will happen to the cetaceans currently at the Aquarium? Where do you propose they go? Do you care that you have essentially sentenced them to their deaths? Would you rather they be dead? Really? That seems very PETA-ish to me - animals are better off dead than in captivity. Really?

Why would you approved the Aquarium expansion plans then turn around and make this decision? PLEASE explain that to me.

Where do you propose any future injured cetaceans go? What do you propose is done with them? Abandon them and let them die an inhumane death? PLEASE explain that to me.

I also need someone to explain to me how the group of you, who are NOT marine biologists, veterinarians or scientists (no Erin, your forest genetics degree doesn't mean you are a scientist), are even qualified to make this decision - what do you know about cetacean rehabilitation? Cetacean rescue? What do you even know about cetaceans? Shame on you all - and especially you Sarah - you used to work with the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre - how long will it take them to pull the knives from their backs. And you Stuart - I thought you were a believer in education, which is a big part of the Aquariums purpose - education.

You will not have my support in our next election - I'll be using my vote to rehabilitate and rescue the Parks Board.

s.22(1)



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"Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former." - Albert Einstein

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I Do NOT Support Your Recent Bylaw to Ban Cetaceans in MY Name  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:25:37 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:24:48 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I Do NOT Support Your Recent Bylaw to Ban Cetaceans in MY Name

Hello John, Casey, Catherine, Sarah, Stuart, Erin and Michael:

As a **born, raised and current resident** of Vancouver, I do not support the Parks Board Commissioners' - **your** - ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park/Vancouver Aquarium. **Do not for another second believe you are doing this in MY or my future children's names as Vancouver residents.**

My address: s.22(1)

It is sad to witness us Canadians sink to our neighbouring country's level. It is appalling that falsified "facts" could fuel let alone launch such a motion. Remind you of how the Trump administration came to fruition much?

As Shawna Carlderwood states in a recent clarification of FACTS,

*"The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!"*

There are zero breeding efforts occurring, they are not living in any harsh conditions or being hurt in any way. The cetaceans that currently reside at the Vancouver Aquarium have been strictly rescues that **would not have survived in the wild with their injuries** if not rehabilitated by the amazing people at the aquarium.

If your basis is that that's just the circle of life, then all those puppies and kittens us residents "capture" as "rescues" because they would not have otherwise survived with their injuries, perhaps they too should be left alone to fend for themselves and inevitably die from now on. Those rescues living in captivity at all the different pet stores may as well be released too with this bylaw. Apparently it is wrong to care for animals and prolong the duration of their life when the wild was just too wild for them.

How did the Greater Vancouver Zoo acquire their tigers, lions and elephants I saw growing up? Were they stranded in Africa's wilderness one day and some good humanitarians took it upon themselves to bring them to OUR west coast zoo for

rehabilitation? What is your decision for those animals living in captivity at the Greater Vancouver Zoo that aren't native to us?

Please listen to the facts - the factual not alternative facts - before imposing such a devastating motion to our future generation's oceanic research and betterment in OUR - Vancouver Residents' - names.

Every life should be given the fighting chance to live it. Even the scum living on my streets asking me for my hard earned money every day, and the garbage rotting in captivity in our prisons gets to live their life out.

My family and I will never support your bylaw.

s.22(1)

Vancouver Aquarium **Member and Supporter**

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I firmly support Vancouver Aquarium's whale program  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:39:22 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:39:17 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I firmly support Vancouver Aquarium's whale program

My family and I are firm supporters of the Vancouver Aquarium's whale program and Canada's Marine Mammal Rescue Center. WE believe in their research with whales and dolphins and believe that it is vital to their ongoing survival.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I seek outright ban on cetaceans now  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:42:40 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:42:34 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I seek outright ban on cetaceans now

Dear parks board commissioners

I understand you will discuss options for the future of whales and dolphins at the Vancouver Aquarium this evening. May I add my voice to the other forceful opinions that a modern aquarium should not have large mammals. They are not suited to these conditions, as their high death rate in a number of facilities shows.

Personally, I vociferously discourage visitors to Vancouver from going to the Aquarium. I went once, myself, when I was a new arrival to BC, about eleven years ago. The belugas exhibit reduced me to tears on the spot for the barrenness of the environment. Since then, I have read a lot about cetaceans and I continue to be appalled that anyone in their right minds can think it acceptable in the 21st century to keep in captivity these magnificent creatures who in the wild roam far and wide and have complex social interrelationships which we barely understand.

It does seem that you are looking at money rather than at morality. But it will not work. Yes, you will have some ignorant tourists who come. But the more reflective Vancouverites, who might otherwise be a source of strength and support to the aquarium in hard times, are turning against you. You need us more than you need that kind of ignorant tourist.

I urge you to make the moral decision this evening. Do not leave it to a plebiscite. That is moral cowardice and only delays the decision and imposes expense for the administration of the plebiscite. be brave and make the only moral decision. We will be watching carefully.

Yours sincerely,

s.22(1)



s.22(1)



GIRLS JUST WANNA HAVE FUNdamental rights

For info about CAWES on Bowen Island, please go to [cawes.org](http://cawes.org)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I support cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:51:49 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:51:45 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I support cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation,

As a resident of Vancouver, I am writing to inform you that I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I have heard this decision was made based on the requests of a small group of Vancouver residents. I hope my email, along with others that you may receive, will demonstrate that many Vancouverites do accept cetaceans in captivity for the purposes of science, conservation, and rescue (ie. Non-releasable or threatened animals).

I implore the board to reconsider the bylaw and to ensure that the opinions of more Vancouverites are heard (implementing a plebiscite as recommended in the board's March 8, 2017 report).

Thank you for your time and I look forward to the next steps addressing this issue.

Best regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I support the ban on displaying cetaceans in Vancouver Parks  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:33:36 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:33:32 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** I support the ban on displaying cetaceans in Vancouver Parks

I recently read a Facebook post by Shawna Calderwood, who might work at the Vancouver Aquarium. In case you have already seen it here was my response:

I don't think any of the anti captivity supporters have said they want the Vancouver Aquarium to stop helping marine animals or release or euthanize the dolphins still currently there. The Aquarium has a second facility where they rehabilitate seals (mostly). This facility is not open to the public. The issue is DISPLAYING marine mammals. This acratc and selfish act is what the general public wants to change. Let the dolphins live out their lives in peace - not performing for humans so the Vancouver Aquarium can collect admission dollars.

If the @ParkBoard hadn't approved the ban on DISPLAYING cetaceans the Vancouver Aquarium would have filled its tanks with belugas who have been on loan at SeaWorld for decades. Some of them where wild caught, not rescued.

There is a very successful and popular aquarium in California who rescue and rehabilitate marine animals AND do scientific research all without having animals on display. It is the Monterrey Bay Aquarium. Clearly this is the model we want for Vancouver!

If you agree please write the Park Board expressing your support.

john.coupar@vancouver.ca; casey.crawford@vancouver.ca;  
catherine.evans@vancouver.ca; sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca;  
stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca; erin.shum@vancouver.ca;  
michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca

#emptythetanks

For reference, here is Shawna's post:

Last week the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium). I am livid at how science can be overshadowed by misinformation. I understand that scientists can come across arrogant (and therefore unlikable) – but that doesn't make what they say any less true!

Hopefully the below will offer my friends some insight into my frustration & encourage them to take the time to write an email in

support of an organization I am extremely passionate about.

#### THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!

- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!

- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

#### IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The Parks Board is doing this in your name! They are saying Vancouver residents do not want us to have cetaceans at the Aquarium. I don't believe that Vancouver residents want us to stop our rescue efforts or to end our valuable research that has the power to preserve these species in the wild.

This issue may seem bigger than you but I promise it is not. The Parks Board is being pressured by a small group of activists that believe animals are better dead than in an aquarium – your voice can make a difference!

Please email the Parks Board Commissioners indicating you do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and include your mailing address (all letters are valued but Vancouver residents will have the largest impact as these are elected positions).

Their emails: john.coupar@vancouver.ca; casey.crawford@vancouver.ca; catherine.evans@vancouver.ca; sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca; stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca; erin.shum@vancouver.ca; michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca

Sent from my iPhone

s.22(1)

Vancouver Resident

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I support the Vancouver Aquarium.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:11:03 PM

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From: Balance Ecological  
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:10:23 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: I support the Vancouver Aquarium.

Dear Elected Officials,

The Park Board is wrong. They have listened to the vocal few, without regard for the important work that the Vancouver Aquarium does. I have long been a part of the silent majority. I support a marine mammal program at the Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park.

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

Monica Pearson, RPBio  
Conservation Biologist  
Balance Ecological

Vancouver BC

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: I'm Against the Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:06:58 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:06:53 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** I'm Against the Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Ban

I am a Vancouver resident and I was extremely dissapointed to hear that the parks board voted to ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. While I am against capturing healthy cetaceans as well as breeding them in captivity, the Vancouver Aquarium does neither of these things. They provide a home for rescued animals, which is a very different thing. This ban is a harmful decision. What will happen to the cetaceans currently housed at the aquarium? The small and loud group of activists that pressured the parks board into this decision does not speak for me.

Thank you for your time,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: In Support of the Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 12:47:30 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 6, 2017 12:47:25 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** In Support of the Aquarium

Dear Michael, s.22(1) Secondly please read the opinion piece in the Vancouver Sun March 18, 2017 by Patrick McGeer as I agree with him 100%.

You people should not have the capacity to determine the future of cetaceans at the Aquarium. While I don't support catching healthy specimens, I do support the the Aquarium should be able to care for and support injured or sick cetaceans, research and rehabilitation is important.

I promise that I won't be voting for any of you next election as you are basing your decisions on emotions and they are not rational. Stay out of it, what are you people thinking?

s.22(1)



**From:** [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: In Support of the Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 2:19:53 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 27 March 2017 14:19:50 (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the Aquarium

Thank you for your reply Sarah. I did read the public opinion piece previously but my opinion (as well as many other people I know) hasn't changed. I do agree they should not breed in captivity but what happens when an injured cetaceans needs rehabilitation? Do you help or do you just euthanize? What is the Parks Boards opinion? We have many places where land animals go to get help but how do we help cetaceans? My opinion as we need places for them to go to and the Vancouver Aquarium should be allowed to care and rehabilitate and if they can not be released then they have a home.

I think we need a plebiscite rather than have the Parks Board decide the fate of this very important issue.

I am a avid nature lover and environmentalist who deeply cares about this issue.

Regards.

s.22(1)

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**From:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah <Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** March 27, 2017 7:31 AM  
**To:** s.22(1)  
**Subject:** Re: In Support of the Aquarium

Dear s.22(1)

Thank you for your email. I can assure you this was a very considered process and decision with scientists, the general public and others speaking on both sides of the issue. Included was discussion on what research the Aquarium conducts. In reality the research on belugas is very modest by scientific standards and not the larger focus of their research efforts a great part of which take place in the wild. The Aquarium also has also had the ability to not only rescue but breed its captive populations in perpetuity. I will also share a public opinion



piece here:

<http://theprovince.com/opinion/columnists/gordon-clark-its-no-longer-acceptable-to-keep-cetaceans-in-captivity>



## Vancouver Aquarium belugas: It's not right to keep ...

theprovince.com

The Vancouver Aquarium has been a part of my life for decades, as it has been for most Vancouverites. It was certainly a favourite attraction when I was a kid.

Sincerely, and thank you again for your email,

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

On Mar 26, 2017, at 12:44 PM, s. 22(1)rote:

Dear Sarah, please read the opinion piece in the Vancouver Sun March 18, 2017 by Patrick McGeer as I agree with him 100%.

You people should not have the capacity to determine the future of cetaceans at the Aquarium. While I don't support catching healthy specimens, I do support the the Aquarium should be able to care for and support injured or sick cetaceans, research and rehabilitation is important.

I promise that I won't be voting for any of you next election as you are basing your decisions on emotions and they are not rational. Stay out of it, what are you people thinking?

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: In support of the Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Program  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:01:20 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 4:01:15 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; [publicrelations@vanaqua.org](mailto:publicrelations@vanaqua.org)  
**Subject:** In support of the Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Program

Hello,

As a resident and home owner in the West End, I love having Stanley Park on my doorstep.

I grew up in rural Manitoba, and had my first visit to the Aquarium in the winter of 1985 when I was just 4 years old. To a little girl from the Prairies who had never seen ocean wildlife, it was pure magic. That visit inspired a life long love and respect for wildlife, swimming, the oceans and their residents. I've been lucky enough to travel to, swim in, and see the sea life in 5 oceans and 4 continents, and I can't wait to add to those numbers.

**These are things I understand to be true about the Aquarium, and please correct me if I'm wrong:**

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild.
- They are not breeding cetaceans, and have no plans to breed cetaceans
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild.
- It is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Their goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. They don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision.
- Sea pens are not a viable alternative
- The Parks Board already approved their detailed 3 phase expansion plans

**Questions:**

- What will happen to the rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium? Are they to be transferred to some other facility? Euthanized?
- Where will rescued cetaceans go? Ones who have sustained injuries and cannot be

released back into the wild? We have rescue and rehabilitation facilities for land based animals, why not aquatic life?

- The Aquarium is responsible for ground breaking research on the Arctic at a time when global warming and climate change are a real problem. How will that work continue?

Shutting the program down does nothing to honor the great contributions that Qila and Aurora have made to the world. From the joy and wonderment they provided to children and adults alike, to their immeasurable contributions to science and our understanding of belugas and the Arctic.

Their deaths were tragic, and changes need to be made to prevent this from happening again, but I trust that the Aquarium is working in the best interest not only of the animals that live in their facility, but also for the future health of animals in the wild.

**I'm asking you to allow the Aquarium to continue on with their projects as planned, and as previously approved by the Parks Board.**

Thank You,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: in support of the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 6:33:52 PM

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From: s.22(1)

Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 6:31:47 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: in support of the Vancouver Aquarium

To the elected officials of Vancouver,

You have the opportunity to stand with science and instead you are choosing to bow down to a loud minority. The Aquarium has 25,000+ member households from around the Lower Mainland and sees more than one million visitors annually. Yet you choose to listen to a handful of people who stand on the street yelling for the "whale jails" to be emptied.

Feelings are not facts.

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues. Animals will die a needless death if you continue down this path.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

As a resident of Vancouver, I will certainly remember the actions you take come 2018.

s.22(1)

Vancouver homeowner, tax payer and voter

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: It's time to evolve...  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 5:38:07 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 5:38:05 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** It's time to evolve...

We are at a pivotal moment in Vancouver's history where we have the opportunity to change the discourse around keeping cetacean in captivity. Captivity of these sentient beings is not only unethical, the archaic practise does not serve any educational or conservational purpose that cannot be achieved through other methods. Captivity only benefits the wallets of the CEO's who stand to make the most profit. And while they may preach about their world renowned efforts to protect our oceans and wildlife, ask them why they accept support from major ocean destroyers like Shell Canada Limited, Teck Resources Ltd., Imperial Oil Foundation etc as published in the donor gallery on their website? Its time to evolve, investigate, and support better avenues for research and conservation. Sanctuaries, sea pens, virtual interactive tours, life size models, whale watching tours, etc etc are all viable, more effective options to consider. It can be done, and Vancouverites already have the right momentum to making it possible. Please enact a ban on cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium to prevent them from bringing back four belugas on loan to other aquariums. The tanks are empty, lets keep them that way!

Thank you for your time.

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s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Keep Cetacean Rescue against bylaw ruling  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 3:59:22 PM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: 2017 3:59:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
Subject: Keep Cetacean Rescue against bylaw ruling

To Parks Board Commissioners;

As a resident of Vancouver I support the Vancouver Aquarium's effort to support rescue of cetaceans. I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans. The rescue efforts of the Vancouver aquarium are honourable and very much help marine species in BC, the Arctic and Canada.

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: KEEP cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:22:15 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:22:11 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** KEEP cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board members,

I am a Vancouver resident and I do NOT support your decision to to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. And I know I am not alone on this either.

The work the Vancouver Aquarium does to rescue, rehabilitate and release (when possible) injured and/orphaned cetaceans and other marine life should be praised and supported. Their efforts not only save the lives of these amazing creatures that would have otherwise died in the wild but also provide valuable research; research that allows us to better understand what is needed to enable these species to thrive in the wild amongst numerous human caused hazards (pollution, destruction of food sources, destruction of habitat, climate change...).

The decisions we as humans make often have greater impact on those without voices. Therefore I am speaking out on behalf of all the marine animals (wild or rescued) that need our help to secure their future in our waters and our beaches.

Human behaviour has to change and it can start with the Parks Board decision to support the research and public education provided by the Vancouver Aquarium's cetacean program.

At the very least more public consultation or a referendum should be held on this issue.

Sincerely from a concerned Vancouver resident,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Keep cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:23:44 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 2017 12:23:32 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Keep cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Elected Parks Board Officials,

I am extremely disappointed with your political decision in taking steps towards banning cetaceans from Vancouver Aquarium.

I am not a marine biologist or anyone associated with fisheries/wildlife - I'm a Vancouver mom, and the aquarium and its cetaceans have played an important role in my education and especially my kids' (and my kids' friends) education about environmental issues and marine life, including cetaceans.

This is also the case for tens of thousands of Metro Vancouver-area parents and our kids.

Tell me, how many of you have ever seen a real, live beluga, other than in the aquarium??  
or seen dolphins up close?? If you are like most of us, likely nowhere but in an aquarium.  
This is the case for most of the 1million+ visitors to the Vancouver Aquarium each year.  
- your kids, my kids, your grandkids, friends neighbours.

I'm with the majority of Vancouver residents who support the education and research led by the Aquarium,

I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of loud, under-informed animal rights activists trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: keep our cetaceans at the Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:56:53 AM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: March 19, 2017 7:56:48 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
Cc: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: keep our cetaceans at the Aquarium

This is an email to advise you all that the idea that we do not want cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium is ill informed. We are devastated that a decision has been made by the Parks Board to not allow the Aquarium to keep cetaceans.

We are proud of what the Vancouver Aquarium is doing for the sea life they have dedicated their energies to help live.

Please reconsider you decision and PLEASE SUPPORT KEEPING CETACEANS AT THE VANCOUVER AQUARIUM.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Keep the cetaceans, please  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:36:11 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:36:06 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Keep the cetaceans, please

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I would like to add my name to the list of people opposed to the bylaw banning cetaceans in Stanley Park.

I believe the Vancouver Aquarium is doing fantastic work to educate our society about the many wonders of the natural world. Ensuring that the next generation grows up with a desire to live in harmony with nature rather than follow the rhetoric of exploitation and degradation that has characterised the past century is of paramount importance.

Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Last night  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 11:15:47 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 11:15:42 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Last night

Hello Commissioner Evans

Just wanted you to know that I attended last night's Cetacean mtg, not as a speaker, and was so very impressed by your line of questioning with the Aquarium staff etc. You asked exactly what I needed to know as a citizen therefore fulfilling your role as an elected official.

s.22(1) I attended 35 years of meetings such as last night's, many concerning the Aquarium's relentless expansion into our most venerable park- a detail rarely mentioned.

As stated last night by many opponents of Cetaceans in captivity, I too think the Aquarium has done a laudable job educating the public but times change as does the empathy of the higher mammals. We need to actually stop this now, not like in the past, let someone else do it decades down the road. The elected Park Board, though much reduced under the past City Manager, is still a most powerful and unique body able to control the future of what are our most precious spaces- and along with that, all creatures great and small that inhabit them.

I was amused somewhat last night when the Scientist from Florida had trouble deciding whether animals are sentient- how cold a heart to be working with these great creatures of the ocean and not feel their very being.

I digress. Thank you for your intelligent and thoughtful inquiries last night s.22(1)

s.22(1)

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Let the caetaceans stay in Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:59:12 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:59:07 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Let the caetaceans stay in Vancouver Aquarium

I have visited fro France 2 years ago and have marveled at the beautiful aquarium that you have in Vancouver and found what you were doing with rescued animals absolutely magnificent. Please do not fall in the easy trap of removing rescued caetaceans from your facilities, do not become like any other mediocre aquarium anywhere around the world.

Please allow Chester Helen and Daisy stay in Vancouver . Show humanity, animals deserve that too.

Best regards

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter from [s.22\(1\)](#)  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:12:36 PM

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**From:** [s. 22\(1\)](#)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:12:32 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Letter from [s. 22\(1\)](#)

Dear Vancouver Parks Board,

My name is [s. 22\(1\)](#) and I agree with a letter that my friend [s. 22\(1\)](#) sent to you about cetaceans. I do not agree with banning cetaceans. I think you are being very mean to ban animals that need help from the scientist at the aquarium who can help them. They are not taking animals from the wild, they are only helping animals who need it.

Please do not pass the bylaw to ban cetaceans.

Sincerely,  
[s. 22\(1\)](#)

A note from [s. 22\(1\)](#) Mom.....

I would again ask that you reconsider this ban on cetaceans. The Vancouver Aquarium is a world leaders in cetacean research and an amazing facility with amazing standards. I fail to understand why animals who simply cannot be released into the wild couldn't be allowed to live in a place where they receive great care and provide insight into their species that will ultimately help us to increase our conservations efforts in the wild.

You have said that you want to listen to the experts, but why have not listened to the experts that we have right here in Vancouver at our aquarium, who are leading the way and an example to the world on how to rescue, rehabilitate and release marine mammals into the wild.

Sincerely,  
[s.22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Lift the cetacean ban: Research the facts!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:22:53 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:22:47 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Lift the cetacean ban: Research the facts!

Hello, Parks Board Commissioners, friends,

I'm writing to express my deepest dismay at the recent decision to ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. I don't believe there is a shortage of science and facts available to tell you why this decision is absolutely misinformed and will have fatal consequences for the animals being cared for.

The Vancouver Aquarium ONLY houses RESCUE animals which cannot survive in the wild. They do not breed them, and they use them for valuable, environmental research and educational programs to better the environment.

You have the power to make the right decision. Lift this ban to avoid current beautiful animals living there to be euthanized.

Thanks dearly,

s.22(1)

Mailing address:

s.22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Main Street Aquarium location  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 7:11:31 PM

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**From:** Peter Hamilton  
**Sent:** March 12, 2017 7:11:26 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Cc:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: Main Street Aquarium location

In 96 the cetaceans were "grandfathered" but times have changed so now it would be "retirement".

The 2 dolphins and the porpoise should be retired from the day long forced circus tricks; stressful psychologically/physically painful experiments; and noisy public crowds day and evenings. Note: Studies have shown that dolphins develop ulcers after being put on public display. Sea World gives the medication in their food.

The aquarium should be looking for sea pens for such retirement and any possible future rescues. They were trying to pen the lone orca, Spring" at their research station on nearby Popham Island (We opposed that and Spring was rehabbed in a temporary sea pen in WA and then moved to a sea pen in Northern BC where she reunited with her family.

They should also locate feasible DFO marine research stations. There are several in BC waters. There are also nonprofit organizations that may have located some suitable BC locations.

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**From:** Mackinnon, Stuart <Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** March 12, 2017 9:47 AM  
**To:** Peter Hamilton  
**Subject:** RE: Main Street Aquarium location

Thanks Peter. And thank you for all your help and advocacy. I've been working towards this political solution for nearly 20 years. Some haven't always agreed with my slow and sure route, but getting unanimous support makes me think that this was the right way. Now we wait until the 15th for the staff report. My sense is that grandfathering the 3 will be the route they take--but without display. We'll see what the Aquarium thinks of that.

Stuart Mackinnon, Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

t: @betterparks      blog: [www.betterparks.ca](http://www.betterparks.ca)

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**From:** Peter Hamilton [lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** March 11, 2017 8:16 PM  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael; Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Cc:** Peter Hamilton  
**Subject:** Main Street Aquarium location

Re: Clarifying how to use the Main Street site and implementing new humane sites

Don't know if you know but the present cetaceans were brought into the Main Street location as their first step to claim they can't be released then move to main aquarium.

It is decided by the Aquarium vet > DFO did not tell me of any independent review. So one can assume they do not.

So they can rescue small cetaceans there now then release them, could probably setup a sea pen right there or other DFO locations/Popham Island. The new bylaw will help move to sea pens instead of the Aquarium entertainment and experiment \$\$\$ prisons.

Thanks for your this crucial decision to ban imports and displays. This will put Vancouver on the world map of eco friendly cities to visit the Super Natural City and BC.

I look forward to detailing how it all will work.

Peter



**From:** [COV webforms](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Make a comment : Vote  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 10:39:31 AM

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----- Original Message -----

**From:** COV.webforms@vancouver.ca  
**Sent:** 2017-03-13 10:33:41.0  
**To:** COV.webforms@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Make a comment : Vote

[q1.0] Part 1: Your message | I want to:  
Make a comment

[q1.1] Part 1: Your message | About:  
Vote

[q1.2] Part 1: Your message | Share details:

Thank you for voting to prohibit the import and display of whales, dolphins and porpoises  
[photo]

Upload a photo of the issue or service: (Optional)

[q2.0] Part 2: About you | Name:  
Sofia

[q2.1] Part 2: About you | Email:

[q2.2] Part 2: About you | Phone:

[q2.3] Part 2: About you | Address:

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Make an exception for rescues  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 2:34:31 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 15, 2017 2:34:28 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Make an exception for rescues

Dear park board commissioners

It has come to my attention that the park board has decided to ban the keeping of whales and dolphins in Stanley Park without making an exception for non-releasable cetaceans. This is a big mistake. In countries without facilities that can keep whales and dolphins, rescued animals that can not survive on their own in the wild are killed, many British Columbians including myself believe this is wrong, the lives of all animals matter and if they must be in human care to survive then they should be allowed to continue their lives in human care, rather than being put down when there is nothing physically wrong with them. Not caring for animals that can't care for themselves would reflect poorly on us as a society and poorly on the park board for making it impossible to care for them.

It is imperative that we have an exception for rescued animals so that no animals are killed needlessly, and the non-releasable animals at the aquarium can live safely.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Marine Mammal Rescue Center  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:41:35 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** .13 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Marine Mammal Rescue Center

Hi I have been to the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre and as a elementary teacher, was impressed by the care given to mammals and opportunities for education. Seeing a live mammal engages children in what is in our environment. I fully support , as well, the Vancouver Aquarium. In my opinion it represents a great teaching tool for the marine mammals in our area. I encourage you to keep supporting it. My children grew up regularly attending the Vancouver Aquarium. I feel it has given them a great respect for marine life. I also respect the care given to the live mammal program s.22(1)

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Marine Mammal Rescue  
**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 3:31:35 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 3:27:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Marine Mammal Rescue

To the Vancouver Parks Board

What on earth is the matter with you people? You are bullying a treasure and valuable institution in Vancouver and threatening the lives of animals they have fought so hard to rescue. It is insane and cruel to be ruled by a few activists who have gone so far off-balance in their opinions that they no longer represent common sense, good will or smart science.

Are your hearts missing, are you this ignorant of the science and, above all, ethics of medical care for animals that could not survive in the wild.

**Do you really think most of your constituents agree with you? You are wrong, they don't.** Listen to the outcry of those of us who stand behind the Aquarium and all it's spectacular efforts to rescue and rehab marine mammals.

The Aquarium stopped acquiring cetaceans from the wild just for exhibition ages ago. The ones they have now are only rescues and MUST stay where they are or they will surely die. The fact that these animals are beloved by the public and serve as incredible educational ambassadors for their species is an unintended, but invaluable, benefit. Dead is NOT better than fed, that is ludicrous.

Get over this rabid persecution of the Vancouver Aquarium and put your efforts into making sure the shorelines of Stanley Park are as pristine as the ocean needs them to be to support the marine life living near the city.

You do not deserve my regards.

However, I am sincere,

s.22(1)

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**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Marine Mammals' Home at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 8:24:01 PM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: Sunday, March 26, 2017 8:23:58 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: Marine Mammals' Home at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

The marine mammals currently living at the aquarium consider this their home, they have been here many years. It is not in their best interest to forcibly remove them from their home away from their caregivers, handlers, those they love and are bonded with. Are any of you parents or own a beloved pet? How do you feel your well loved, well taken care of child or pet would respond to being forcibly removed from their beloved home and loving family and put in a foster home? Remember this is not a case of neglect or abuse. These mammals are not able to live free in the wild as the creator intended, they are not releasable animals. Why subject them to loss, betrayal and abandonment without just cause? They deserve to live out their lives where they are now, with those they love, are familiar with and bonded to.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support them being kept at Vancouver Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups who do not seem to understand the ramifications of their actions for the marine mammals currently living at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Not to mention Vancouver Aquarium is the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues. Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

Sincerely,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Marine science needs to be protected  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 10:34:54 PM

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From: s.22(1)

Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 10:34:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
Subject: Marine science needs to be protected

I wish I could have been at the Parks meeting tonight to urge you to accept the Vancouver Aquarium's proposal for expansion and move forward in support of the marine research that we as Coastal dwellers and mariners depend on. Instead, I send you this letter.

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: My appeal to you...  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:39:51 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 7:39:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** My appeal to you...

Hello,

My heart is so heavy writing this letter to you and quite frankly I am still in shock so not sure I am going to be able to express myself as I hope too.

I first became involved with the Aquarium about 15 years ago as volunteer and then when my son was born in 2008 became a member and weekly visitor and felt so impassioned by their work that I eventually sought a career with the Vancouver Aquarium because I wanted to work for an organization that aligned with my values. One that worked tirelessly conserving our oceans which in turn will conserve our planet and all living species on it.

I have been an ocean lover since the first time I saw it at age 2 - a painting of that moment hangs in my house - and can never be far from it. I have lifeguarded on the beaches of Nova Scotia, surfed on the shores of Tofino and spent countless hours underwater SCUBA diving around the world. The ocean is my sanctuary and I will continue to fight for its survival until my dying day because I want my child and grandchildren and nephew and nieces, and those of my loved ones, and even yours, to be able to enjoy the beautiful power and magic that the ocean possess.

My son dreams of diving with me one day and I hope from the bottom of my heart that he will be able to experience all I have in our local waters and those around the globe. And if not, I need to be able to look him in the face and tell him I did every thing I could to save it.

We started visiting the aquarium together when he was only a few weeks old and his first connection was with our beautiful belugas. I spent many hours in the underwater arctic viewing gallery with him as he toddled back and forth absolutely memorized by Qila and Aurora. He called them "bugas" back then because he could not say beluga yet and his whole second birthday was beluga themed. That love of aquatic creatures, big or small, has only deepened and become more passionate with every chance he has to experience an interaction at the aquarium.

He asks for money for his birthdays instead of gifts so he can donate it to the Marine Mammal Rescue centre. He has watched first hand countless time mammals being rescued, rehabilitated and released. He has even been part of those releases.

He has also fallen in love with Chester, our False Killer Whale who was deemed non releasable by DFO and he is so unbelievably happy that our team can care for him and will be able to provide more marine mammals with safe havens if the same fate befalls on them - only made possible by our AMAZING experienced and highly skilled team.

The alternative is unfathomable to me and I cannot even imagine how I am going to explain to my 8 year old son that the you have made the choice that the lives of these animals don't matter, the the future survival of ocean species doesn't matter, and that ultimately you made a choice to support a small group of uniformed people holding signs at the cost of those who are doing the actual hard work to save our oceans and ultimately all species on earth.

These words are unspeakable to me and yet I have to tell him this...I wish I could ask you to look him in his sweet little face and tell him these things, maybe then you would see the error of your ways.

Many of my colleagues have written beautiful powerful, evidence based letters of appeal to you about the work we do, the impacts it has around the globe and the impacts your decision will have. My letter is more personal because the weight of this conversation with my son still bears down on me and I am so deeply hopeful that you will see the light and hear the voices and listen to the logic so that I don't have to break his sweet innocent heart like mine is breaking.

As a final word, I plead from the bottom of my heart for my loved ones and yours, to do the right thing. Ask yourself how you will feel in 20 years when you look back on this moment, a moment of opportunity to really make an impact for the betterment of your community and for the conservation of our planet. Will you feel good about your choice knowing how many marine mammals suffered and died on the shores of our continent and could not be saved because our hands were tied by your by-law? Will the extinct St. Lawrence beluga population weigh heavy on you knowing you made the wrong choice?

Now is the time to fix the wrong, please don't let me down.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: New Bylaw for rehabilitated animals  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 5:38:36 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 12, 2017 5:38:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Re: New Bylaw for rehabilitated animals

Is there somewhere on Facebook I could share the post with you as it's going viral and if it's not accurate I would love to help spread the word. :-)

On Sunday, March 12, 2017 4:56 PM, "Mackinnon, Stuart" <Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca> wrote:

I don't know what post you are referring to. The Board unanimously passed a motion for staff to draw up a by law amendment that would prohibit the importation and display of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. Staff will report back in May.

I hope this clarifies things for you.

Stuart Mackinnon  
Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 2:40 PM  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Reply To:** s.22(1)  
**Subject:** or rehabilitated animals

---

So the post going around on Facebook isn't true?

On Sunday, March 12, 2017 1:31 PM, "Mackinnon, Stuart" <Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca> wrote:

Hello.

There is no new by-law. Staff will be reporting back on May 15 with a recommendation.

Stuart Mackinnon  
Commissioner

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Sent from my BlackBerry 10 smartphone on the Bell network.

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 1:29 PM

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Reply To:** s.22(1)

**Subject:** New Bylaw for rehabilitated animals

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I just read the post about the error made in the new by law for rehabilitated animals. PLEASE make sure that is corrected and the "right" and compassionate decision be put forward and added in the by law. And PLEASE let me know if there is something we can do.

Thank you.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No ban please!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:15:25 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:15:19 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** No ban please!

Hello,

'''  
I am writing today to try to do my part, and to be a voice for my little one and her future siblings. As a family we go to the aquarium to see these beautiful animals, yes, we would love to see there habitats bigger but we know that's coming soon. We teach our little girl every time her little eyes go wide opens seeing them in the water, that this is why we recycle and try to keep things clean, to not throw things in the ocean and to teach her that these beautiful creatures are out there. For a family whose out on the boat weekly in the summer this is an important lesson for her, and if these animals weren't rescued we wouldn't be as educated about them and see these creatures.

Please stop the ban!

s.22(1)



Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: no more cetaceans for the Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:10:21 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:10:16 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** no more cetaceans for the Aquarium

Please do everything within your powers to force the Aquarium to desist from holding, displaying, keeping, breeding cetaceans or returning to Vancouver any of "their" cetaceans currently held at other aquaria.

The folly of the Board that granted approval for the expansion of the the Aquarium, while being fully aware of the increasing public antipathy to holding cetaceans in captivity, has put the present board in an unenviable position.

However the fact remains that I and a very large number of Vancouver residents and tax-payers are strongly opposed to the retention of cetaceans under any conditions, and to the planned expansion of the Aquarium.

Please DO NOT accept the Aquarium's February 2017 plan; please amend the By-laws to totally eliminate cetaceans from the Aquarium, in any form, under any circumstances.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No to the ban on Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:41:26 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 2:41:21 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** No to the ban on Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello Vancouver board member,

I just read about a potential ban on Cetaceans in Stanley park. I am a Richmond resident but used to live in Vancouver and I vote NO to this ban. The aquarium is there to help. This proposed ban would not be helping in anyway the animals that call the Aquarium home. The people of the Lower Mainland have come to love these animals and the ban would be putting their lives at risk - which is not acceptable.

Thank you,  
s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: NO TO THE BAN!  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:11:22 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:11:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; john.couper@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** NO TO THE BAN!

My name is s.22(1) I am a long time Vancouver resident and animal lover. My vote is NOT to ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium.

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: No to the cetacean ban  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:45:24 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:45:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** No to the cetacean ban

Good afternoon,  
I was born and raised in BC and as a kid went on a field trip to the aquarium because I wanted to be a marine biologist. I ended up not having good enough grades in science so I had to take a different path.  
I think the work that is done at the aquarium is amazing and I fully support keeping cetaceans there. I know they do their best to take care of the creatures and the things they learn are important in helping the ones in the wild survive. Plus if it's closed what will happen with the rescues in the future?  
I hope you guys don't go through with the ban. The work that's done there is too important.  
Thanks.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Parks Marketing](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** FW: not a question but ....  
**Date:** Friday, December 23, 2016 11:58:18 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2016 11:54 AM  
**To:** Parks Marketing  
**Subject:** not a question but ....

I urge the Park Board to do the right thing this year and end the captivity of whales at the Aquarium. I don't believe that the Aquarium itself, can or ever will voluntarily do this so it is left to you as the body that represents the people of Vancouver. Please do the right thing by us and by the animals. Yours, s.22(1)



**From:** [Schultz, Emily](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** FW: not a question but ....  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 03, 2017 9:22:47 AM

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We received the email below in the marketing inbox.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, December 23, 2016 11:54 AM  
**To:** Parks Marketing  
**Subject:** not a question but ....

I urge the Park Board to do the right thing this year and end the captivity of whales at the Aquarium. I don't believe that the Aquarium itself, can or ever will voluntarily do this so it is left to you as the body that represents the people of Vancouver. Please do the right thing by us and by the animals. Yours, s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Not a stock letter - please support marine science  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 3:37:54 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 3:37:40 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Not a stock letter - please support marine science

Dear Elected Officials,

As a citizen of Vancouver and an elementary school educator, I am personally offended by the egregious dismissal of the expertise of essentially every scientist, the loyalty of every volunteer, the education of every life-long member and visitor, and the work of those who champion of the Vancouver Aquarium and the work that they do. I especially don't understand why the Aquarium's pledge to phase out their cetacean program by 2029 wasn't good enough for the Parks Board when the alternative will mean euthenasia or entrusting another facility with their care when the best place for them is here.

What a disappointment the board is.

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Nowhere else  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:46:49 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** , 2017 10:46:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Nowhere else

Dear elected officials

There is nowhere else in British Columbia right now that non-releasable animals can go besides the Vancouver aquarium, this decision to not make an exception for them is a big mistake. While many voters do not want belugas, the vast majority believe that animals that need to be in human care to survive should be allowed to stay. Even many of the protesters last night would agree with this. Therefore it would be prudent to make an exception for non-releasable animals before an animal washes up and we have to put it down due to there being nowhere for it to stay.

Sincerely

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: On behalf of cetaceans everywhere - thank you!  
**Date:** Friday, March 31, 2017 2:23:25 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 31, 2017 2:18:53 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** On behalf of cetaceans everywhere - thank you!

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing to thank you for voting to prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. You are on the right side of history.

Thank you for your compassion and empathy. I have always loved Vancouver; now I love it even more!

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Only 1 published beluga experiment  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:41:17 PM

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**From:** Peter Hamilton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:41:13 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Re: Only 1 published beluga experiment

I said to Stuart that this could be a smoking gun photo to end their less than honest research claims >

Did you see the photo? The person in the restraint device might be their veterinarian?

The report actually revealed the industry's own concerns over the many problems with experiments on captives. They stated that in many ways it does not represent life in the wild. The report included photos of some experimental procedures but is only a glimpse behind the closed doors of animal research laboratories. There was also a photo of an Aquarium employee lying in the sea lion restraint device while 2 sea lions are made to stand posing on each side. Are they joking about their "tools for conservation and science."?

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**From:** Evans, Catherine <Catherine.Evans@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** March 8, 2017 3:15 PM  
**To:** Peter Hamilton  
**Subject:** RE: Only 1 published beluga experiment

Thanks Peter. That's a good story.

Catherine Evans, Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
Tel: 604.358.8038


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**From:** Peter Hamilton [lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 2:58 PM  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Fw: Only 1 published beluga experiment

FYI

<http://vancouversun.com/opinion/columnists/matt-robinson-all-reasons-for-keeping-belugas-may-be-outweighed-by-cruel-argument>

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## Matt Robinson: All reasons for keeping belugas may be outweighed by cruelty argument

[vancouver.sun.com](http://vancouver.sun.com)

John Nightingale has a controversial vision for the future, and concerns about park board commissioners.

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**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to cetacean ban  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:58:45 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 7:58:10 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Opposed to cetacean ban

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

I'm a Vancouver resident and I'm writing today to express my opposition to a bylaw that would ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I believe that this move would make the Vancouver Aquarium, Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility, no longer able to provide a home to rescued cetaceans. As a result, these animals, many of whom are not capable of surviving in the wild, would likely have to be euthanized. As well, it would pose a significant hindrance to the beluga research program. I don't believe these would be compassionate measures.

Thank you for your consideration.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Vancouver Aquarium Bylaw  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 2:56:11 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 2:56:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Crawford, Casey; Shum, Erin; Coupar, John; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Opposition to Vancouver Aquarium Bylaw

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I write to voice my opposition to a bylaw which would prohibit cetacean captivity in the Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park.

I believe the bylaw, as proposed, is both cruel and unnecessary. If cetaceans were being captured and brought in for entertainment purposes, then I agree, they shouldn't be in captivity. But in the case of the Vancouver Aquarium, the animals that are brought in are injured or unwell. They are nurtured back to health and released back to nature in every possible circumstance. Only those born at the Aquarium or who would not survive the return remain at the Aquarium. In those cases, I believe that a full life in a smaller habitat, cared for by dedicated professionals and adored by locals and visitors alike, is a far better alternative to euthanasia or a doomed release tantamount to a death sentence. It gives the animal a second chance at life, provides a valuable opportunity for scientific observation in order to better care for animals in future, as well as offering public interaction - particularly with children - which in turn fosters a sense of responsibility and empathy for the wildlife around us.

Not to mention the revenue generated for the city as a result of the Vancouver Aquarium being a tourist destination, which I trust is of concern to City Hall.



Ideally, I would like to see every cetacean nursed back to perfect health and released as soon as possible, but unfortunately that's not always the case. It's why I support the Vancouver Aquarium programs. To pen a bylaw hindering the Vancouver Aquarium from being able to continue its good work is shortsighted at the very least, and disastrous to ongoing research for the international scientific community at the very worst.

As a lifetime resident of Vancouver I support the Vancouver Aquarium and oppose the proposed bylaw limiting its activities, programs and/or research.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Orcas at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 7:24:53 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 8, 2017 7:24:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Cc:** [reception@vanaqua.org](mailto:reception@vanaqua.org)  
**Subject:** Orcas at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners:

Many Vancouverites, residents of the Lower Mainland, British Columbia and other areas of the country feel attached to orcas because for half a century we have seen these wonderful animals up close at the Vancouver Aquarium.

When I was a child in the 1950s, we called these animals killer whales and thought of them as dangerous monsters. However, today none of us would think to call them killers, even though they are aquatic hunters.

The Vancouver Aquarium has done more to change our understanding about orcas, beluga whales and other sea mammals than any other organization. They have taught us much about these creatures of the sea by giving us the opportunity to get close to them.

It is indeed unfortunate that the Aquarium is located in the City of Vancouver because the Aquarium really is a British Columbian institution that teaches, and has taught, not only the people of this province, but people from around the world, about the animals of the sea. It is doubly unfortunate that the future of the Aquarium is not decided by all British Columbians.

Please do not interfere with the work of the Vancouver Aquarium. Their research, and their care of aquatic animals, is valuable to our knowledge about orcas and other aquatic animals.

Sincerely,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Our Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:18:32 AM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:18:28 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Our Aquarium

Dear Board,  
Obviously you had a very difficult decision to make and you did what you feel is best. The Aquarium and all that they do for science is an enormously important part of what goes on not only in Stanley park but in British Columbia. I think a dynamic group of but a few, pushed you into a decision that was emotional and not actually educational or built on facts. I do not live in Vancouver but I teach in Surrey {inner city} and I believed fully in what was being done in the name of science. I think you should review your decision and possibly review the facts and make a decision where you are not in a room of screaming adults. This was so disappointing and in a world of alternative facts you failed those who stood by science and empathy for our sea animals. What a sad decision for all who visit the Aquarium and believe in what they do for the right decisions.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: over turn the ban  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 9:50:43 AM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 9:50:32 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** over turn the ban

dear Parks Board Commissioners

I am writing to you to let you know that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and hope you will re-consider allowing the Vancouver Aquarium to continue to care for cetaceans at their facility.

In general, I **strongly** oppose keeping animals in captivity but I believe the Aquarium's work with these rescued cetaceans benefits them tremendously and is good for research.

Thank you in advance for your consideration to this matter,  
Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: park Boards Decision on Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:03:10 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:03:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** park Boards Decision on Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Park Board

I believe you have made a rash decision to ban all cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. One major facet of the Aquarium is for animal rehabilitation. They have a long history of it in sea otters, seals, sea lions, cetaceans, and more. You have to keep in mind that cetaceans includes porpoises and dolphins, not just whales. By having a blanket ban, it sentences all the animals that are found wounded and maimed, to a death sentence. A classic example is Chester. If not for the Aquarium this animal would have, literally, received a bullet to the head.

I work in the field of marine protection. Your decision will force me to put down these same animals, rather than seek the Aquariums help to rehabilitate the animal, and reintroduce it to the wild.

In a world that is showing compassion for animals, more than ever (and in some cases too much), could there not be an exception to allow cetacean rehabilitation at the Aquarium? To take this away from a world class education facility such as the Vancouver Aquarium, you are doing both a dishonour to your position as keepers of nature, and to everyone who works with animals.

Please reconsider your blanket ban. Look for a positive solution that meets the needs of all (including the animals). Do not fold to those who do not understand the full picture.

Respectfully,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: park Boards Decision on Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:34:48 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: March 11, 2017 8:34:45 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Mackinnon, Stuart  
Cc: Media - TV - Global TV  
Subject: Re: park Boards Decision on Vancouver Aquarium

Mr MacKinnon.

What an ignorant response, on so many levels.

[s.22\(1\)](#)

> On Mar 10, 2017, at 12:45, Mackinnon, Stuart <Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca> wrote:  
>  
> Dear [s.22\(1\)](#)  
>  
> Thank you for your e-mail. Nothing is stopping the Vancouver Aquarium from doing their rehabilitation work somewhere other than in Stanley Park. Perhaps they could invest some of the \$100 million expansion plans on their rescue facility in Burrard inlet.  
>  
> Stuart Mackinnon, Commissioner  
> Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation  
>  
> t: @betterparks      blog: www.betterparks.ca  
>  
>  
> From: [s.22\(1\)](#)  
> Sent: March 10, 2017 12:03 PM  
> To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
> Subject: park Boards Decision on Vancouver Aquarium  
>  
> Dear Park Board  
> I believe you have made a rash decision to ban all cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium.  
> One major facet of the Aquarium is for animal rehabilitation. They have a long history of it in sea otters, seals, sea lions, cetaceans, and more. You have to keep in mind that cetaceans includes porpoises and dolphins, not just whales. By having a blanket ban, it sentences all the animals that are found wounded and maimed, to a death sentence. A classic example is Chester. If not for the Aquarium this animal would have, literally, received a bullet to the head.  
> I work in the field of marine protection. Your decision will force me to put down these same animals, rather than seek the Aquariums help to rehabilitate the animal, and reintroduce it to the wild.  
> In a world that is showing compassion for animals, more than ever (and in some cases too much), could there not be an exception to allow cetacean rehabilitation at the Aquarium? To take this away from a world class education facility such as the Vancouver Aquarium, you are doing both a dishonour to your position as keepers of nature, and to everyone who works with animals.  
> Please reconsider your blanket ban. Look for a positive solution that meets the needs of all (including the animals). Do not fold to those who do not understand the full picture.  
>

> Respectfully,

> s.22(1)

>

>

>

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**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Parks Board banning cetaceans from Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:25:09 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 7 3:25:05 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** RE: Parks Board banning cetaceans from Stanley Park

Dear Commissioners:

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans from being displayed in Stanley Park. It would be detrimental to the health of the ones already there, and a huge setback for marine mammal research and conservation everywhere. I urge you to collect all the facts and fully evaluate the impact such a bylaw would have before deciding whether or not to support it.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Parks Board Decision re: Cetacean Animals at Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:19:14 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 2:19:10 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Parks Board Decision re: Cetacean Animals at Stanley Park

As a Vancouverite, I am deeply offended by this recent decision. As someone that loves animals and believes that the Aquarium is a vital part of cetacean and ocean research, rehabilitation and rescue, I am deeply offended by this recent decision. I do NOT support it.

You have succumbed to activists with loud, uninformed voices. In doing so, you have BECOME those loud, uninformed voices. You are not MY voice. You are not the voice of the cetaceans at the Aquarium. And I believe you are not the voice of the majority of Vancouverites despite your claims.

Please explain to me what will happen to the cetaceans currently at the Aquarium? Where do you propose they go? Do you care that you have essentially sentenced them to their deaths? Would you rather they be dead? Really? That seems very PETA-ish to me - animals are better off dead than in captivity. Really?

Why would you approved the Aquarium expansion plans then turn around and make this decision? PLEASE explain that to me.

Where do you propose any future injured cetaceans go? What do you propose is done with them? Abandon them and let them die an inhumane death? PLEASE explain that to me.

I also need someone to explain to me how the group of you, who are NOT marine biologists, veterinarians or scientists (no Erin, your forest genetics degree doesn't mean you are a scientist), are even qualified to make this decision - what do you know about cetacean rehabilitation? Cetacean rescue? What do you even know about cetaceans? Shame on you all - and especially you Sarah - you used to work with the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre - how long will it take them to pull the knives from their backs. And you Stuart - I thought you were a believer in education, which is a big part of the Aquariums purpose - education.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Parks board vote to ban display of cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:04:28 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:04:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart  
Subject: Parks board vote to ban display of cetaceans

I understand that recently the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium). Knowing what I know about the Vancouver Aquarium, how they operate and how foundation funding works, I think that this ban does not make sense. I do not support it in any way. Please stop this senseless attack on the important work that the Aquarium does for cetaceans, the environment and humanity.

[s.22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Plan wisely for the future of Vancouver.  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 3:34:45 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 3:34:40 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Plan wisely for the future of Vancouver.

Dear Elected Officials,

It is time to stop and really think about the countless consequences to your recent actions. The issue with the aquarium is about more than just captivity. If your plan goes through they will no longer be allowed to rescue or research at all the public will not understand putting animals down when there was the option to rescue and rehabilitate. The aquarium is a vital tourist spot for Vancouver that focuses on education they already had a solid plan to end belugas in their care. For the sake of tourism, science, education, world position, please consider rewording the motion at the very least to allow the rescue at the marine mammal rescue center to continue and any non release able deemed by fisheries Canada to be rehomed at the Aquarium. To serve as educators and ambassadors to the world. Vancouver has always been proud our aquarium is not a showy cruel place but a place of education. Do not be waived by pressure but by facts I implore you to visit and learn the facts talk to an expert in the field talk to the vets make an informed decision not a gut one not on a whim this will change our global position and killing creatures will never be seen as favourable to rescuing.

s.22(1)

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Plans on Releasing Animals from the Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 1:25:31 AM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 1:25:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Plans on Releasing Animals from the Aquarium

To Whom It may concern,

It is my wish as a Vancouver citizen that you do not go ahead with releasing the animals that are in the Vancouver Aquarium. I am well aware of the disrespect animals are given when they live in other facilities. However, I know that in the Vancouver Aquarium there is a ton of positive research that is going on with the use of the animals that are living in the Aquarium.

Please consider what I have to say and do not release these animals.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please act to support the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:43:22 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2017 10:43:18 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Please act to support the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

We were heartbroken to hear of the decision to send Chester and Helen away from the Vancouver Aquarium, where they have received life-saving and first class care. Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please allow injured cetaceans to be rehabilitated at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:04:47 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 12:04:37 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please allow injured cetaceans to be rehabilitated at the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello,

I've heard that you are trying to protect them from frivolously being displayed for entertainment; however, I do believe that they are being treated well and rehabilitated and re-released into the wild if possible - and protected in care if not.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter; I love wildlife and I believe those at the Aquarium are doing them a great service both in protecting them and helping them - they are not exploiting them, but also helping these species survive better through their research.

s.22(1)

"Be yourself; everyone else is already taken" - Oscar Wilde

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm3553365/>

From: [Crawford, Casey](#)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: FW: Please allow non-releasable Cetaceans to stay!  
Date: Monday, March 13, 2017 2:55:20 PM  
Attachments: [image.png](#)

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From: s.22(1)

Sent: Monday, March 13, 2017 2:55:15 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Cc: PB Commissioners  
Subject: Please allow non-releasable Cetaceans to stay!

Dear Park Board;

I must take this time to implore you to **reconsider the proposed complete ban** on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I strongly think that **exceptions must be made** for this bylaw. Animals that have been deemed non-releasable by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) deserve proper treatment and care. I would be remiss to think that you would prefer them to be in the hands of a retched place like Marineland with uncountable animal rights violations. You must remember that the DFO - a government body of **highly trained scientists and specialists** - is who decides which animals cannot fend for themselves, not the aquarium. The aquarium isn't trying to sneak illegal cetaceans in through the backdoor - they are trying to provide a life for animals that otherwise would not have life, normally due to human interactions.

While I agree that cetaceans should not be wild caught and kept for human entertainment, I think it would be a **severe injustice to euthanize or subject rescued and non-releasable ones to improper care** just to appease "the masses". The suggestion that Chester and other cetaceans could move to the rescue centre is very indicative of the research put into this decision - or should I say lack there of. There are no pools at the rescue centre that are adequate for long-term care. The rescue centre is just a stepping stone to re-release or a permanent home. It would be cruel to place a cetacean there for the rest of its life. The facility isn't big enough to create a space that would accommodate a permanent resident, let alone multiple.

If you truly care about these animals, I beg you to let **them stay in their current, safe, loving homes at the aquarium** and not subject them to the possibility of a inhumane life at a different facility. This is not a situation where "one size fits all", this is a situation that each case needs careful deliberation before decisions are made. An outright ban would be a backwards step both from a scientific and conservation point of view.

Not only does the aquarium provide a very high quality of life for these animals that could not survive in the wild, it also provides the opportunity for **public outreach and education**. Both of which are very important to encourage people to protect our natural world as well as inspire the future scientists of the world. People do not protect that which they do not know. Please continue to encourage people to learn about their natural world and to protect these amazing creatures that they grow to love. Nothing brings home the need to keep our oceans clean than to see the

devastation it leaves, first hand. Hiding the mutilated cetaceans from public view does not change the fact that HUMANS are the ones who put them there in the first place. Do not condemn them because of our neglect of our natural world - let them teach the public the dangers that they inflict upon our wild whales so that perhaps there will no longer be a need to rescue them.

**Please include an exception to your bylaw and allow rescued, non-releasable animals to remain at the aquarium** - you would do both the public and the natural world an injustice to do otherwise. Please don't deprive, not only Canada, but the entire world of valuable conservation research.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)





**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please allow the care of rescued, unreleasable cetaceans at the aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 6:17:33 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 7:29 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please allow the care of rescued, unreleasable cetaceans at the aquarium

To whom it corresponds

Please let the cetaceans to be cured, be rehabilitated and live in the aquarium, otherwise you're killing them.

Thank you for reading and considering the concerns of the people of the aquarum

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Amend The Cetacean Bylaw to Allow Rescue and Rehabilitation  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:05:57 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2017 5:05:54 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** Please Amend The Cetacean Bylaw to Allow Rescue and Rehabilitation

Hello members of the Park Board,

I am deeply upset that the park board has decided to not let the Vancouver Aquarium rescue and rehabilitate cetaceans. I demand that you amend this bylaw to allow them to continue their world leading practices in the rescue and rehabilitation of these animals. Cetaceans who are in need of help deserve a second chance at life and if they are deemed unfit for release, they deserve a home. Not allowing the Vancouver Aquarium rescue and rehabilitate cetaceans is still acting against the rights of the animals. I hope you will reconsider and make an exception for cetaceans in need of rescue and rehabilitation as this is a extremely short sighted decision if you continue without this exception.

Please take time to think of the bigger picture and give these animals a chance at life.

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Cheers.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: please ban cetacean captivity at VanAqua  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 2:48:12 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 2:48:09 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** please ban cetacean captivity at VanAqua

Dear Elected Officials,

I believe that the Vancouver Aquarium should not be permitted to put any more whales in the tanks that are now empty following the deaths of the two belugas, Qila and Aurora, last November.

What I want to say to you is not based on scientific research or economics. It is based on ethics, and knowing right from wrong. It is an ability that all healthy human beings are endowed with from birth.

I grew up inland, far from the ocean, in a small town in Ontario. There were no aquariums in my childhood. I don't believe that I am any less educated because I did not see whales, dolphins or porpoises in concrete tanks or glass enclosures during my formative years.

I was over forty years old before I set foot in an aquarium. I remember my first impressions. I saw that these creatures were caged, trapped and restricted in movement, in artificial facsimiles of their natural environments. There was *nothing* to be learned from that experience.

My daughter was taken to SeaWorld in Cleveland, Ohio by her grandparents when she was a young child, in the 1980's. She told me recently that she knew, even at that young age, that the flopped over dorsal fin on the orca that performed there meant that something was wrong with the whale. It hurt her to see that.

Children know and understand such things. They perceive, and they empathize with animals that are suffering. It *hurts* children to see animals suffer. It hurts their hearts, their minds and their souls.

The Vancouver Aquarium says that it is educational and inspiring for children to see animals up close, in captivity.

I say this is wrong. It is just *not* true. If we are trying to teach our children to be respectful and compassionate towards all creatures and to love nature and to care for all beings on our Earth, and yet we show them animals being held prisoner for the amusement of humans, or for so-called education, what are our children to think? It is a mixed message, that says "do as we say, not as we do."  
Is *that* education? Is it not utter hypocrisy?

I recently saw on the Vancouver Aquarium website a promotion for the facility to be used as a wedding venue. This is what it says:

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# Think Of Us As Your "Something Blue"

The Vancouver Aquarium is the most unique wedding venue in the city. Here you can share your first dance among thousands of tropical fishes while your guests are surrounded with stunning aquatic life. From an intimate dinner to a celebration that spreads throughout the galleries, we can host unforgettable weddings of any size. Plus, our stunning marine galleries provide a backdrop for some of the most unique and amazing wedding photos you can imagine

Let our event planners help organize your perfect wedding day including menu selection, décor and memorable event enhancements.

I was appalled to see the Vancouver Aquarium shamelessly exploiting the animals held captive there, offering them to be used as a backdrop and accessories for human events. What the Vancouver Aquarium fails to mention on their website is that when the wedding guests finish up with their celebrations and the last person goes home, those captive animals don't get to go home. They are left behind, swimming in endless circles.

We all have an innate ability to perceive right from wrong. I wonder if there is *anyone* who actually believes that it is moral or good or necessary to keep healthy animals in cages, tanks and pens?

Vancouver is a progressive city, green and beautiful. Why would this city ever want to be seen by the world as dragging its feet on an issue that calls into question its citizens' morals, values and humanity? Why would *anyone* on city government want to go down in Vancouver history as having sat by and allowed the continued captivity of animals that belong in their own natural habitat? Because that is how the history will read.

I ask all of you to consider how you wish to be remembered by your children and your grandchildren, our future generations. Will they be proud, or ashamed of your legacy? Please have the courage to do what is right, just and honourable. Please, don't allow the Vancouver Aquarium to bring any more cetaceans into their tanks and to ban cetacean captivity except for the purpose of rehabilitation and release.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please change your mind regarding the Vancouver Aquarium park board decision  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 8:52:18 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 8:52:14 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please change your mind regarding the Vancouver Aquarium park board decision

I don't expect you to read each individual letter you receive.

But on the off-chance that you do, it's important that you understand the Vancouver Aquarium has been a massive influence in my upbringing. A beluga whale from the aquarium itself was my childhood teddy. I visit every year at least once. While I approve of every decision that protects the integrity of nature and benefits the quality of life for marine creatures, this recent decision to ban all cetaceans just doesn't do that. It eliminates the only trustworthy place for these animals to go when they're injured by human activity.

People are a menace to our oceans, and try as we might to eliminate the damage we cause, we're just not there yet. We need a rescue centre to provide care for the animals we accidentally injure, and we need to share them (within reason) with the public to maintain interest in this cause. Without the beluga whales at the aquarium I wouldn't have the passion for marine life that I have today.

Please, please reconsider.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please change your mind regarding the Vancouver Aquarium park board decision  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 8:52:18 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 8:52:14 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please change your mind regarding the Vancouver Aquarium park board decision

I don't expect you to read each individual letter you receive.

But on the off-chance that you do, it's important that you understand the Vancouver Aquarium has been a massive influence in my upbringing. A beluga whale from the aquarium itself was my childhood teddy. I visit every year at least once. While I approve of every decision that protects the integrity of nature and benefits the quality of life for marine creatures, this recent decision to ban all cetaceans just doesn't do that. It eliminates the only trustworthy place for these animals to go when they're injured by human activity.

People are a menace to our oceans, and try as we might to eliminate the damage we cause, we're just not there yet. We need a rescue centre to provide care for the animals we accidentally injure, and we need to share them (within reason) with the public to maintain interest in this cause. Without the beluga whales at the aquarium I wouldn't have the passion for marine life that I have today.

Please, please reconsider.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please consider an amendment  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:41:01 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 2017 12:40:17 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please consider an amendment

Please include an amendment that would allow the cetaceans that already have a wonderful, caring home at the aquarium and are unable to be released to stay. I would hate to see them euthanized!

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 3:14:23 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 18, 2017 3:14:09 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** Please do not ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board commissioners,

As a Vancouver resident, I have recently learned of a proposed bylaw to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park. I do not support this bylaw.

Although I'm sure the activists promoting the bylaw are coming from a good place, it seems that they don't have all the facts. The Aquarium participates in rescue, rehabilitation, and research efforts with animals who would not survive in the wild, in order to promote the well-being of the greater populations in our oceans.

Please do your research and make a decision that will best protect the animals in Stanley Park, and the incredible environmental work done by the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you for reading,  
s.22(1)

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s.22(1)



**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium/Stanley Park.  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 10:42:37 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 10:42:34 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Please do not ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium/Stanley Park.

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

Please do not ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium/Stanley Park. I have known a number of people who work there and would have been a volunteer myself had it not been such an inconvenience with the ferry. Despite being a resident of the Sunshine Coast, my family had an annual membership growing up.

The Vancouver Aquarium has always been a fantastic research facility where they truly care about their residents. Yes, they do have "shows" but it is nothing like Sea World whose reputation is quite likely prompting this ban.

Why would you have approved their detailed 3 phase expansion plans only to turn around when they are preparing to launch into Phase 2: expanding the outside cetacean habitat? The funds raised come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site.

What do you expect to happen to the current whale residents with this ban? Do you think euthanasia is okay as long as the whales are not on display at Stanley Park? Some of them are nearing the end of their natural lives anyway.

The Vancouver Aquarium is a world leader. They were the first to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. Their whales are rescues who could not survive in the wild and they do not breed them. Having them at the aquarium allows us to learn more about their species and therefore protect their kind. The world's climate is changing. The oceans are getting warmer!

Though I have ultimately followed a different career path, I was quite keen to pursue marine biology throughout my teens. This was encouraged by visits to the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please, let the current whales stay to live out their natural lives and a future home to be available to other rescued cetaceans who will inspire other children to care about the natural world.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 12:17:35 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 12:17:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please do not ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Members,

As a long term resident of Vancouver who takes her 2 children to the Aquarium to learn about marine rescue and research, I am opposed to the bylaw that would ban cetaceans from Stanley Park. I grew up in BC. As a child, I remember the old model with Skana and the Killer Whale shows that featured marine animals caught for the purposes of entertainment. I am against that and would be thrilled if this bylaw were targeting that practice. However, what this bylaw does is put vital rescue and research efforts at risk.

I do understand that public perception is hard to control and doesn't operate on full comprehension of all the complexities. We need to find a way to preserve the rescue, research and related education programs that the Aquarium's marine professionals provide not only to the Vancouver community, but the world. They give us all critical information about climate change, and its impact on the oceans, the marine life in them and how humans can change our behaviours to mitigate the devastation.

In October on a visit to Sea World in San Diego, we met a team from Vancouver who were there to release a sea turtle back into the wild. It was a joint rescue effort between the two organizations. My 8 year old daughter asked the San Diego Marine biologist a lot of really tough questions about their killer whale program (we are not fans) and contrasted their approach to the one here in Vancouver. It was only because we were from Vancouver that she got the opportunity to speak to this biologist in the first place, and we got the tour we did. That she understood the difference between that "park" and what she experiences here at home spoke volumes to me. We need more research and we will see more demand for rescues, please allow the efforts at the Vancouver Aquarium to continue by not passing this bylaw.

Thank you for your consideration,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:45:19 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:45:04 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Please do not ban cetaceans

I am a North Vancouver resident now, but was a Vancouver resident for many years, from 1989-1995, 2003-2011. I recognize that you represent Vancouver but please consider the impact on Greater Vancouver as well.

I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans from Stanley Park. Rather than banning, please work with the scientists and other politicians to find solutions to any specific concerns you have. How can it be a bad thing to not only rescue these gorgeous animals, but also to show our younger generation what it means to care about our planet and all living beings within it.

Please do not pass this bylaw.

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not ban the cetaceans display in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 6:51:57 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 18, 2017 6:51:22 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please do not ban the cetaceans display in Stanley Park

Last week the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium).

Now that I've researched and better understand the full implications and the devastating impact this decision will have on the existing cetacean population; as well as, on the future rescue and rehabilitation programs, I urge you to reconsider your vote.

I am a Vancouver resident and a fervent defender of wildlife. I have never approved of captivity or breeding for the sake of human entertainment but that is clearly not what is taking place in this instance. Please do not paint this program with the same "cruelty brush" one would paint SeaWorld.

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not pass a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:13:53 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 1:13:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please do not pass a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board,

As a Vancouver resident, I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

The Aquarium does not (a) capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild, or (b) breed cetaceans. The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescue animals that cannot survive in the wild. The aquarium doesn't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (Department of Fisheries) makes that decision. These animals are involved in research programs to protect wild populations and in inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

Sincerely  
s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do not pass the bylaw banning cetaceans at the Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:58:01 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:57:56 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** john.coupar@vancoiver.ca; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; sarah.kirby-young@vancouver.ca; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; michael.weibe@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Please do not pass the bylaw banning cetaceans at the Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board Commissioners,

As a Vancouver Resident, I want to make it clear that I do not support the bylaw to ban Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. The work the Aquarium does with their rescue program, and scientific research will be severely and detrimentally impacted if this ban is passed. Please do not pass this bylaw to ban cetaceans at the Aquarium.

Thank you for your time.

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:05:43 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 16, 2017 2:05:39 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

Please, please, please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

The Vancouver Aquarium is the gem of Stanley Park, and our family strongly supports the research and rehabilitation efforts of the scientists at this facility. What a privilege that this important facility is in our home city of Metro Vancouver!

Our two toddler sons love the Aquarium and we make use of our memberships as often as possible. We bring all of our friends and family, especially out of town visitors, and the cetaceans are always a highlight.

The Aquarium wisely displays the following quote by David Attenborough, "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced."

The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. They are not bred.

The Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. This ban would be a death sentence for animals that are deemed non-releasable.

The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. It was the first aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996.

Please continue to support the 3 phase expansion plans that expand the outside cetacean habitat space (phase 2 schedule for this Fall), which the Parks Board already approved.

I hope you will vote to preserve this important scientific treasure for our city and the world.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:05:43 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** March 16, 2017 2:05:39 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

Please, please, please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

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The Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. This ban would be a death sentence for animals that are deemed non-releasable.

The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. It was the first aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996.

Please continue to support the 3 phase expansion plans that expand the outside cetacean habitat space (phase 2 schedule for this Fall), which the Parks Board already approved.

I hope you will vote to preserve this important scientific treasure for our city and the world.

s.22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:05:43 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 2:05:39 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

Please, please, please do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

The Vancouver Aquarium is the gem of Stanley Park, and our family strongly supports the research and rehabilitation efforts of the scientists at this facility. What a privilege that this important facility is in our home city of Metro Vancouver!

Our two toddler sons love the Aquarium and we make use of our memberships as often as possible. We bring all of our friends and family, especially out of town visitors, and the cetaceans are always a highlight.

The Aquarium wisely displays the following quote by David Attenborough, "No one will protect what they don't care about, and no one will care about what they have never experienced."

The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. They are not bred.

The Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. This ban would be a death sentence for animals that are deemed non-releasable.

The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. It was the first aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996.

Please continue to support the 3 phase expansion plans that expand the outside cetacean habitat space (phase 2 schedule for this Fall), which the Parks Board already approved.

I hope you will vote to preserve this important scientific treasure for our city and the world.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please don't ban the whales  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 12:02:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

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**From:** Marie Savage-McDermott  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 12:01:54 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please don't ban the whales

Hello all,

I am writing to you in support of keeping cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium for the following reasons:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. They were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996.
- They do not breed cetaceans. There are no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029.
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.
- They run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. The goal is to release the animal after rehabilitation. The Aquarium doesn't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. These majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!
- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc.
- If the motion goes ahead, the rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They would likely end up euthanized instead of making provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for until they reach the end of their natural life spans.
- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium?
- Research on the Arctic would be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. The beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations.

Please reconsider and don't let a small group of loud people determine the fate of an important research and education facility that benefits not just Vancouver residents, but all of the lower mainland.

Yours in good faith,

**Marie Savage-McDermott, BSc, BTech**

Environmental Science Officer & ICI Demand Management Auditor

Parks & Environmental Services Department

T: **250.360.3214** | C: **250.889.0743** | F: **250.360.3079 (Attn : Marie)**

Capital Regional District | 625 Fisgard Street, PO Box 1000, Victoria BC V8W 2S6



Making a difference...together

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

This message is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you are not the intended recipient or their employee or agent responsible for receiving the message on their behalf your receipt of this message is in error and not meant to waive privilege in this message. Please notify us immediately, and delete the message and any attachments without reading the attachments. Any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication by anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. Thank you. Please consider the environment before printing this email.

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please don't force rescued cetaceans to be euthanized.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:58:37 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** March 11, 2017 8:58:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Please don't force rescued cetaceans to be euthanized.

Dear Parks Board Members,

Please reconsider your stance on cetaceans in the Vancouver Aquarium. It is important that there is a place where rescued cetaceans can live out their natural lives when they are unable to be released into the wild. I understand that many people in Vancouver do not support cetaceans being captured for amusement and I feel the same way. However, if an animal becomes entangled in fishing nets or is orphaned and requires medical assistance I think it is wonderful that the Aquarium is able to help them. Please amend your policy to allow cetaceans to be rescued and rehabilitated.

Also, please allow the cetaceans who currently live at the Aquarium to live out their natural lives. There is no better place for them to be at this point because they can not survive in the wild, there is no other facility in Canada, and moving them would be cruel.

I can not understand why you are taking the stance you have. Please reconsider. I am a local parent and I have spent a considerable amount of time visiting the Aquarium. It is a wonderful place for children and people of all ages to learn about ocean life and there is no other facility better equipped to help animals in need.

With Thanks,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please don't let politics preside over marine research  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 12:35:17 PM

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From **s.22(1)**  
Sent: Friday, March 24, 2017 12:36:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: Please don't let politics preside over marine research

Good afternoon,

Since receiving news regarding the parks board's short sighted and misguided decision to ban major components of the Vancouver Aquarium's research and rehabilitative care operations, it upset me greatly because this decision will cause much more harm to marine species. It makes me wonder - do those who voted for this ban even understand what work the Aquarium is undertaking? If they did, how could they justify such a misguided decision that will cease the care of injured animals?

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

Please review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I implore you to base your decision on sound to sound reasoning rather than emotionally charged arguments of those who are trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

Sincerely,  
**s.22(1)**

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please don't pass the ban on cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:54:11 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 3:54:05 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please don't pass the ban on cetaceans

To The Parks Board Commissioners

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.  
Please do not make this terrible mistake.

s.22(1)

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please don't support the ban on cetaceans at Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:16:39 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 17 5:16:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey; Coupar, John; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please don't support the ban on cetaceans at Stanley Park

s.22(1)

To Whom it may concern,

Although I am not a Vancouver resident, and therefore was unable to vote on the topic, I am local enough to be affected by the decision.

I am not in favour of keeping animals in captivity per se, but feel this decision is an ill informed knee-jerk reaction. The Aquarium isn't just a water "zoo". The staff are highly educated and dedicated to helping a variety of sea life. I appreciate what happened with the Beluga's there was tragic, but stopping them keeping and saving other cetaceans is an awful tragedy. The future of those currently there that can't be released, and those that may be saved in the future, who will die otherwise, could be maintained for education and research purposes. This is being done locally to me with other species of wildlife, at the North Island Wildlife Recovery Centre in Errington. Yes, it's not the best situation e.g. for Knut, the black bear to have the rest of his life in a cage, but they are keeping him happy and using him to educate people about the harm we humans are causing. He looks pretty content to be honest, but if the same vote happened here, as with the Aquarium, with the same result, he too would be euthanized. I appreciate it isn't perfect, but this is not a perfect world.

I ask you to please consider all of the options. Many cetaceans have been saved around Vancouver Island as a result of the hard work of the Aquarium. With climate change too, their research could prove invaluable, as our seas warm and cause problems for the marine life. Please allow the staff to carry on saving marine wildlife and educating the public.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please let Chester and Helen stay at the aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 2:47:29 PM

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**From:** Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Sent:** March 13, 2017 2:47:28 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please let Chester and Helen stay at the aquarium

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** March 12, 2017 at 10:02:07 PM PDT  
**To:** "Kirby-Yung, Sarah" <[Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Please let Chester and Helen stay at the aquarium  
**Reply-To:** s.22(1)

Oh thank you so much Sarah this means a lot to me.

Sincerely  
s.22(1)

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Sun, Mar 12, 2017 at 9:46 PM, Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
<[Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Dear s.22(1)

I support grandfathering the current cetaceans at the Aquarium.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kirby-Yung  
Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 12, 2017, at 9:04 PM, s.22(1)



s.22(1)

wrote:

>

> Dear Elected Officials,

>

> I have been a member at the Vancouver aquarium since March and as an adult have never enjoyed life more. Chester and Helen have become like family to me. They are both healthy happy well taken care of Dolphins. I feel so Blessed to have them as part of my life.

>

> How can you even consider removing Helen who has lived here for over 10 years and Chester who was rescued and nursed back to life and been at the aquarium for almost 3 years. If you remove them you will be disrupting their lives. Please pray about your decision. I will be praying that you make the right decision for all involved.

>

> Thank you for your consideration

>

s.22(1)

>

>

>

>

> Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please let Chester and Helen stay at the aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 9:04:40 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 12, 2017 9:04:35 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Please let Chester and Helen stay at the aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

I have been a member at the Vancouver aquarium since March and as an adult have never enjoyed life more. Chester and Helen have become like family to me. They are both healthy happy well taken care of Dolphins. I feel so Blessed to have them as part of my life.

How can you even consider removing Helen who has lived here for over 10 years and Chester who was rescued and nursed back to life and been at the aquarium for almost 3 years. If you remove them you will be disrupting their lives. Please pray about your decision. I will be praying that you make the right decision for all involved.

Thank you for your consideration

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please make exceptions for the Rescue centre  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:07:20 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:03:16 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** Please make exceptions for the Rescue centre

Dear Erin Shum

I implore you to review the decision made made the Parks Board and allow the current cetaceans to remain at the Aquarium and to continue to allow them at the Rescue Centre.

These animals have no where to go if you remove them from the Aquarium and if you ban them from having cetaceans at the rescue centre, injured animals will just be will have euthanized or simply die of treatable injuries and not be rehabilitated and released back into the wild.

Banning cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium means that those who are rescued and deemed nonreleasable will have to be euthanized They do not deserve to die just because they can no longer care for themselves in the wild and if the Aquarium has to get rid of the current residents, there is a good chance they will have to be euthanized too if they cannot be relocated.

You're current decision may mean well but it will harm more animals in the long run then you think you are saving.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please protect marine science  
**Date:** Sunday, April 02, 2017 2:02:30 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 02, 2017 2:02:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Please protect marine science

Dear Elected Officials,

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergency rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

This is also the only facility, that takes in Aquatic animals that are injured by fishing lines, boats. Please come to the Vancouver Aquarium and check out the animals, take in the shows how and why these animals are at the Aquarium and Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. Both are Non-profit organizations.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please protect rescued cetaceans and marine science  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 2:39:08 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 2:38:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor

**Subject:** Please protect rescued cetaceans and marine science

Dear Elected Officials,

I recently learned of the Vancouver Park Board's vote to ban the display of cetaceans on park property and I want to express my deep disappointment. I grew up visiting the aquarium, and getting to see the cetaceans up close instilled a love of marine life in me, and a passion and curiosity for issues in conservation and the health of our planet.

I believe this decision is not rooted in science, and was based in misguided emotional decision-making. It will rob the world of critical research into the health and biology of fascinating and endangered creatures.

Furthermore, it will cost marine mammals who are injured in the wild their lives if they can't be rehabilitated and rehomed in the Vancouver Aquarium. Please don't let these creatures be tragically euthanized by the people whose job it is to rescue and care for them.

I, and the rest of my fellow residents of Vancouver, will hold you responsible.

The Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PLEASE READ  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:49:57 AM  
**Attachments:** [OutlookEmoji-.png](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:49:49 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; catherine.evan@vancouver.ca; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** PLEASE READ

I am writing today on behalf of all the animals living at Vancouver aquarium. I have heard lately that the city park board wants to remove all marine animals and ban them from Stanley park. please don't our aquarium is the ONLY ONE in BC and in all of Canada that actually helps the animals. I have been a long time going supporter of the aquarium. my grandparents introduced me to the aquarium when I was 8 years old. I told them I wanted to be just like everyone else and help rescue these animals in distress in the oceans. if you guys were to remove the animals and put them back into the waters off BC they would die. Chester the false killer whale and Daisy the harbor porpoise wouldn't make it in the ocean because they were stranded when they were calves at the age of 2 months, they would starve as they don't know how to hunt properly as they are both rescue marine animals as there birth parents abandon them. Helen the pacific white sided bottle nose dolphin wouldn't survive out in the ocean as she was rescued due to fishing nets near Japan that caused one of her fins to be amputated if she was to be released it would be a death sentence waiting to happen she is considered in my book as a Disabled animal. these 3 animals are ambassadors to the aquarium. they are what made the aquarium a safe haven to other marine animals. if it you were to force these animals out of there home they would die!!!!!! if it wasn't for Vancouver Aquarium a lot of our marine life would be gone!!!!!! were already losing a lot as is in our waters from oilspills and garbage. and for the aquarium to help our sea life its a good thing not a bad thing.... there program is catch rehabilitate and release if able to, if not there to stay there. cause they can not survive as helen is a amputate and chester and daisy wouldn't know how to properly hunt as they are use to have the caretakers. you guys say that aqua pens in the ocean would be a better and safer alternative I'm sorry but you are wrong!!! if they were put into aqua pens they would be more pron to infections from polluted water, risk of illness from polluted waters risk of entanglement from the waves. and also Chester is a warm water porpoise and our water are very cold. he would die of hypothermia. please listen to me these animals need the aquarium. please let them stay. they need us. its heart breaking that you all think its ok to just throw them back into the ocean when they actually cant not go back. 😞 I am also very close to finishing my dog wood diploma to go to university and I wanna go work with them also because of how much they have inspired me as a young child and now as an adult. our marine station is to

help animals who need the help and if they cant be helped they stay. what would you do if you lived in Clearwater California near Winter. the dolphin who lost her tail to fishing nets. would you force her back into the wild. you wouldn't be able to as she needs special care she is also a amputee. please to whome ever is reading this. please do the right thing and take the ban off. our water kingdoms need our help!!! if it wasn't for Vancouver aquarium Helen Chester and Daisy would be already dead. yes we have sadly lost other marine animals but its the circle of life. these animals are not here for entertainment there here to educate others on what is in our waters. let me ask you this if you take out helen chester and daisy does that mean you will be forcing the release of the sharks and the jelly fish and the other animals who call the aquarium home. most likely not. please think hard about this before you force disabled animals back into waters they are not formilar with. all the animals at the center call the aquarium home. sorry for dragging on and on and on. but I'm really sad that they are being forced out. if you would like to call me that would be great my name is s.22(1) and my number is s.22(1) I am not living in Vancouver I am in Kamloops but I am a long time supporter of the aquarium and I give koodos to all the workers there. they are heros for all the hard work they have done for each and every animal living at the aquarium. I get that keeping them there for entertainment is wrong. but keeping them there for educational is right. it educates the public of our sea waters.

thankyou for listening to my letter I'm sorry for ranting but please do the right thing and let them stay. they need the aquarium or they will die

from s.22(1)  
a concerned supporter of the aquarium

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Read: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:12:34 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:12:29 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please Read: I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

In the name of logic, reason, and science, I implore you to reconsider your decision. I write to you as someone that has been visiting the aquarium for 20 years - someone who was inspired at a young age to learn and care about animals and the oceans through my experiences at the Vancouver Aquarium. Your decision is robbing young children of knowledge and inspiration, and comprising the Vancouver Aquarium

I know banning cetaceans is the sexy thing to do right now, but the Vancouver Aquarium and its various rescue and research programs are nothing like places such as Sea World. I'm not sure what data you have that led you to your misguided and shortsighted decision, but I'd like to see it. Perhaps one of you recently saw Blackfish for the first time?

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.



**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Reconsider banning Cetaeceans at Aquarium.  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:16:45 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:15:20 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Evans, Catherine; Crawford, Casey; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Please Reconsider banning Cetaeceans at Aquarium.

Hi guys,

My name is s.22(1) I am a resident of East Vancouver (born in Richmond). Let me first say I love the work you do. Our variety of parks & recreation amenities in this city is excellent. There's something for everyone in nearly every neighbourhood (including skateparks!). Also, very curious to see how the big project at New Brighton turns out... pretty interesting.

I'm a proud Vancouverite and I think our city's parks are a big source of that pride. Which is why this recent decision to ban Cetaeceans from the Aquarium has struck me so hard.

I totally understand why my fellow Vancouverites are perturbed by the idea of whales in captivity. Any majestic beast would be better off in their natural environment. But these creatures haven't been abducted from their families -- they've been rescued from horrible fates. And as their natural environments are being threatened by human activity, they are able to serve as a testament and inspire change. The work done at the aquarium helps to enlighten and fund programs which improve the fate of these species in the wild.

I fear, in this case, that politics is overreaching into the realm of science and so I must do what I can politically to entreat you, as a registered voting citizen of this great city, to weigh the scientific merits of this facility. Please reconsider your stance. It would be a tragedy to rob our future scientists of the opportunity to interact with these amazing creatures.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please reconsider cetaceans in aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 8:16:44 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: March 16, 2017 8:16:38 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe, Michael; Shum, Erin; Mackinnon, Stuart; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Evans, Catherine; Crawford, Casey; Coupar, John  
Subject: Please reconsider cetaceans in aquarium

I am disheartened that the parks board would be so swayed by a vocal minority to ignore science as well as the obvious care that the Vancouver Aquarium shows to its animals.

As the aquarium no longer catches in the wild, nor supports organizations that do, I am in full support of their continuing operations with rescued animals. These cetaceans would not be able to survive in the wild and closing the aquarium is a death sentence for them. I for one cannot support that and plead you to reconsider your decision.

Perhaps in reconsideration you could write bylaws that very clearly restrict the aquarium to a no breeding/no wild capture (which they already do), but let them continue research and care for animals deemed unable to survive on the wild.

The impact of this goes beyond us into helping us understand impacts of human development in the Arctic.

Please, this is vital research.

[s.22\(1\)](#)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the content of the email body.

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Reconsider Your Decision  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:35:04 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 11, 2017 3:35:01 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Please Reconsider Your Decision

Dear Stuart,

This email is to plead with you to reconsider your actions taken against the rescued cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Currently residing at the Vancouver Aquarium are three rescued cetaceans that depend on the Vancouver Aquarium for their well-being. The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is the only hospital of it's kind in Canada that can rescue marine mammals. Every year they rescue and release hundreds of animals from harbour seals to sea turtles. However, some animals get deemed unreleasable and would die in the wild. A good example of this is Chester, the false killer whale. Chester was found beached at only 1 month old and they gave him only a 10% chance of survival. The Vancouver Aquarium painstakingly nursed him back to health over the course of months, but he was deemed unreleasable as he was so young (maternal separation), only knew human contact, and would not be able to learn things necessary to survive in the wild without his mother. After a long process, the federal government gave permission to the Vancouver Aquarium to house and take care of Chester long term. Now, with all cetaceans being banned from Stanley Park, Chester is losing his home. The belugas are a different issue, but I must mimic what has already said been said: these animals were bred in captivity long ago and the Vancouver Aquarium has long since pledged to end captive breeding with these whales, phasing out the exhibit by 2029. The Vancouver Aquarium truly is a different type of aquarium, where the focus is on research, education and conservation. As a concerned Vancouver citizen, I truly believe they are trying to make a difference. You might not even be aware that there is an entire research division of the Vancouver Aquarium called the Coastal Ocean Research Institute that does wildlife research from kelp growth to understanding beluga calls in the wild. They have other amazing programs like the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup that is cleaning up our shorelines and Ocean Wise that is changing how people eat sustainable fish. As the Vancouver Aquarium is a nonprofit organization, they rely on admission sales and donations to fund all programs, including the Marine Mammal Rescue Hospital. I honestly believe that banning cetaceans from Stanley Park is only going to disrupt the lives of these rescued animals and prevent the Vancouver Aquarium from doing the amazing work that they do.

Please reconsider your decision. The well-being of these animals depends on you.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Reconsider... for the Animals' Sake  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:33:01 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 11, 2017 3:32:57 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Please Reconsider... for the Animals' Sake

Dear Casey,

This email is to plead with you to reconsider your actions taken against the rescued cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Currently residing at the Vancouver Aquarium are three rescued cetaceans that depend on the Vancouver Aquarium for their well-being. The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is the only hospital of it's kind in Canada that can rescue marine mammals. Every year they rescue and release hundreds of animals from harbour seals to sea turtles. However, some animals get deemed unreleasable and would die in the wild. A good example of this is Chester, the false killer whale. Chester was found beached at only 1 month old and they gave him only a 10% chance of survival. The Vancouver Aquarium painstakingly nursed him back to health over the course of months, but he was deemed unreleasable as he was so young (maternal separation), only knew human contact, and would not be able to learn things necessary to survive in the wild without his mother. After a long process, the federal government gave permission to the Vancouver Aquarium to house and take care of Chester long term. Now, with all cetaceans being banned from Stanley Park, Chester is losing his home. The belugas are a different issue, but I must mimic what has already said been said: these animals were bred in captivity long ago and the Vancouver Aquarium has long since pledged to end captive breeding with these whales, phasing out the exhibit by 2029. The Vancouver Aquarium truly is a different type of aquarium, where the focus is on research, education and conservation. As a concerned Vancouver citizen, I truly believe they are trying to make a difference. You might not even be aware that there is an entire research division of the Vancouver Aquarium called the Coastal Ocean Research Institute that does wildlife research from kelp growth to understanding beluga calls in the wild. They have other amazing programs like the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup that is cleaning up our shorelines and Ocean Wise that is changing how people eat sustainable fish. As the Vancouver Aquarium is a nonprofit organization, they rely on admission sales and donations to fund all programs, including the Marine Mammal Rescue Hospital. I honestly believe that banning cetaceans from Stanley Park is only going to disrupt the lives of these rescued animals and prevent the Vancouver Aquarium from doing the amazing work that they do.

Please reconsider your decision. The well-being of these animals depends on you.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Reconsider  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:36:09 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:36:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Please Reconsider

Dear Michael,

This email is to plead with you to reconsider your actions taken against the rescued cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Currently residing at the Vancouver Aquarium are three rescued cetaceans that depend on the Vancouver Aquarium for their well-being. The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is the only hospital of its kind in Canada that can rescue marine mammals. Every year they rescue and release hundreds of animals from harbour seals to sea turtles. However, some animals get deemed unreleasable and would die in the wild. A good example of this is Chester, the false killer whale. Chester was found beached at only 1 month old and they gave him only a 10% chance of survival. The Vancouver Aquarium painstakingly nursed him back to health over the course of months, but he was deemed unreleasable as he was so young (maternal separation), only knew human contact, and would not be able to learn things necessary to survive in the wild without his mother. After a long process, the federal government gave permission to the Vancouver Aquarium to house and take care of Chester long term. Now, with all cetaceans being banned from Stanley Park, Chester is losing his home. The belugas are a different issue, but I must mimic what has already said been said: these animals were bred in captivity long ago and the Vancouver Aquarium has long since pledged to end captive breeding with these whales, phasing out the exhibit by 2029. The Vancouver Aquarium truly is a different type of aquarium, where the focus is on research, education and conservation. As a concerned Vancouver citizen, I truly believe they are trying to make a difference. You might not even be aware that there is an entire research division of the Vancouver Aquarium called the Coastal Ocean Research Institute that does wildlife research from kelp growth to understanding beluga calls in the wild. They have other amazing programs like the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup that is cleaning up our shorelines and Ocean Wise that is changing how people eat sustainable fish. As the Vancouver Aquarium is a nonprofit organization, they rely on admission sales and donations to fund all programs, including the Marine Mammal Rescue Hospital. I honestly believe that banning cetaceans from Stanley Park is only going to disrupt the lives of these rescued animals and prevent the Vancouver Aquarium from doing the amazing work that they do.

Please reconsider your decision. The well-being of these animals depends on you.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please rescind the ban  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:33:04 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:33:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Please rescind the ban

Dear Parks Board Members,

As an educator and resident of the Lower Mainland since 1985 I have enjoyed the Vancouver Aquarium with my children and grandchildren. I whole-heartedly support the Vancouver Aquarium's plan.

I believe that it is in the best interest of current and future generations that the Aquarium continues its research and rescue efforts.

Please rescind the ban against the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Kind regards,  
[s.22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please Reverse the decision to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 1:47:54 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 24, 2017 1:47:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Please Reverse the decision to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello Mr. Coupar,  
I am deeply saddened by the events regarding the cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium and the decision made by the Parks board of commissioners. My main concern is what the repercussions will be on the three cetaceans currently in their care. These are animals that have been deemed non-releasable by the federal government, and with this, long-term care for them is essential.

I have been a volunteer at the Vancouver Aquarium for the past three years, and before that a member of the Aquarium with my family. I have seen this facility through so many perspectives. From being captivated by the belugas as a young child, to learning about Helen's rescue story and the amazing research that she participated in as a young adult; to now, a very active volunteer dedicated to helping a facility that keeps ocean conservation and active commitment to the care of all their animals close to heart. Through the many volunteer positions I've held, a gallery educator, tropical fish husbandry assistant, and volunteer at their off-site rescue centre, I have had the chance to experience first-hand the amount of dedication that all staff put into the wellbeing of all animals there, cetaceans included.

I find it very unfortunate that the actions of the parks board have been taken without considering the lives of the animals themselves, as if they are not able to be released, euthanasia is the only other option. It breaks my heart that the lives of Chester, Helen, Daisy, and all other stranded cetaceans of the coast may be unjustly cut short. These are animals that most likely due to human circumstance have been placed in a position that they are no longer able to live independently in the ocean, and thus a responsibility to humans to care for them and give them the most comfortable life possible. Please reconsider this ban for the sake of these animals who with the proper care at the Vancouver Aquarium, have a second lease on life.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: please stop the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:31:50 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:31:46 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** please stop the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Park Commissioners,

I do NOT support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. Please stop this bylaw.

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the content of the email body.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Please support the aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:30:14 PM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: / 9:30:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: Please support the aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 6:52:08 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 6:52:04 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Proposed bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

After reading a recent article concerning the proposed bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park, as a Vancouver resident, pro animal welfare and science advocate, I feel it is my duty to express my disgust in the mere suggestion that it is the will of the Vancouver citizens to see this bylaw passed. This is clearly the perverted agenda of a small yet vocal, ignorant, single focus group trying to make a point in a most public and distorted fashion. I, s.22(1) wholeheartedly disagree with the proposed bylaw for reasons including but not limited to the fact that these are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild and that these animals serve as outstanding ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans. The termination of this project serves no purpose other than to appease the few who clearly have no empathy or regard for the bigger picture.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: proposed by-law to ban cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 4:44:30 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 4:44:25 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** proposed by-law to ban cetaceans

To Whom it May Concern:

I do NOT support your proposed by-law to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park .

If you wish to contact me: Phone s.22(1) Mailing address: s.22(1)  
s.22(1)

s.22(1)

Sent from [Outlook](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Bylaw  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:12:26 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:12:23 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Proposed Bylaw

Members of the Vancouver Parks Board -

I live in the Lower Mainland and I wish to express my extreme disappointment in your decisions to restrict and hamper the excellent work that is done through the Vancouver Aquarium. Your bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park will have more far reaching negative impacts than the perceived good you think you are doing.

As a retired teacher, I know the importance of teaching our youth about caring for our world, but without real life experiences which the aquarium has been able to provide over the years, the impact of that message will be hugely reduced. MOST children in the Lower Mainland will not have an opportunity to see or hear about these beautiful creatures (or any others in the aquarium) from anything other than a book or movie. That's like telling someone about a car ride without ever getting in a car and experiencing it. You never know the size or the speed because you don't experience it. These children typically WILL have a chance to be up close to these creatures because at least once in their schooling, they will have made a trip to the Aquarium with their class. The Aquarium is a go-to destination for field trips from schools all over the Lower Mainland, not just Vancouver. The aquarium staff run an exceptional educational program. Taking away the cetaceans from them is like taking algebra out of math, or the World Wars out of the history books.

I grew up in East Vancouver. My family couldn't afford much other than the food on the table and the clothes on my back. Travel didn't happen for me. And trips to the Aquarium didn't happen EXCEPT through school trips. Although this was MANY years ago, I believe it is still true for a large part of the Vancouver population. Do NOT take this opportunity to learn about some of the world's greatest sea mammals away from the children.

The Vancouver Aquarium has acted in a responsible and environmentally sound fashion for many years. To slap them with a bylaw based on the accusations of a misinformed interest group is wrong. As members of the Board you should be doing your own homework to see that the "facts" are properly represented.

This is the wrong decision. Do not put this bylaw through.

Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Cetaceans Policy change  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:33:57 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** F , 2017 12:33:40 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Proposed Cetaceans Policy change

Please don't ban the cetaceans in Stanley Park. When I lived in Vancouver (for decades) I used to go the park and the aquarium often. More recently, on my return(s) to Vancouver to visit family, I took my daughter to the Park and Aquarium to learn about all the species that she would never have been able to appropriately respect and truly appreciate if it weren't for our visits there. It is a wonderful educational resource for millions of visitors and historically has been truly underappreciated for all it does to rehabilitate and save creatures that would either perish living in the wild or die shortly after being returned if there was no place for to keep them.

I find it incredulous that even 10% of folk from the lower mainland who understand the ramifications here are behind this idea. A tiny, yet likely very vocal group, with their own agenda, should not be able to force this type of ill-advised change. I ask you to seriously reconsider this truly sad change of policy before it is too late, not only for the lives currently there, but to save future cetaceans from a certain death by your preventing future rescue efforts. Thank you for listening. s.22(1)

s.22(1)

Respecting your privacy and preferences for electronic communications is important to us. If you would prefer not to receive emails from me, please reply with "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line or body of the email. If you would also prefer not to receive emails from our firm, please cc: [unsubscribeRBCDominionSecurities@rbc.com](mailto:unsubscribeRBCDominionSecurities@rbc.com) in your reply. Please note that you will continue to receive messages related to transactions or services that we provide to you. To speak to us about how your preferences are managed, please email: [contactRBCDominionSecurities@rbc.com](mailto:contactRBCDominionSecurities@rbc.com).

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continuerez de recevoir des messages liés aux opérations effectuées ou aux services que nous vous fournissons. Si vous avez des questions sur la façon dont sera géré votre préférence, veuillez nous les envoyer par courriel, à l'adresse [contactRBCDominionSecurities@rbc.com](mailto:contactRBCDominionSecurities@rbc.com).

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**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Protect rescued animals  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:19:14 AM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:19:11 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Protect rescued animals

Dear Michael Wiebe

It has come to my attention that the park board has decided to ban the keeping of whales and dolphins in Stanley Park without making an exception for non-releasable cetaceans. This is a big mistake. In countries without facilities that can keep whales and dolphins, rescued animals that can not survive on their own in the wild are killed, many British Columbians including myself believe this is wrong, the lives of all animals matter and if they must be in human care to survive then they should be allowed to continue their lives in human care, rather than being put down when there is nothing physically wrong with them. Not caring for animals that can't care for themselves would reflect poorly on us as a society and poorly on the park board for making it impossible to care for them.

It is imperative that we have an exception for rescued animals so that no animals are killed needlessly, and the non-releasable animals at the aquarium can live safely.

Sincerely,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Protect Rescued Cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 9:13:44 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 10, 2017 9:13:41 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Protect Rescued Cetaceans

Dear John Coupar

It has come to my attention that the park board has decided to ban the keeping of whales and dolphins in Stanley Park without making an exception for non-releasable cetaceans. This is a big mistake. In countries without facilities that can keep whales and dolphins, rescued animals that can not survive on their own in the wild are killed, many British Columbians including myself believe this is wrong, the lives of all animals matter and if they must be in human care to survive then they should be allowed to continue their lives in human care, rather than being put down when there is nothing physically wrong with them. Not caring for animals that can't care for themselves would reflect poorly on us as a society and poorly on the park board for making it impossible to care for them.

It is imperative that we have an exception for rescued animals so that no animals are killed needlessly, and the non-releasable animals at the aquarium can live safely.

Sincerely,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Protecting the Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 11:21:39 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 11:21:15 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Protecting the Aquarium

My family has been members of the Aquarium for many years. When animals die at the Aquarium, we shed tears.

The decision by the Parks Board is utterly ignorant and cruel. The conservation, rehabilitation, and research done by the Aquarium is so, so important. They've taught our daughter how to love and care for animals -- we wish the city would follow their example.

Please protect the Aquarium and the work they do. It means everything to us.

Thank you,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Question and thoughts  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 1:16:37 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 10, 2017 1:16:33 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Re: Question and thoughts

Yet another short-sighted answer.

In Burrard Inlet? So in water that has not been filtered, in a sea pen I presume? Please read Killing Keiko for an insight on what it's actually like to keep a cetacean in a sea pen. They don't work, and cannot provide appropriate care for their inhabitants.

I sincerely hope that one day the aquarium can free its shackles from Stanley Park. Their biggest mistake was deciding to build there 60 years ago. Anywhere else, they could actually do the science they want to do without all this hoop jumping and wasting money on fighting the parks board mislead priorities.

Need I remind you that it was the parks board that approved the aquarium's expansion, and are not telling them they can't have cetaceans? Um... what?

I can see what's really going on here. You don't care what they do, as long as it isn't in a Vancouver park. You're trying to push them out--out of sight, out of mind, am I right? If you didn't want to deal with the aquarium, you shouldn't have run to be in the parks board in the first place.

On Fri, Mar 10, 2017 at 12:52 PM, Mackinnon, Stuart  
<[Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:Stuart.Mackinnon@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Thank you for your e-mail. Nothing is stopping the Vancouver Aquarium from doing their rehabilitation work somewhere other than in Stanley Park. Perhaps they could invest some of the \$100 million expansion plans on their rescue facility in Burrard inlet or elsewhere.

Stuart Mackinnon, Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

t: @betterparks      blog: [www.betterparks.ca](http://www.betterparks.ca)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:**  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Question and thoughts

In yesterday's park board meeting, you suggested that unreleasable rescued cetaceans should be kept at the marine mammal rescue centre.

... have you ever been there? If you feel the aquarium, with its filtration systems and large habitats is not appropriate, what makes you think the significantly smaller, temporary pools would be more appropriate?

I ask you to really think about rescued cetaceans. Please don't shut the door on stranded animals that can be given a second chance. To simply euthanize them is wrong. They should have the opportunity to be saved. And if they are not releasable, should be able to find a home that will not only provide for their long-term care, but put it to good use by furthering science. And yes, the public **SHOULD** be able to see them. Most people had never heard of a False Killer Whale before Chester was rescued.

Calling the aquarium supporters "arrogant" was simply rude and I can't believe you stooped down to the level of the activists who should have been expelled from the meetings for shouting at speakers. Of course the aquarium employees and volunteers would come in with their chins held high. They know what they do every day. They see, first-hand, the impact of their work, something you belittled because of your own short-sighted sense of righteousness.

I sincerely hope in the upcoming weeks, you all can take a step back and see that your "cetacean ban" is too broad. Rescued animals should be exempt. Period!

PS: The Parks Board should not have the power to make a decision that makes a direct impact to lives, human and non-human, around the world. You are not experts!

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Questionable Aquarium "Science"  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 10:22:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [QUESTIONABLE AQUARIUM SCIENCE.pdf](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 10:22:37 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael; Mackinnon, Stuart; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** Questionable Aquarium "Science"

Hi:

Please find the attached PDF regarding questionable Vancouver Aquarium "science".  
If all cetaceans are not banned and the Aquarium expands their vivisection business the captives would suffer and die from both captivity and experiments.

For Freedom,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Re think your decision for the Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:05:09 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:05:02 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Re think your decision for the Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board Council

As a person born and raised in Vancouver now residing in West Vancouver I am writing to urge to reconsider your decision of a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I am extremely distressed by this decision, I really urge you to revisit the facts:

1. The Vancouver Aquarium does not capture from the wild nor does it accept animals that have been captured from the wild. It was the first aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild in 1996.
2. It is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility.
3. The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that can not survive in the wild
4. Sea pens are not an alternative to rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring, excessive financial burden
5. The Aquarium is not breeding cetaceans. Last month the aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding until its completion in 2029.
6. The Beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect methods prior to working with wild populations. At a time when global warming is not a theory but a reality the Aquarium's research on the arctic will be severely impacted and this will have a negative effective on the cetaceans.

The Parks Board approved a detailed 3 phase expansion plans. The aquarium is about to launch phase 2 this fall which expands the outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you the aquarium should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. The money is not able to be spent in that way. I am concerned why the Parks Board would approve this expansion and expenditure and then two years later vote to ban the cetaceans?



The impact this decision will have on marine research is immense, please  
I beg you to reconsider this decision

Thank you for your consideration and time

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: RE. bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 12:30:26 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 12:30:23 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** RE. bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hi there,

I live in Ottawa, Ontario and I love visiting my sister who lives in beautiful Vancouver, BC. I also love visiting the Vancouver Aquarium! The Aquarium has done so much for animals, through research, rescue & rehabilitation, and also by educating the public.

I was recently made aware of a pending bylaw that would ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I am writing to let you know that I DO NOT support this bylaw. I believe that the Vancouver Aquarium, and all of the amazing work they do there, is very important not just for Vancouver, but for all of Canada and even the world! Please don't take away their ability to keep saving these animals and to continue to research and educate to make the world a better place for us all!

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Re: Cetaceans at VanAqua  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:54:38 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 8:54:33 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re: Cetaceans at VanAqua

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Date:**  
**To:** "Kirby-Yung, Sarah" <[Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Cetaceans at VanAqua

Dear Sarah,  
Firstly I would like to state that I do appreciate your reply. However my concern - and the concern of many others - is not that the animals currently housed at the aquarium will be euthanized (that was not mentioned by me at all), but rather that in the future when nonreleasable cetaceans are found/rescued in the Pacific Northwest, due to the lack of long-term accommodations for these animals during and after rehabilitation, the only course of action left available will be to euthanize these animals. Whereas currently cetaceans like Chester are able to be rehabilitated, housed at VanAqua, and contribute not only to valuable scientific research but conservation and education programs as well. If you were to actually read the articles to which I had linked prior to responding to my email, it would be abundantly obvious that your response answers none of my genuine concerns (which again, are widely shared.) I did not voice concern that the aquarium would be shut down, nor did I voice concern that animals currently housed at VanAqua would be euthanized, although it is comforting that you are not in favour of either of these abhorrent courses of action.

The DFO has stated that the misguided actions of the Vancouver Park Board will result in euthanizations in the future. I wonder if you have an informed response to this?

<http://globalnews.ca/news/3331833/vancouver-aquarium-cetacean-ban-could-mean-animals-will-have-to-be-euthanized-dfo/>

Or if you could provide a response as to why VanAqua's continued care for non-releasable cetaceans presents an issue to the Parks Board?

<http://www.aquablog.ca/2014/02/an-open-letter-on-cetaceans-in-our-care/>

Thank you.  
s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 27, 2017, at 10:36 AM, Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
<[Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:Sarah.Kirby-Yung@vancouver.ca)> wrote:

Dear s.22(1)

Thank you for your email.

I assure you no one is aiming to shut down the Vancouver Aquarium and there has been no suggestion whatsoever to euthanize the animals at the Aquarium.

Sincerely,

Sarah Kirby-Yung

Commissioner

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

On Mar 26, 2017, at 6:22 AM, aria leroux  
s. 22(1) wrote:

Dear Elected Officials,

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high

standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

PS - additional information you should be aware of:

<http://www.aquablog.ca/2014/02/an-open-letter-on-cetaceans-in-our-care/>

<http://globalnews.ca/news/3331833/vancouver-aquarium-cetacean-ban-could-mean-animals-will-have-to-be-euthanized-dfo/>

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: re:Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:02:16 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 16, 2017 11:02:11 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** re:Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park

Greetings Parks Board Commissioners:

We would like it to be noted that we do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park, Aquarium.

Our grandchildren always get excited that they will experience a close encounter with these beautiful creatures when they visit us from Quebec. They were devastated when we told them about the proposed bylaw and asked us to write and tell you, *"please, please, let them stay. They seem so happy too."* We have numerous overseas family and friends that visit us and always ask to go to the Aquarium so it would be sad if this was no longer a possibility.

Yours sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Recall vote to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:09:29 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:09:20 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Recall vote to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Members,

As a resident of Vancouver and a lover of all marine mammals, I ask you to reconsider your votes to close down the Stanley Park cetacean display. While I understand the desire to protect these beautiful creatures I feel your actions are misguided.

Thank you for all your hard work,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Recent Ban on Displaying Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:44:42 AM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:44:38 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Recent Ban on Displaying Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commission,

It is with alarm that I have read of the proposed bylaw on banning the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park. At a time when the future of our planet is being cast in doubt every day by people claiming they know better than scientists who have spent years researching their fields, I find it very worrisome to see this effect coming to Vancouver. The Vancouver Aquarium is a symbol for marine conservation and animal rights - everybody knows the OceanWise label, everybody happily follows the stories of the latest rescued animals. The Aquarium has done more for environmental awareness than any other group I can think of in Vancouver. I am not an expert but even I can see that it is hard to believe that they would choose to keep these cetaceans in captivity if it were not for the benefit of the animals.

I understand that certain groups get a kick out of fear-mongering and ill-advised activism but I hope that the Parks Board will have the sense to analyze the facts before making rash decisions. I am confident that this bylaw will be seen as the mistake that it is, and that Vancouver will continue to be a symbol for environmental awareness and committed citizenship.

I am from Richmond, not Vancouver, but my grandmother lives in Vancouver and I will be sure to pass along the message to her so she can make informed decisions at election time.

Thank you for your time. I look forward to seeing the bylaw rejected.

Best regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Recent Parks decisions  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 4:05:02 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: March 25, 2017 4:03:01 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
Subject: Recent Parks decisions

Good afternoon,

I am writing to offer my support to the Vancouver Aquarium and against your recent decision on what our city parks are entitled to do.

After viewing footage, with my children it was shameful to see how respectful and articulate and abiding staff of the Aquarium were while in attendance to your meetings. Yet you chose to listen to the unruly, loud and ignorant people present.

This is a terrible portrayal of how officials make decisions, especially to youngsters. My teen is now questioning if having tantrums and being disrespectful is a way you get what you like. I am trying to teach him otherwise.

We have been members of the Aquarium for over a decade. I am a Vancouver resident, born and raised and have seen all the adaptations and respectful conduct the Aquarium has done to become in accordance of bylaws and new teachings. Yet they still get shamed at every turn, it seems there will always be something wrong. Yet you do realize the cetaceans we currently have on exhibit in the pools are ones that would not survive in the wild? I wish I attended a meeting and interrupted you and shouted this at you since you accepted this behaviour from protesters. You do realize that the Aquarium did take a stand and continues to not bring in cetaceans unless they are deemed rescue and would otherwise have to be euthanized? You should look up the story of Levi, the harbour porpoise, or most recently a sea turtle that was able to return to California. Euthanization-This is now what our government would like to do rather than take learning opportunities for the young and old about our oceans and how we can preserve them and the animals that inhabit them? This makes no sense.

With these changes, there is now recent talk of euthanizing the animals on display...how is this correct to take a life where so much has been learned for it. This one life is what has been able to save populations and will continue to do so but you wish to take this away. That is criminal!

Now for some personal history of my family with the Aquarium and why #ISupportVanaqua.

They have a family volunteer program where at 10 years old children, with an adult family member, can apply and be interviewed to volunteer. My son heard of this at age 8, and we applied when he was 10. He is now 13 and has been able to volunteer on site and at the marine mammal rescue centre. It has taught him ethics in animal care, the gruelling hard work that is involved while there is little glory because large groups of protesters and city councillors want to take that away from our city. He has been in many one on one learning opportunities to see first hand what is learned and then taught to the open minded public. He wants to study marine biology and work with marine mammals which sadly may never happen if science centres such as the aquarium are not allowed to study. Our world is shrinking, populations are being lost because groups of protestors want to charge at such science centres rather than taking on larger animal abuse populations. City councillors should be looking at the populations who pollute our oceans, who abuse animals on a regular basis, and those who over fish or harvest from our oceans illegally. This would be time well spent rather than appeasing a group who only want to 'say' how harmful the Aquarium is without really acknowledging all angles of what happens.

We need conservation and how do the city councillors and protestors believe this can happen without such wonderfully accredited places, such as the Aquarium.

With regards and hopes you will consider my support for the Aquarium and not your decision,

s.22(1)

A Vancouver born and raised resident  
A registered Vancouver city voter  
An early childhood educator  
A Vancouver Aquarium volunteer, and proud of it!

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Reconsider bylaw  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 6:56:31 PM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 6:56:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Reconsider bylaw

To whom it may concern,

My name is s.22(1) and I am a Vancouver resident who votes at every election.

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. There is too much benefit from the education, research and rescue efforts of the aquarium to help preserve these animals in the wild. The aquarium does not simply "capture" wild animals for viewing or profit.

To say that this decision is representative of the majority of Vancouverites in my opinion is false.

What I am asking, is for the board to reconsider their decision and put the scientific information and question to Vancouver residents.

My address is s.22(1)

Thank you.  
s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Reconsider the cetacean ban, please  
**Date:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:05:15 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 26, 2017 11:05:10 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; sarah.kirby-young@vancouver.ca; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Reconsider the cetacean ban, please

Please reconsider your bylaw that bans cetaceans in captivity in Vancouver.

The role of the Aquarium has changed and evolved significantly since it held orcas for entertainment. It is the opposite of Blackwater. It is a centre of excellence in rescue, rehabilitation, research, and education.

Cetaceans injured in the wild are injured by humans. The Aquarium works as an environmental agency, on behalf of the oceans and it's creatures. Providing awareness and education while attempting to counteract the human impact on the environment and it's creatures. And succeeding.

I believe the bylaw is short-sighted and born out of a narrow and ignorant point of view. I've been a member of the Aquarium with my family for 10 years. I've visited the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. I've attended beach clean ups and listened to my children talk passionately against pollution, watched them teach respect for the oceans and it's wildlife to their friends. All from what they've learned through the Aquarium.

Please reconsider this bylaw. Listen to all sides.

Yours truly

s.22(1)



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**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Reconsider the Parks Board decision against the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 3:00:08 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 3:00:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**Subject:** Reconsider the Parks Board decision against the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello,

I wanted to email you all because I am very concerned about the Parks Board decision about cetacean care at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I am extremely concerned about this decision; how can politicians decide on something like this **without** being in discussion with scientists, veterinarians, and leading researchers in the field of cetacean care? Don't you think this is rather ridiculous?

The Vancouver Aquarium remains such an important facility for research and rescue, helping cetaceans in the wild. Are you telling me that you would rather have Vanaqua **do nothing** if an animal becomes stranded in our waters? What about the [Southern Resident Killer Whale population](#) and its safety? Especially with plans for a new pipeline going through the area, the Aquarium would be able to provide more help to these animals, in the event that this added traffic to the area means more strandings. Or, would you rather these animals be euthanized instead of rescued and rehabilitated? When the Aquarium could do more, you chose to abandon cetaceans.

As for Mr. Mackinnon's statement re: finding somewhere for the current cetaceans in Vanaqua's care, **how can you be so naive?** Have you ever visited the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre? Do you know how it operates? Activists complain and argue ALL THE TIME about the size of the habitats for these creatures, and yet your response was to place the three cetaceans left in our care into short term facilities not meant to keep animals long term. Instead of working WITH the Aquarium, you have chosen to pressure them into a corner, providing no solutions and support. Instead, you balk at the empty words of activists and do not look at the scientific facts and information present. Would you really feel comfortable moving intelligent creatures away from the people they know and trust? The Vet Team, interpreters, trainers, and staff that love and care for them on a daily basis.

I am extremely distressed about your decision, and further enraged at your lack of understanding and help in the matter. What made you come to this conclusion? What research did you do before deciding the matter? Who did you consult?

Please respond at your earliest convenience.

s.22(1)

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s.22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Reconsider the Parks Board decision against the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 3:00:09 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 3:00:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** Reconsider the Parks Board decision against the Vancouver Aquarium

Hello,

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I am extremely concerned about this decision; how can politicians decide on something like this **without** being in discussion with scientists, veterinarians, and leading researchers in the field of cetacean care? Don't you think this is rather ridiculous?

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As for Mr. Mackinnon's statement re: finding somewhere for the current cetaceans in Vanaqua's care, **how can you be so naive?** Have you ever visited the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre? Do you know how it operates? Activists complain and argue ALL THE TIME about the size of the habitats for these creatures, and yet your response was to place the three cetaceans left in our care into short term facilities not meant to keep animals long term. Instead of working WITH the Aquarium, you have chosen to pressure them into a corner, providing no solutions and support. Instead, you balk at the empty words of activists and do not look at the scientific facts and information present. Would you really feel comfortable moving intelligent creatures away from the people they know and trust? The Vet Team, interpreters, trainers, and staff that love and care for them on a daily basis.

I am extremely distressed about your decision, and further enraged at your lack of understanding and help in the matter. What made you come to this conclusion? What research did you do before deciding the matter? Who did you consult?

Please respond at your earliest convenience.

s.22(1)



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s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Referendum for Cetaceans Ban  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 2:31:42 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 2:31:38 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Referendum for Cetaceans Ban

Dear Vancouver Parks Board,

I hope this letter finds you in good will. I am a Vancouver resident and I do not support the motion to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. This decision is too abrupt and short sighted. This is a very important decision to make, and one that impacts Vancouver as a whole. A decision like this should at least be held to a referendum as it impacts our tourism industry as well as our standing as a global leader in marine mammal research. I implore you to please reconsider.

Sincerely yours.  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Regarding cetacean ban  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:31:38 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:31:34 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Regarding cetacean ban

Hello Parks Board Commissioners,

As a registered voter, a Vancouver resident, and a member of the Vancouver Aquarium, I would like to express my disappointment at the decision made regarding the ban of cetaceans in Stanley Park. The Vancouver Aquarium is a world-class marine research and rehabilitation facility. I feel that this decision will have the following negative consequences:

- limit the Aquarium's ability to rescue and rehabilitate injured cetaceans
- reduce or end some of the fantastic research on the Arctic marine habitat, and on cetaceans such as the belugas.
- reduce the conversations with our young people about conservation and global warming. Getting to see some beautiful marine animals in person can create passions in our children, and facilitates fantastic discussion about the effects of human decisions on the lives of these beautiful creatures.

I'm sure there are many other consequences that I am not aware of, as just an average Vancouverite.

I implore you to reconsider this decision, and to follow what the science says about the benefits of having rescued cetaceans living in well-run, research and rehabilitation focused facilities like the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thanks so much for your time taken to read and consider this email.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Regarding the ban for the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 2:04:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 2:04:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Regarding the ban for the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park

To the Parks Board Commissioners,

I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. Injured cetaceans deserve a place of rehabilitation and a safe haven to live when hurt. I do not believe that Vancouver residents support this bylaw and the information that preceded this decision is based on falsified facts and ignorance, most importantly the idea that these creatures have been captured. I do not believe that Vancouver residents would support euthanizing the cetaceans that currently live at the Vancouver Aquarium, or the ones that will be undoubtedly harmed in the future, in the wild, due to human influences. It is my view that the work and research that comes from these rescue efforts also supports the valuable research to preserve these species in the wild.

It is also my view that the Vancouver Aquarium is an important education facility for people of all ages and this decision will negatively affect its purpose.

Finally, this decision is an act of political showboating and I am thoroughly disappointed in the Parks Board Commissioners for their poor representation.

With regards from,

s.22(1)



s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Regarding Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:21:24 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 17 12:21:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Regarding Vancouver Aquarium

To the Vancouver Park Board,

I am a former Vancouver resident currently residing in Victoria, but with intention to move back to beautiful Vancouver in a little over a year. I write you to express my frustration with the decision made by the board last week regarding cetaceans in captivity. I do not believe that the science has been listened to, and instead you have felt bullied by a small group of activists, and have not fully made an informed decision.

Although this decision may look glamorous for political gain, this goes far beyond the Park Board or your political careers. The Aquarium has been an institution in Vancouver for years, has provided incredible insight and research into the ocean especially in ways on how we can protect it and all its inhabitants. Are you really willing to cripple the work VanAqua does? Without institutions such as VanAqua we wouldn't even be having the discussion of cetaceans in captivity, as it was there work that has informed us all of how incredible these creatures are.

The Vancouver Aquarium is the only institution of its kind in Canada, and must be allowed to continue their incredible and important work. They not only use rescued and non releasable cetaceans for research and education, but they also provide these incredible creatures with a forever home. I refuse to believe that allowing these animals to just die is a better alternative? What would have happened to Chester, Daisy, or Helen if this ban was in place then? I think we may all agree that no animals should be taken from their natural habitats, but if the choice is death or rehabilitation and inspiring/education thousands of visitors, I think we all know the obvious choice.

Van Aqua was the first Aquarium in the world to vow to never again take or acquire cetaceans from the wild. The beluga's that currently reside elsewhere that Van Aqua owns cannot be released to the wild, but I truly believe would be better suited brought back home to one of the finest facilities in the world then being stuck elsewhere, to continue the important research and education they are known for.

I certainly hope you reconsider the decision you have made, as this is not what the majority of Vancouverites want. This facility inspired me as a child, and helped me to become informed and amazed by the coast that surrounds us.

Regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: remove ban on whales in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 11:46:30 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** March 17, 2017 11:46:25 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** remove ban on whales in captivity

Hello

I do NOT support your decision to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I want the good works at the Vancouver Aquarium to continue. My three grandchildren know

the names of all the whales at the aquarium and the stories behind their rescue and how they came to live at the aquarium. Without the opportunity to show our;

children and the world the consequences of dolphins getting caught in fishing nets, and the reality of stranded baby whales/Cetaceans the lessons learned will

be unnecessarily lost on the generations to come. The only way forward is to educate and to learn as much as we can in the time we have here on earth and do

our best to contribute to the right path forward for humanity and the earth. My children are devastated at the fact that the aquarium will have to send away

Daisy and Chester and Helen and I am too. I fear for their futures of these three animals who represent a unique niche in their species as with this ban we cannot

guarantee other institutions will appreciate them with the love, skill and care that the Vancouver Aquarium does.

Let the scientists at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Vancouver Aquarium make the their own decision about the right care and handling of the cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Remove the ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park, please.

I disagree with your decision.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: remove the ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 10:49:26 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 10:48:46 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** remove the ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hi

I do not support your decision to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I want the good works at the Vancouver Aquarium to continue. My three children know the names of all the whales at the aquarium and the stories behind their rescue and how they came to live at the aquarium. Without the opportunity to show our children and the world the consequences of dolphins getting caught in fishing nets, and the reality of stranded baby whales/Cetaceans the lessons learned will be unnecessarily lost on the generations to come. The only way forward is to educate and to learn as much as we can in the time we have here on earth and do our best to contribute to the right path forward for humanity and the earth. My children are devastated at the fact that the aquarium will have to send away Daisy and Chester and Helen and I am too. I fear for their futures these three animals who represent a unique niche in their species we cannot guarantee other institutions will appreciate them with the love and care that the Vancouver Aquarium does.

Let the scientists at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the Vancouver Aquarium make the their own decision about the right care and handling of the cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Remove the ban on cetaceans in Stanley Park

I disagree with your decision.

Thank you kindly,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Request for lines of questioning  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 11:54:40 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 9, 2017 11:54:36 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Request for lines of questioning

Commissioner MacKinnon,

Thank you for your kind words about my statement to the board last night, and for your pointed questions.

In the interests of gaining a more complete understanding of the situation tonight, I have made a list of potential lines of questioning (many of which I'm sure you have already touched on or intended to).

Please consider asking questions along these lines if the opportunity presents itself:

1) The Aquarium has stressed the research/conservation/education value of studying cetaceans in captivity.

Are there instances in history in which a study (even those that yielded a great body of knowledge) never happened, or was not repeated due to ethical standards?

Yes. Just in the field of Psychology, I can name one famous example of each:

-The Stanford Prison Experiment, which led to new ethical rules precluding a direct replication of the study, despite the high probability of great results.

-Phineas Gage, whose massive brain injury transformed our understanding of human brains and personality, yet for some reason, we don't recreate similar injuries in healthy people in the name of science and medicine.

The point is that ethical considerations force science to find better ways to learn.

2) VA supporters keep claiming to be inspired by captive cetaceans.

I would ask if one person's inspiration is more important than the freedom of another (and, yes, I think the science supports the notion that cetaceans have a level of personhood, even if it's not recognised legally).

We should be discussing what's best for the animals.

Could we not find different ways to be inspired?

3) The Aquarium claims that keeping captive cetaceans is necessary for staff to be



practiced when a rescue is needed.

Should doctors perform unnecessary surgeries on healthy people to stay sharp for when when it's really needed?

4) The MMRC - How much expansion money is currently slated for the MMRC?

5) Can we get more details of Van Aqua's non-profit status? My side claims that some 12 of their executives are pulling \$200-400k salaries, though I don't believe that information is publicly available.

I'm sorry for the length of this message. No matter what, I'm sure you will continue to do your best to further the cause of truth and justice.

Thank you again.

s.22(1)

A rectangular gray box redacting the signature area of the letter.

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: requested moratorium on cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:13:52 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:13:48 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: PB Commissioners; Mayor and Council Correspondence  
Cc: Coupar, John; Wiebe, Michael; Mackinnon, Stuart; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Crawford, Casey  
Subject: Re: requested moratorium on cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear mayor and commissioners

Please implement a bylaw to end captivity and breeding of whales and dolphins at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you

[s.22\(1\)](#)

----- Original Message -----

From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
To: john coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
Cc: michael wiebe <[michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca](mailto:michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca)>, stuart mackinnon <[stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca)>, catherine evans <[catherine.evans@vancouver.ca](mailto:catherine.evans@vancouver.ca)>, erin shum <[erin.shum@vancouver.ca](mailto:erin.shum@vancouver.ca)>, sarah kirby-yung <[sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)>, casey crawford <[casey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:casey.crawford@vancouver.ca)>  
Sent: Sun, 22 Jan 2017 19:04:10 -0700 (MST)  
Subject: requested moratorium on cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Commissioners:

I urge you to agree to an unconditional moratorium on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium, a moratorium on the planned expansion of new whale pools in 2017 and that any cetaceans requiring rehab be sheltered at the center at the foot of Main St or the station on Popham Island. Please strengthen the Cetacean Bylaw.

There have been more than 50 cetacean deaths at the Vancouver Aquarium. Having been to the Aquarium, this does not surprise me.

A while ago to, my dismay, my daughter's graduation party was at the Vancouver Aquarium. I was shocked by the condition of the water. There was a window in the hallway on entering the space where the party was to be held so I could see that the water was impregnated with particulate material- ? fecal or food material.

The music the DJ was playing was so loud it was uncomfortable and most likely violated Worksafe regulations for decibel level. I asked the DJ to turn down the music. The staff told me this type of commercial activity and noise level goes on "all the time". I also was made to understand that there are no sound barriers to protect the cetaceans from this human activity

Cetaceans are sensitive to sound -are they not? It is tragic that these giant beautiful creatures who normally roam over hundreds of miles with their pods are taken from their families and confined to a pool the proportional size of a bathtub- and a dirty, noisy one at that. .

Please end cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you

Sincerely

s.22(1)

A gray rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Rescue and rehabilitation  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:10:50 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 10, 2017 10:10:45 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Rescue and rehabilitation

Dear board members,

I am writing to you to ask you not to make a grave mistake. You have voted to ban all captive cetaceans from Vancouver Aquarium. In today's climate, where brainwashed armchair activists are claiming keeping these animals in captivity is cruel, despite scientific evidence to the contrary, I can understand why you may feel this is the only viable option. However, I am writing to implore you to change your minds. I live in the UK, and I am reminded almost daily of the mistake my government made when they banned cetacean captivity years ago. The British Divers Marine Life organisation are called out to attend stranded cetacean strandings on our shores. Any animals that cannot be immediately refloated, for whatever reason, are euthanised. This means that animals that could have survived with some rehabilitation, are killed on the spot. This means that when a mother and calf strand, as happened only recently, that if the mother cannot be refloated then a healthy calf must also be euthanised. Dolphins and porpoises are regularly euthanised due to sunburn, something that could be easily treated if there were any facilities at all that could house and care for injured cetaceans. Without these facilities, hundreds of cetaceans are killed on our shores every year. Some animals are so badly injured that even with rehabilitation they would not be able to survive in the wild. These animals need a home, how can you turn your backs on them after the aquarium has spent years trying to save animals that are suffering so badly in the wild? The aquariums mission is to protect the oceans, your ban would mean turning your backs on it's most vulnerable inhabitants! Please, think about what an outright ban would mean for the animals that desperately need your help. Don't be like the UK, ignoring the animals we are supposed to be protecting, ignoring their suffering because it's inconvenient for a handful of cults who care nothing about animal welfare. Educate people, now more than ever people need education or they will continue to fall for the asinine propaganda and misinformation put out by animal rights terrorists. Make an exception for rescued cetaceans, those that need your help to survive. Don't leave them to die alone, when you could save their lives.

Kind regards, [s.22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Rescued Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 3:31:44 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 11, 2017 3:31:40 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Rescued Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear John,

This email is to plead with you to reconsider your actions taken against the rescued cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. Currently residing at the Vancouver Aquarium are three rescued cetaceans that depend on the Vancouver Aquarium for their well-being. The Vancouver Aquarium Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is the only hospital of it's kind in Canada that can rescue marine mammals. Every year they rescue and release hundreds of animals from harbour seals to sea turtles. However, some animals get deemed unreleasable and would die in the wild. A good example of this is Chester, the false killer whale. Chester was found beached at only 1 month old and they gave him only a 10% chance of survival. The Vancouver Aquarium painstakingly nursed him back to health over the course of months, but he was deemed unreleasable as he was so young (maternal separation), only knew human contact, and would not be able to learn things necessary to survive in the wild without his mother. After a long process, the federal government gave permission to the Vancouver Aquarium to house and take care of Chester long term. Now, with all cetaceans being banned from Stanley Park, Chester is losing his home. The belugas are a different issue, but I must mimic what has already said been said: these animals were bred in captivity long ago and the Vancouver Aquarium has long since pledged to end captive breeding with these whales, phasing out the exhibit by 2029. The Vancouver Aquarium truly is a different type of aquarium, where the focus is on research, education and conservation. As a concerned Vancouver citizen, I truly believe they are trying to make a difference. You might not even be aware that there is an entire research division of the Vancouver Aquarium called the Coastal Ocean Research Institute that does wildlife research from kelp growth to understanding beluga calls in the wild. They have other amazing programs like the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup that is cleaning up our shorelines and Ocean Wise that is changing how people eat sustainable fish. As the Vancouver Aquarium is a nonprofit organization, they rely on admission sales and donations to fund all programs, including the Marine Mammal Rescue Hospital. I honestly believe that banning cetaceans from Stanley Park is only going to disrupt the lives of these rescued animals and prevent the Vancouver Aquarium from doing the amazing work that they do.

Please reconsider your decision. The well-being of these animals depends on you.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Rescues should be allowed a safe haven at the Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:25:55 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:25:44 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Rescues should be allowed a safe haven at the Aquarium

I am vehemently opposed to any health whales being captured and put into tanks,  
That being said , i 100% SUPPORT the rescued cetaceans being taken care of there now , the research  
and teaching of our youth is so important , when u see the magic on the children faces at the Aquarium  
watching these incredible creatures you can tell a life long bond of awareness is created.  
Euthanizing these animals would far worse than saving them and caring for them at the Aquarium.

I hope you guys use some common sense here and don't cave into a small group of protesters.

cheers and thanks for hearing me out.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Review bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 1:33:40 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 1:33:37 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Review bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I write this letter to plead with you to reconsider your ban on cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. I understand there are some residents that fully believe they have no place in captivity. While I thoroughly believe healthy, wild animals should never be placed in captivity or put on display, this is not what is being disputed here.

The cetaceans on display at the Vancouver Aquarium are not releasable. They are either bred in captivity at a time when that was acceptable or were injured in the wild. I fully support VanAqua's place to phase out the beluga program in 2029. I applaud the aquarium to be the first to stop capturing whales in the wild, and stop breeding whales. But in the meantime, the captured whales do exist, and should be allowed to be brought back to Vancouver where children until 2029 can continue to fall in love with them and have empathy toward the oceans and marine life that is in deep immediate danger.

A very concerned Vancouver resident,

s.22(1)



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**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sarah Kirby-Yung shared a link: Vancouver Park Board holding special meeting tonight on future of whales at Vancouver Aquarium - British Columbia - CBC News  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:23:36 PM

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**From:** sarahkirbyyung@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:23:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Sarah Kirby-Yung shared a link: Vancouver Park Board holding special meeting tonight on future of whales at Vancouver Aquarium - British Columbia - CBC News

[Vancouver Park Board holding special meeting tonight on future of whales at Vancouver Aquarium - British Columbia - CBC News](#) from Stuart Mackinnon's [Tweet](#)

[Download](#) the Twitter app

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Save the MMRCC!!!  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 11:01:11 AM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 11:01:06 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Save the MMRCC!!!

Please support the Vancouver Aquarium MMRCC open. We need all the help we can get. These guys save 100 animals a year.

I live aboard a sailboat and am concerned with the environment and support this vital centre!!

Thank you!

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Saving all cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 5:02:39 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 5:02:36 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Evans, Catherine  
**Subject:** Fwd: Saving all cetaceans

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** Mar 11, 2017 6:02 PM  
**Subject:** Saving all cetaceans  
**To:** <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Cc:**

I am sending this email because I was appalled by what heard about the Vancouver Aquarium. To ban all cetaceans in your care.

As an animal lover and a supporter of zoos and aquariums I ask that the decision be reconsidered. The whole point of an aquarium is to educate and help those animals in need.

Now I feel that the extremists and activists will win. They don't care about Animals in human care. All they care about is extinction. Slowly but surely they are winning and soon there will be no more animals left. They are the enemy not you but unfortunately you are falling into their trap.

Please save these animals and please save them for future Generations.

Sincerely, s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Science vs aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 10:32:53 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 13, 2017 10:32:47 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Science vs aquarium

Hello

This email is in regards to the Vancouver parks board ruling of mammals in captivity at the Vancouver aquarium. What baffles me, and infuriated me, is that Stewart references science as a double edge sword and mentions the benefits that the aquarium has brought. What is disgusting is that all representatives of the parks board allowed a statement with references to imperial Japan and Nazis. How could you state this in a public forum, you embarrassed yourselves. That is disgusting and insensitive to those who are educated. aside from the ruling, which is asinine and sending mammals back two steps, there is no chance that science has anything to do with Nazis. Science is used by individuals for many things as you stated, like a public vote. You guys should be ashamed of yourselves, and why wasn't this brought to public vote to all of Vancouver and the Fraser Valley since we live in a democratic society. You, as a board, decide the fate of such an important event mimics more off Nazi Germany then your reference to science.

Of note, all of you are mammals, and I hope none of you have put parents or grandparents in homes or assisted-living to better their lives. Ultimately the same thing.

Thanks

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Scientific education and the shortcomings of recent decisions made by the parks board.  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 12:31:50 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 12:31:46 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Scientific education and the shortcomings of recent decisions made by the parks board.

To whom it may concern,

My name is s.22(1) I am currently studying towards my B.Ed. at the University of Victoria and have a background of studying sciences at Thompson Rivers University. I can wholeheartedly declare that the decision your board has recently made to ban the display of cetaceans is an insult to future generations and will degrade the education of young citizens on the topic of marine life, conservation, and animal rescue.

The Vancouver Aquarium is not an amusement facility. It is an educational institution that invites the public in to become educated about the animals within its walls. Those which are marine mammals have been rescued and those which are retained within its facilities are those which cannot be safely returned to the environment. You, however, are treating this facility as some form of amusement park, and eliminating an opportunity not paralleled in our country for the future generations.

I grew up visiting the aquarium frequently, living in the Greater Vancouver area. Every time, I was stunned by the beauty of the creatures shown there. As I grew older, I learned to respect conservation efforts made in the name of animals injured by humans. For instance, animals who are caught erroneously by fishing, who would not have met an end if humans were not present in their lives. As such, the Vancouver Aquarium takes the unique responsibility of trying to repair as many lives destroyed by humans as possible.

Many animals remain mythical to children, even ones that live mere kilometres away from our shores: most children will grow up never seeing a real beluga, a real porpoise, or an otter. Animals that would die if it weren't for the help of professionals at the Vancouver Aquarium. These are lives, intelligent lives, lives that were harmed by humans, lives that humans are trying to repair. Lives that will *end* if these animals are released, and the causes of these deaths will be entirely your responsibility.

As response to this email, I would like to request direct and clear answers to the following questions. Failure to answer these questions will be met with as many attempts as are necessary to call your offices for clarification as you will be failing to respond to concerns.

1. Are you aware that the Vancouver Aquarium does not display cetaceans as amusement attractions, and displays them only for educational purposes?
2. How many marine animals will need to be euthanized as a direct result of your actions?
3. What will act as a stand in for students of the future to connect with these animals are our very real and very present neighbours?
4. Are you aware of policies of the Vancouver Aquarium regarding breeding and that the Vancouver Aquarium does *not* breed animals for financial gain or intentionally unless these practices are being carried out for the resuscitation of a species that is at risk in some way?

As well, I would like you to refute any or all of the following statements. Failure to do so will be interpreted as an inability to provide a reason that your decision was well supported. This information is adapted from another source and is, for the most part, verifiable by the museum's website.

1. The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. It has not done so since 1996.
2. The aquarium is not breeding cetaceans. There has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings.
3. The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.
4. VanAqua is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. The goal is to release the animal after rehabilitation. They do not decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision.
5. Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, the Vancouver Aquarium would have clearly done so many years ago.
6. The Parks Board approved the detailed 3 phase expansion plans. The aquarium will soon launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. This money cannot be spent on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. Why has the Parks Board approved the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once the Vancouver Aquarium has raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility?

Yours sincerely,

s.22(1)

If you wish to contact me through any other means, please request further information.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Shame On You  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 2:36:58 PM  
**Attachments:** [pastedImage.png](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 2:36:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Shame On You

Dear Elected Officials,  
I couldn't be less proud to be a Vancouverite today. I felt like I lived in the most progressive city in Canada. Not now.

It is always disheartening when public policy is based on ideology as opposed to fact. According to the United Nations by the year 2100, more than half of the world's marine species may be on brink of extinction. Yesterday's hasty decision has immobilized important research necessary to conserve vulnerable populations of cetaceans in our oceans by stripping the Vancouver Aquarium of the rare opportunities available to scientists which would be impossible to lead in the wild.

The cetaceans currently receiving world-class care at the Aquarium who contribute to critical ocean research, and foster meaningful human connections will have no other option but to be euthanized. This is the weight that yesterday's decision carries.

Shame on you.

s.22(1)



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**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Sent:** March 6, 2017 2:32 PM  
**To:** john.coupar@vancouver.ca; casey.crawford@vancouver.ca; catherine.evans@vancouver.ca; sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca; stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca; erin.shum@vancouver.ca; michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca; mayorandcouncil@vancouver.ca; gregor.robertson@vancouver.ca; Meighan Makarchuk



**Subject:** Please protect marine science

Dear Elected Officials,

My family and I have been members of the Vancouver Aquarium since we landed here in 2015. As members, we've spent many a rainy, sunny, windy day exploring the Aquarium s.22(1) s.22(1). Seeing the awe in their eyes as they met Chester a False Killer Whale for the first time will never escape me. Staring at Chester eye to eye, waving at him, chasing him along the windows, and laughing at his antics brings them such joy. Chester, and the other species here, have now become a part of our everyday life from dinner time conversations to the singing of baby beluga. My 1 year old points to a photo of a beluga and spouts out a very clear "baby beluga". To know my kids have a relationship with the natural world, and are able to interact and care about species they are not likely to experience in the wild is a pretty magical thing.

Please allow the Aquarium to continue the great work and research that it does, so that the Aquarium is not the only place that my kids will be able to see these animals.

s.22(1)



Thank you,

s.22(1)

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sharing my view of the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:32:14 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:32:10 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor

**Subject:** Sharing my view of the Vancouver Aquarium

While I generally support the removal of whales for entertainment purposes at aquarium based amusement parks I believe there is compelling evidence that the Vancouver Aquarium is not one of these, and deserves exception.

The care of injured or otherwise compromised aquatic mammals that cannot be reintroduced to the wild is not only acceptable, but I think it is an ideal role for the Vancouver Aquarium to play. For these animals to also have an opportunity to be ambassadors for their species in a setting that focuses on education and rehabilitation instead of entertainment is something that the City of Vancouver should support and be proud of, not discourage.

Please reconsider the proposal that would take away the Vancouver Aquarium's ability to do this important work.

With sincere regards from a proud former Vancouver resident of eight years, a frequent visitor back to the city, and an advocate for people to visit and enjoy the Vancouver Aquarium as a unique centre for aquatic research and education.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley park - Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 12:43:55 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 43:51 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Stanley park - Vancouver Aquarium

I absolutely DO NOT support your position. Do proper research and stop being reactionary.

s.22(1)

A large rectangular area of the document has been redacted, appearing as a solid grey block. It is located below the text 's.22(1)' and above the first 'Sent from my iPad' line.

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park and Cetaceans - please do not ban suddenly  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:17:46 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 10:17:42 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Stanley Park and Cetaceans - please do not ban suddenly

Hello,

I know I have no credentials, but I want to say that you need to put the animals' needs first. Imagine if President Trump banned all illegal immigrants, and all immigrants from those Middle Eastern countries, and they were all deported immediately. All their sons and daughters, who would have been born with American citizenship, would be left stranded, with nobody to help!

Banning cetaceans from "public shows for entertainment" is a good move, but banning cetaceans from being kept at the Aquarium for rehabilitation, rescue operations, or research because they cannot survive in the wild is not.

Please re-consider the exact boundaries of a ban policy.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park Bylaw Ban-proposed.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:15:01 PM

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From s.22(1)  
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:14:54 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Stanley Park Bylaw Ban-proposed.

As Parks Board Commissioners, you need to be aware that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I support the rescue efforts of the scientists and team there and their commitment to research and preserve these species in the wild.

I know the Artic research there regarding beluga's is of prime importance as the global warming is impacting the oceans and changing where these creatures venture. Communities who have not had beluga's previously, are seeing them and catching them in subsistence hunting.

Stanley Park has been a BC jewel as a tourist location and research/learning centre. Let's keep it that way!

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park Cetacean Ban Bylaw  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 3:39:23 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 3:39:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Stanley Park Cetacean Ban Bylaw

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I am emailing to voice that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. The Vancouver Aquarium provides rehabilitation services to rescued cetaceans, and does valuable research which benefits the rest of their species. Growing up, I spent many days at the aquarium marveling at the wonders of the ocean, which led to a lifelong passion for the natural world. The Vancouver Aquarium not only provides services which benefit the animals, but it inspires the next generation of scientists. Please do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park Cetacean Ban Bylaw  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 3:39:29 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 20, 2017 3:39:18 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Stanley Park Cetacean Ban Bylaw

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I am emailing to voice that I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. The Vancouver Aquarium provides rehabilitation services to rescued cetaceans, and does valuable research which benefits the rest of their species. Growing up, I spent many days at the aquarium marveling at the wonders of the ocean, which led to a lifelong passion for the natural world. The Vancouver Aquarium not only provides services which benefit the animals, but it inspires the next generation of scientists. Please do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park Cetaceans Ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:12:38 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)

Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:12:34 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Stanley Park Cetaceans Ban

Dear Vancouver Parks Board members,

It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter. After hearing about the ban that will be happening, my heart broke.

I have spent the last twenty-two years of my life going to the Vancouver Aquarium, proud that unlike other aquariums and zoos, the animals there have been rescued.

It breaks my heart that due to lack of education, this ban will ultimately cause the death of several animals.

Did you know that the cetaceans within the Vancouver Aquarium have all been rescued and deemed unable to be released by professionals?

I don't know about you, but I trust the input of scientists and trained professionals over the opinions of activists.

Did you know that if this ban is put in place, many animals will have to be killed due to having nowhere to go?

The Vancouver Aquarium is not a place of animal exploitation, but a place of refuge for many animals that are unable to live out their natural lifespan.

The fact of the matter is, if you and your board cared so much about the wellbeing of these animals, why would you pass a ban that results in their death?

Why would you pass a ban caring so little about the animal lives it would affect? Why would you pass a ban that prohibits the future rehabilitation of animals in need?

Growing up, I have watched Helen live a long and happy life, a dolphin who would have died without the Vancouver Aquarium's loving hearts keeping her happy and healthy.

I admired their ethics to never buy or sell animals that will be used for breeding and entertainment purposes.

I am asking you, to reconsider your decision in an open minded fashion. Do your research, look up the facts and stop listening to protesters who don't know what they are talking about.

[s.22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:36:39 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:36:36 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Stanley Park

Hello Parks Board Commissioners:

I am writing you to tell you that I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I am a Vancouver resident and a mother of two children and I support the Vancouver Aquarium and their research and marine mammal rescue facility. It disappoints me to see you support their expansion plans a few years ago and then change your mind after the money has been raised and banning cetaceans at the facility. I would like to see the Aquarium continue to offer a home for rescued cetaceans and further their research on the Arctic as well.

Please take my opinion into consideration and consider reversing your decision. I don't support it.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:47:00 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 17, 2017 9:46:46 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Stanley Park

Good day. I am strongly against the parks by law that is about to be imposed the bans cetaceans at Stanley Park! Do not impose this by law against an incredible program and the successful work that has gone on in this facility for years. Your actions or shortsighted I will only lead to the death these animals.

Small vocal minority pushing for this need to get their facts straight. It is your job to understand those facts before pushing this pilot through!

Thank you for listening

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:36:39 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 7:36:36 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Stanley Park

Hello Parks Board Commissioners:

I am writing you to tell you that I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I am a Vancouver resident and a mother of two children and I support the Vancouver Aquarium and their research and marine mammal rescue facility. It disappoints me to see you support their expansion plans a few years ago and then change your mind after the money has been raised and banning cetaceans at the facility. I would like to see the Aquarium continue to offer a home for rescued cetaceans and further their research on the Arctic as well.

Please take my opinion into consideration and consider reversing your decision. I don't support it.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Peter Hamilton](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: Stop aquatic circuses and experiments on sentient wildlife!  
**Date:** Sunday, December 11, 2016 6:13:51 PM

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**From:** Peter Hamilton <lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** December 11, 2016 5:18 PM

**To:** john.coupar@vancouver.ca; casey.crawford@vancouver.ca; sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca; erin.shum@vancouver.ca; catherine.evans@vancouver.ca; stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca; michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca

**Cc:** Peter Hamilton; gregor.robertson@vancouver.ca; CLRaffleck@vancouver.ca; CLRball@vancouver.ca; CLRcarr@vancouver.ca; CLRdegenova@vancouver.ca; CLRdeal@vancouver.ca; CLRjang@vancouver.ca; CLRlouie@vancouver.ca; CLRmeggs@vancouver.ca; CLRreimer@vancouver.ca; CLRstevenson@vancouver.ca

**Subject:** Stop aquatic circuses and experiments on sentient wildlife!

Open Letter

To: Vancouver Park Board Commissioners

Cc: Vancouver Mayor and Council

Re: Stop aquatic circuses and experiments on sentient wildlife!

This past week the Vancouver Sun newspaper held a poll asking, "Should the Vancouver Aquarium still keep cetaceans in captivity?" > <http://vancouver.sun.com/news/local-news/poll-should-the-vancouver-aquarium-still-keep-cetaceans-in-captivity> There was an overwhelming response from 95,254 people with 66,813 voting against captivity. The 70% vote against cetacean captivity is a victory for freedom.

In only 2 weeks over 500 people sign the End Cetacean Captivity at Vancouver Aquarium Petition: <https://www.change.org/p/pbcomment-vancouver-ca-end-cetacean-captivity-at-vancouver-aquarium> <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Vancouver-Aquarium-is-SADquarium/125908617473141>

In addition there has been world wide support for the City of Vancouver to finally end the captivity of cetaceans.

At the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting the following motion was past:

**NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

**1. Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium**

Commissioner Kirby-Yung gave notice of motion on the following:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Vancouver Park Board:

- A. Support inclusion of an assent question on the 2018 Municipal Election ballot to determine if Vancouver residents support keeping cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre;
- B. Request the City of Vancouver to add such an assent (plebiscite) question to the 2018 Municipal Election ballot per section 130 of the Vancouver Charter; and
- C. Write to the Vancouver Aquarium asking it consider not bringing cetaceans into the facility until after the results of the 2018 plebiscite are received.

It was also reported that at the December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting:

THAT the Board will go into a meeting on December 12, 2016, which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the Vancouver Charter, to discuss matters related to paragraph(s):

(g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the City or Park Board;

(l) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages ...

**Lifeforce is urging the Vancouver Park Board to:  
Amend the Cetacean Bylaw to Phase Out Cetaceans**

Do not wait until 2018 for a referendum because the Aquarium plans include more pools and more cetaceans in 2017. Then a referendum would be too late with new prisons perpetuating cetacean captivity for decades. Lifeforce is urging the Parks Board and the City to implement a Cetacean Bylaw that will phase out cetacean captivity now!

We hope that the closed meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> will discuss any legal threats by the Vancouver Aquarium that addresses the Cetacean Bylaw. As stated under the Vancouver Charter the Board has complete jurisdiction to implement bylaws that restricts animals in parks. The Vancouver Aquarium has also stated on many occasions that they were the first to agree to the bylaw and no more captures from the wild.

**2. A New Expansion Permit and Public Comment Period**

It was a 2006 Vancouver Aquarium expansion plan that was approved for completion in 2010. This plan was not implemented due to lack of funding. That eight part expansion was the largest in history nearly doubling the size. The 10 year old expansion permit should be cancelled and the Vancouver Aquarium should apply for an updated permit that would allow for a public comment period. Since 2006, new species have been acquired, new species may be imported, and there are new business plans such as aquaculture for the sushi market and operating an aquarium in Spain.

We hope that the closed meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> will discuss the Aquarium facility expansion that was not completed in 2010.

**For Freedom,  
Peter Hamilton  
Lifeforce Foundation**

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stop Park Board Meddling in the Work of the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:40:10 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:39:58 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor; meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Stop Park Board Meddling in the Work of the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

I am sick and tired of the interference of the Park Board in the operations of the Vancouver Aquarium. The Park Board should have no jurisdiction over this vital institution which is of national and international importance. I believe the vast majority of Vancouverites, British Columbians, and Canadians feel that this scientific institution is exemplary in its mission and activities and that the Park Board is allowing itself to be manipulated by a small group of animal rights activists into overstepping its bounds to make decisions that do not represent the wishes of the majority. Indeed, the only reason the Park Board has any influence over the Vancouver Aquarium at all is its current misfortune of occupying land within Stanley Park.

If the Park Board goes forward with restrictions on the Vancouver Aquarium I, as a resident of Vancouver, will take all of your names with me to the polls and vote for your competitors. Enough is enough. It is time that the Vancouver Aquarium be protected from the whims of the Park Board and politics so that it can focus on its good work. I call on the Park Board to cease and desist its interference with the Aquarium and for City Council to create a new model for the Aquarium that shields it from current and future political meddling.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Stop the BAN to display of cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:45:48 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:45:43 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Stop the BAN to display of cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello Parks Board Members,

I am writing to you to implore you to NOT go ahead with the ban to display cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Many years ago when I lived, worked, studied and played in Vancouver, the Aquarium was my favourite place, specifically because of the cetaceans. I was not only a frequent visitor with my family but also a volunteer and an intern as part of my biology studies at Simon Fraser. I spent many an afternoon just sitting by the cetacean pools just watching these great animals and learning about them. This would not have been possible without their presence at the Aquarium. As a volunteer, I facilitated school groups and these animals captured the attention of the children, aroused their curiosity, and inspired a sense of awe which I believe would lead them to want to protect their environment.

The Aquarium has a dedicated and caring staff, a large number of volunteers as well as knowledgeable board of directors. Since 1951, they have shown their commitment to animal care and implemented programs to ensure the animals they look after are given the best possible care. Do not be swayed by a small group of people that I would like to assume are well-intentioned but misinformed. The research and the rescue work that the Aquarium does is too important for it to be stopped by these people.

The work that the Aquarium does is truly inspiring. Please, take the time to talk to the Aquarium staff and find out what they do, how they ensure that the animals they look after are given the best possible care, and how the research they perform has helped us gain a better understanding of these animals.

I moved away from B.C. many years ago now but I continue to follow the work they do. I was saddened by the recent deaths of Aurora and Qila. I was a volunteer at the Aquarium when Qila was born and feel a kinship with these bright creatures. But despite the sadness, I know that the Aquarium staff did all they could for these animals, as they do for all the animals in their care, and it would not be in the best interest of cetaceans to prevent them from continuing their work.

I trust that you will look at all of the information available to you and will recognize the value of continuing the display, care, and research of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.



Thank you for considering my appeal.

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the content of the email body.

This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

[www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SUBJECT: Support - Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:12:23 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:12:17 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** SUBJECT: Support - Cetacean Ban

Hello,

I felt it was necessary, to reach out to express my **support** for your decision, and efforts to amend the current bylaws to ban the captivity of cetaceans in Vancouver.

Certainly many well informed and educated people have weighed in on the subject to inform your decision, however, I have seen a considerable pushback via my social media platforms.

By writing I hope to express that there are people that do support your action, but may not be quite as motivated to write in to say as much.

I'm certain that you are all very busy, therefore a response is not required.

Thanks for your effort in this matter,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: support for ban on cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:25:32 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:25:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** support for ban on cetacean captivity

I am writing to express my support for a ban on the captivity and importation (and breeding) of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. Times have changed, and people are much more aware of how these animals suffer in captivity. No more cetaceans in captivity, please.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: support for ban on cetacean captivity  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:25:33 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 9:25:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** support for ban on cetacean captivity

I am writing to express my support for a ban on the captivity and importation (and breeding) of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. Times have changed, and people are much more aware of how these animals suffer in captivity. No more cetaceans in captivity, please.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Keeping Cetaceans In Stanley Park  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:38:31 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:37:45 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Support for Keeping Cetaceans In Stanley Park

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing to express that I do not support amending the parks control bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Although the capture of healthy, wild cetaceans for public display are unethical, the Vancouver Aquarium, since 1996, no longer participates or condones in the practice. The aquarium, instead, is a marine rescue facility, and only retains rescued cetaceans if they cannot be rehabilitated to the wild. If the aquarium were to remove all their cetaceans, the animals will be without a long-term home. As they cannot survive in the wild, they most likely will be euthanized. Furthermore, the cetaceans kept at the aquarium are a valuable resource for marine biologists to advance knowledge of their species for conservation efforts.

I admire the Vancouver Aquarium's initiative to reduce false perceptions of its cetacean program through its various communication channels. Unfortunately, it seems that their efforts are not enough to change the mind of so-called animal welfare activists.

I have lived in Vancouver for 23 years and regard the facility, and its cetacean educational initiatives, as a positive influence on my decision to pursue an education in science. Currently, I am studying in the United States where I bear witness to the frightening consequences scientific misinformation has on policy decisions regarding the environment. As I hope to return to my home city within the year, I humbly request that the Commissioners strongly consider evidence-based facts when determining whether to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I appreciate any further updates the Park Board can provide regarding this amendment.

Mailing Address:

s.22(1)

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

s.22(1)

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:34:46 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:34:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor

**Subject:** Support for the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

As a fellow scientist, I value and believe in the work being done at the Vancouver Aquarium. It doesn't just seek to understand our oceans, one of Canada's most important assets, but it also seeks to educate future generation, the most important Canadian asset. As Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care, the Vancouver aquarium needs our support and because of this I strongly disagree with your approach to limit their ability to do the important research that they do.

Global warming is threatening many of our ecosystems including the Canada's Arctic, and this in turn is putting many animals, big and small, at a very high risk. We need to understand how all member of this ecosystem work together if we hope to protect them. I believe it is our duty as citizens of this planet to do just that and the Vancouver Aquarium are a very ambassadors to this problem and are doing a lot of important work to protect many wild ecosystems.

Beyond their research endeavours, the Vancouver Aquarium also play a key role as the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 8:21:13 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 8:21:09 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org

**Subject:** Support for the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Elected Officials,

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:06:36 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:06:32 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Support for Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing this in fervent support of Vancouver Aquarium, and urging you to reverse the recent decision you have made regarding the human care of whales and dolphins at Vancouver Aquarium. I believe that your decision was largely based upon the influence of animal rights extremists with a clear anti-aquarium and anti-animal agenda. The fact is, that these animals would die if they were not in the care of Vancouver Aquarium. These animals also serve to educate the public about their wild counterparts, and encourage the public to be mindful to not pollute the oceans. Frankly, I am admittedly baffled that the park board cannot see the benefits of the care Vancouver Aquarium is giving these animals. I know you are all highly intelligent and rational men and women, but yet you seem to have been easily influenced by a group of animal rights extremists out to serve their own selfish agendas. I would hope that sound scientific data from qualified professionals would be more meaningful than the shouts of extremists with a clear anti-animal agenda. With all due respect, you are setting a dangerous precedent that will have a negative impact upon these animals and their counterparts in the wild. It is truly a sad day in our human history when we allow extremists with a harmful agenda to dictate the future of animals rather than qualified scientists with irrefutable scientific data. What you do has the unfortunate consequence of doing irreparable harm to generations of marine mammals. I humbly ask and implore you to search your heart, and ask yourself if you truly want to do that. Please reverse your decision. These animals don't deserve a death sentence. Have we as the human race truly lost all of our compassion?

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for whales in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:50:10 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:50:03 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Support for whales in captivity

Dear Park Board Commissioners

I support keeping whales in captivity. The only way most people will ever see a live whale is in an aquarium. I still remember seeing Skana as a child at the aquarium and how that totally shaped my view about whales. If people can not connect with these magnificent animals they will not support protection measures to ensure they have the proper habitat to succeed in the wild. The biggest danger to our resident Orcas is habitat destruction. With the addition of more tankers transporting oil, I fear we are one accident away from losing the local killer whale pod. The only way to protect them is by building support for habitat protection.

Please remember you are representing this issue for all of BC not just the people of Vancouver.

Sincerely  
s.22(1)

Life long aquarium supporter

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support Vancouver Commissioners and Seaside Sanctuaries Vice Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:21:08 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 29, 2017 3:21:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** PB Commissioners; Vancouver Park Board; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Support Vancouver Commissioners and Seaside Sanctuaries Vice Vancouver Aquarium

Based on the below article I fully support and congratulate you on the decision to close the Vancouver Aquarium and I believe the best option is to re-focus the efforts in creating a seaside sanctuary where marine mammals can be in their natural environment (or as close as they can practically) to either be rehabilitated or for education purposes vice a concrete pool. I believe the article <http://globalnews.ca/news/3331833/vancouver-aquarium-cetacean-ban-could-mean-animals-will-have-to-be-euthanized-dfo/> is a bit of “fear mongering” by DFO or the journalists from Global news (By [Jill Slattery](#) and [Linda Aylesworth](#)) and makes it sound like there are no other options. Strong supporter of your decision to close the Vancouver Aquarium and maybe efforts to establish a marine mammal sanctuary

Well done!

s.22(1)

## Action Alert: Support Vancouver Commissioners and Seaside Sanctuaries!

Mar 27, 2017 | Laura Bridgeman

[f t g](#)

**Topics:** [belugas](#), [Captivity Industry](#), [Sanctuaries](#)

The Vancouver Aquarium suffered a major defeat earlier this month when the Vancouver Park Board, with the support of organizations including the International Marine Mammal Project and thousands of concerned people, voted to ban cetacean captivity and imports. But this major win for belugas is being threatened – and your support at this point is crucial! The aquarium has launched an offensive, asking their members to flood the inboxes of the Park Board commissioners and publishing op-eds that attack the proposed amendment. Because they are the only facility on Canada’s Pacific Coast that can currently take in stranded cetaceans, the aquarium claims that these individuals may have to be euthanized. But a seaside sanctuary is an infinitely better option than the concrete tanks at the Aquarium, and the Whale Sanctuary Project will likely see to it that stranded cetaceans will have a sanctuary to go to after all.

The draft amendment will prevent the display or importation of cetaceans within any Vancouver park – and since the Vancouver Aquarium is situated within Stanley Park, the amendment will apply to their facility. However, the amendment will not have any effect on the Vancouver Aquarium’s rehab center, which is offsite.

The Aquarium currently has beluga whales out on breeding loans with SeaWorld and other facilities, and there is speculation that they want to bring these whales back to replace the mother and daughter who died late last year. But the amendment is designed to prevent them from doing this, as so far the Aquarium has been unable to determine the cause of the [two](#)

[belugas' deaths.](#)

The Park Board commissioners will be holding hearings on the amendment in the middle of May, so the pressure must be kept on so that they hold fast to their anti-captivity commitments.

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: thank you  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:46:25 PM  
**Attachments:** [March 8 Presentation to Park Board.docx](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 10, 2017 4:46:21 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** thank you

Dear Commissioner John Coupar.

I write to thank you for your vote to ban cetacean captivity, and for your insightful questions and comments during the hearings. I have been involved with this issue since 1990. This was the first time that I had the impression that the Commissioners were actually approaching the issue without their minds being made up.

For reference I attach my presentation to the Board . In addition I am enclosing the information I sent to all the Commissioners on March 8, regarding the abbreviated versions of two 2014 video interviews with Dr. Paul Spong and Dr. Naomi Rose. They are both internationally recognised scientists who stand in opposition to cetacean captivity.

I believe that your vote to end cetacean captivity in Stanley Park will resonate around the world. More importantly, if I may say, for the rest of your life you will know that you seized the moment to make a positive difference in the world when the opportunity arose...and that you were at the leading edge of a paradigm shift in human consciousness.

On behalf of my grandchildren and the many citizens of Vancouver who have for so many years been waiting for this moment, thank you.

Warm regards,

s.22(1)



Dear Commissioners,

I wish to bring to your attention two 6 minute long video interviews with two internationally respected marine scientists addressing issues related to cetacean captivity in the Vancouver Aquarium. The interviews were conducted and posted on You Tube in 2014.

One is an interview with Dr. Naomi Rose. Dr. Rose is an internationally known scientist. She did her PhD dissertation on the social dynamics among orcas in Hecate Strait, B.C.. She was a senior scientist with Humane Society International (1993 -

2013) is currently Marine Mammal Scientist at Animal Welfare Institute in Washington, DC.

Please view at : <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=janos+mate&qft=+Filterui%3auserpage-janosjmate&view=detail&mid=426FA6F6FA3E5F29CE48426FA6F6FA3E5F29CE48&FORM=VRDGAR>

The second video is with Dr. Paul Spong. Dr. Spong conducted research at the Vancouver Aquarium on cetacean physiological psychology. He founded the internationally recognised Orca Lab in 1970, on Hanson Island, British Columbia.

Please view at: <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Paul+Spong&view=detail&mid=8F1CCF00DD7A33A550D08F1CCF00DD7A33A550D0&FORM=VIRE>

I hope the opinions of well informed scientist such as Dr. Rose and Dr. Spong will be of assistance to your deliberations regarding the future of cetacean captivity in the city.

Thank you for taking the time to view these videos.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: THANK YOU + AND CONGRATULATIONS!!  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:43:08 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:43:04 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Cc:** Terri Clark; Andy Robinson  
**Subject:** THANK YOU + AND CONGRATULATIONS!!

Dear Park Board Commissioners,

## THANK YOU.

From the bottom of my heart I want to thank you for making a monumental decision last night that will put Vancouver on the map as a city that is leading the way in ethics, environmental issues and animal rights. I was absolutely overcome with emotion this morning when I heard the results of the vote.

I was at the meeting on Wednesday night and was so proud of your thoughtful, pointed and educated questioning of all of the presenters and speakers. Your preparation and concern for this issue was crystal clear and I am very grateful to have been there to bare witness to this most important milestone.

I had signed up to read but was speaker 62 of 65 and had a prior engagement last night that prohibited me from attending the Thursday meeting.

I've pasted below what I was going to say which was prepared before Wednesday's meeting but happens to touch on two points.

1) The commissioners' VERY smart questions about whether the Aquarium had considered alternative ideas for an arctic exhibit based on technology / virtual reality.

2) The rather glib comment made by Dr. Stewart from the American Humane Society that one "cannot love what they doesn't know". I believe I understand the sentiment of his statement in that when one sees an animal up close they can create a deeper connection...I recently spent a week in Northern Thailand volunteering at Elephant Nature Park which rescues and rehabilitates elephants used in logging, tourist rides and circuses. My experience there ignited a connection to those other great sentient creatures that is fierce. BUT to say a child can't fall in love with an orca, elephant or monkey without seeing it in person...I profoundly and strongly disagree with.

So below is my statement. Thank you for reading it. Thank you for voting with your hearts, your minds and your guts.

Make no mistake, the WORLD was watching last night, the history books were written and all 7 of you will be able to reflect on your lives many many years from

now and say you were on the right side of that history.

Gratefully,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature and name of the author.

"In my 35 years on this earth I have been very lucky to have experienced many life changing moments and encounters with some of the most majestic animals and environments on earth.

But when these archaic discussions about the pros of cetaceans in captivity come up, time and time again I think back to that moment as a child where my passion and interest for animals was ignited. That first instance of awe and wonder that you see in a child when they realize the world is full of big and beautiful things just outside their backdoor and in far away places. The image in my memory is of an orca, not at the Vancouver Aquarium, but in the ocean, breaching out of the depths, surrounded by mossy cliffs beyond and blue skies above....and it was narrated by David Attenborough. I distinctly remember sitting cross legged as close as one could get to the television screen in complete and utter amazement of these creatures.

And when I think of that moment I am reminded how technology, however much it can fails us sometimes and keeps us at arm's length from each other, can be a wonderful and inspiring tool to show us things we might never have seen before. It can facilitate a VISCERAL connection between a young child and a majestic ocean inhabitant. It has given us insight into the planet's most beautiful and elusive creatures and in doing so has rendered the **old** ways of Aquariums and Marine Parks completely irrelevant. Technology has allowed us to evolve **BEYOND** captivity. Technology has taught us things about cetaceans we previously did not know. Truths about the **REAL** and **HORRIFYING** consequences of this barbaric entertainment.

We don't need whales and dolphins in captivity to encourage education and wonder in children's hearts. My fondest memories of the Vancouver Aquarium as a child wasn't the Orca show or the underwater Photo Op in front of the beluga whale tank. It was the Eel exhibit that electrified the Charlie Brown Christmas tree and the wondrous world of sea horses!

I want to be very clear....I think the Vancouver Aquarium does GREAT work in animal rehabilitation and with the Oceanwise program and I want to take my future children there to explore and engage with ocean creatures. But I will not do this if the Aquarium is allowed to continue with their current plans. The time for cetaceans in captivity is **OVER**. Technology tells us so, ethics tells us so and the hearts of this



city's citizens are telling us so.

I'm proud to be a Vancouverite. I'm proud to live in a city that aims to be environmentally forward thinking. But make no mistake. This decision would be a HUGE blemish on our city and would tell the world that we are frauds. It would make me profoundly ashamed to live here and ashamed of my community.

We need to be looking forward not back. We need to evolve our thinking beyond what we've previously known to be true to what we now **scientifically** and **ethically** know to be true. That whales and dolphins in captivity is cruel and wrong."

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you and text of your motion?  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 9:06:45 PM

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**From:** Will Anderson  
**Sent:** March 9, 2017 9:06:02 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Thank you and text of your motion?

Thank you for your motion to end beluga captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium. I will be asking IDA supporters to send their thanks over the coming weeks.

I wasn't able to take a screen shot of your motion. When you get a chance, please send me a copy so that I may report accurately.

Regards,  
Will

Will Anderson  
Cetacean & Elephant Campaigns Associate



In Defense of Animals  
(415) 448-0048  
3010 Kerner Boulevard  
San Rafael, CA

<http://www.idausa.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/indefenseofanimals>  
<https://twitter.com/IDAUSA>

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you for speaking up for the whales  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 12:20:57 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: March 9, 2017 12:20:54 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Mackinnon, Stuart  
Subject: Thank you for speaking up for the whales

For decades, the aquarium has included whales in captivity, despite the evidence that the practice was harmful to the animals. I remember my horror at seeing the male orcas with their bent dorsal fins. Aquarium staff told me that it was like a deviated septum in humans and just an anomaly. The next male had the same problem, as the whales swam only counter clockwise in the small pool. The next story was that Hyack was the leader, as he was the oldest male, but when he died, aquarium staff suddenly determined that the female was the leader. Aquarium staff told me that Hyack could not live his last days with his local pod because he didn't speak their language, but had said that all whales adapted their language when Icelandic whales were introduced. So, alternative facts seem to have started decades ago and continue with the aquarium. Please stop having whales in captivity. Research has been done over many years, but the aquarium still does not understand how recent whale deaths happened.

Thank you for protecting whales!  
[s.22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you for standing up for cetaceans!  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:20:59 PM

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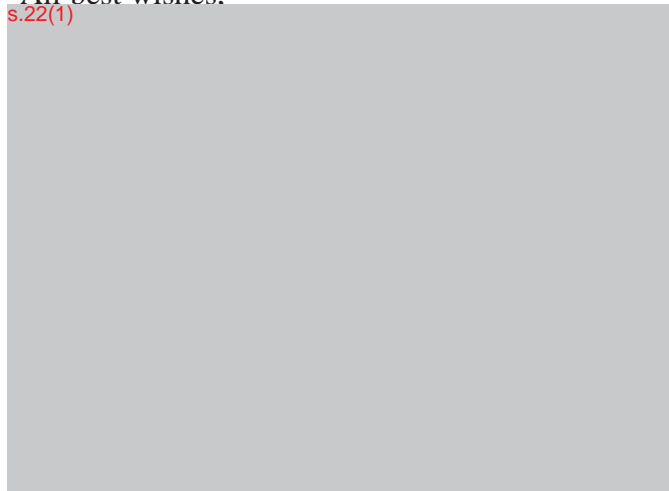
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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 24, 2017 5:20:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Thank you for standing up for cetaceans!

Dear Members of the Vancouver Parks Board,

I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for your efforts on behalf on cetaceans in your recent vote to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display or importation of cetaceans in Vancouver parks. Studies and experience have shown that cetaceans suffer considerably, both physically and psychologically, from confinement and the stresses they undergo in these environments, and your support means that fewer of these amazing creatures will have to endure this suffering merely for the entertainment of humans. Thank you for doing the right thing and setting a strong example for future communities who may be faced with similar proposals, and for being a part of bringing an end to cetacean captivity.

All best wishes.



"While I live and am able to continue, I shall never give up philosophy or stop exhorting you and pointing out the truth to any one of you whom I may meet, saying in my accustomed way: 'Most excellent man, are you who are a citizen of Athens, the greatest of cities and the most famous for wisdom and power, not ashamed to care for the acquisition of wealth and for reputation and honor, when you neither care nor take thought for wisdom and truth and the perfection of your soul?'"

Socrates, Apology (Plato 29d-29e)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank You for the Cetacean Ban at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:45:51 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 18, 2017 5:45:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Thank You for the Cetacean Ban at Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Sirs/Madams,

I support the bylaw banning cetaceans at Stanley Park and just want to thank you for all your work.

As you may know, Shawna Calderwood -- of an unnamed "marine mammal rescue facility" -- is asking the public over social media to email you in protest of the ban: <https://www.facebook.com/mrscalderswood/posts/10155051346213516>

My partner and I are Vancouver residents; s.22(1) he believes even more strongly that it's the scientists (in relevant fields) whose opinions matter in this issue. And the majority, e.g. UVic's whale rescue lab, appear to be in favour of the ban, which is also long overdue.

We hope the bylaw will come into effect without too much hindrance. Thank you again for your hard work.

Best Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you for the cetacean ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 12:44:43 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 12:43:58 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Thank you for the cetacean ban

Dear elected officials,

Thank you for taking the forward thinking steps to put an end to cetacean captivity in Vancouver. I am a marine biologist that grew up loving the oceans and animals they house without the need to see cetaceans in captivity. Other forms of education exist.

I am a marine biologist and I strongly believe that keeping cetaceans in captivity, and breeding them is tantamount to torture. To keep such high functioning mammals in small, enclosed for the duration of their lives, is a cruel practice.

Other aquariums have shown that ending cetacean captivity and educating the public in other ways (such as Monterey Bay Aquarium) is a viable business model.

There is a lot of what looks like fear mongering about euthanasia in the media and from the aquarium now. If that is a very last resort, then maybe that is the course of life. We do it with our pets when we believe that their quality of life is poor enough to warrant euthanasia. But that would be rare, and a last resort. There are very few un-releasable cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. This is likely not to have a major impact. A report by the Vancouver Humane Society and Zoocheck, supported by other papers, showed that there is no conservation value from captive cetaceans.

I implore you to please uphold this ban. Vancouver is a green city and now be are becoming more ethical. Please let us keep it this way, especially in light of the animal cruelty we see from around the world on a daily basis.

Warm regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you for your vote for belugas  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 3:22:57 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 27 March 2017 15:22:52 (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Thank you for your vote for belugas

Hello Commissioners,

This is just a thank-you note to appreciate the decision you made to ban imports and captivity within Vancouver parks. I realize that you must be under a lot of pressure from the aquarium not to interfere with their business - their business of exploiting lives - but I hope you realize how important your decision is to stand by.

So, this heartfelt thank-you is on behalf of myself and all the folks I work with, and the many, many people who know that captivity causes massive suffering for cetaceans. Oh, and it is on behalf of the whales and dolphins too, of course!

Thank you very much.

All the best,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: thank you  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:37:41 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:37:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Cc:** visitorexperience@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** thank you

Dear Elected Officials,

Thank you for taking a stand against the Vancouver Aquarium's intent to continue keeping cetaceans in captivity. I and my family are members of the Aquarium and I have been very offended by their aggressive attempts to garner support from members and the public. I really appreciate and value this council's willingness to stand up for what is right, even though it may be hard, unprofitable, or unpopular. This decision is on the right side of history.

With gratitude,

s.22(1)





**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you.  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:48:48 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:48:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Thank you.

Dear Elected Officials,

Thank you for your stance on Vancouver Aquarium. I am not an activist, as would be insinuated by the Aquarium of anyone opposing them. I am just an interested and concerned citizen.

You are doing the right thing.

s.22(1)

Vancouver resident.

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you.  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:48:49 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 9:48:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Thank you.

Dear Elected Officials,

Thank you for your stance on Vancouver Aquarium. I am not an activist, as would be insinuated by the Aquarium of anyone opposing them. I am just an interested and concerned citizen.

You are doing the right thing.

s.22(1)

Vancouver resident.

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank You  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:13:34 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 16, 2017 11:13:32 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** Thank You

Good day,

My name is s.22(1) I am the ex  
volunteer at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Firstly, I would like to extend a huge thank you for the brave decision you made on March 9th. Change is never easy, setting a precedence is not either.

Although there is now a ban on new cetacean's, there are still 3 remaining. Moving them would likely cause stress and I fear where they could be moved as VanAqua does have a working relationship with SeaWorld. I do believe the most reasonable things to do is allow them to be Grandfathered in, but not to be on display.

I would like to make it clear that I am not a part of any activist group, though I have spoken to the group that was there. They have asked me to join their protests but I don't agree with the tactics I have seen on both sides and I believe in healthy and safe debates. I will however, be returning to the next meeting(s) as this has been something that has concerned me for some time (since my time at VanAqua in 2009).

I would like to extend myself to you if you have further questions, or concerns. Please feel free to email me at any time, or even meet over a coffee (my treat). Whichever you are more comfortable with. I would like to work with you on this.

As I end this email, I would like to end it with a Ghandi quote "*You must be the change you wish to see in the world.*"

Regards,

s.22(1)



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:08:01 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 19, 2017 8:07:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Thank you

Dear Folks,

First off, thank you for all the wonderful work which you and all your colleagues do for all of us citizens of Vancouver.

I have spent all my 65 years here in Vancouver and have watched the development of the aquarium and with my family have enjoyed and learned much about our environment here on the coast, thanks to you all.

I sincerely hope you are able to keep up your work just as you have always done for us.

Good luck and you have my support!

s.22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: thank you  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:52:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [March 8 Presentation to Park Board.docx](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:51:58 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** thank you

Dear Commissioner Michael Wiebe,

I write to thank you for your vote to ban cetacean captivity, and for your insightful questions and comments during the hearings. I have been involved with this issue since 1990. This was the first time that I had the impression that the Commissioners were actually approaching the issue without their minds being made up.

For reference I attach my presentation to the Board . In addition I am enclosing the information I sent to all the Commissioners on March 8, regarding the abbreviated versions of two 2014 video interviews with Dr. Paul Spong and Dr. Naomi Rose. They are both internationally recognised scientists who stand in opposition to cetacean captivity.

I believe that your vote to end cetacean captivity in Stanley Park will resonate around the world. More importantly, if I may say, for the rest of your life you will know that you seized the moment to make a positive difference in the world when the opportunity arose...and that you were at the leading edge of a paradigm shift in human consciousness.

On behalf of my grandchildren and the many citizens of Vancouver who have for so many years been waiting for this moment, thank you.

Warm regards,

s.22(1)

Dear Commissioners,

I wish to bring to your attention two 6 minute long video interviews with two internationally respected marine scientists addressing issues related to cetacean captivity in the Vancouver Aquarium. The interviews were conducted and posted on You Tube in 2014.

One is an interview with Dr. Naomi Rose. Dr. Rose is an internationally known scientist. She did her PhD dissertation on the social dynamics among orcas in Hecate Strait, B.C.. She was a senior scientist with Humane Society International (1993 -

2013) is currently Marine Mammal Scientist at Animal Welfare Institute in Washington, DC.

Please view at : <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=janos+mate&qft=+Filterui%3auserpage-janosjmate&view=detail&mid=426FA6F6FA3E5F29CE48426FA6F6FA3E5F29CE48&FORM=VRDGAR>

The second video is with Dr. Paul Spong. Dr. Spong conducted research at the Vancouver Aquarium on cetacean physiological psychology. He founded the internationally recognised Orca Lab in 1970, on Hanson Island, British Columbia.

Please view at: <http://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Paul+Spong&view=detail&mid=8F1CCF00DD7A33A550D08F1CCF00DD7A33A550D0&FORM=VIRE>

I hope the opinions of well informed scientist such as Dr. Rose and Dr. Spong will be of assistance to your deliberations regarding the future of cetacean captivity in the city.

Thank you for taking the time to view these videos.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Ban of Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium for good  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:13:49 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 7:13:46 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** The Ban of Cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium for good

Hello members of the Park Board,

I am deeply upset that the park board has decided to not let the Vancouver Aquarium rescue and rehabilitate cetaceans. I demand that you amend this bylaw to allow them to continue their world leading practices in the rescue and rehabilitation of these animals in need. Cetaceans who are in need of help deserve a second chance at life and if they are deemed unfit for release, they deserve a home. Not allowing the Vancouver Aquarium rescue and rehabilitate cetaceans is still acting against the rights of the animals. I hope you will reconsider and make an exception for cetaceans in need of rescue and rehabilitation as this is a extremely short sighted decision if you continue without this exception.

Please take time to think of the bigger picture and give these animals a chance at life.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Banning of Whales, Dolphins and Porpoises  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 12:50:46 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 12:50:40 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John  
Cc: Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: The Banning of Whales, Dolphins and Porpoises

To Whom it May Concern,

I am of two minds on this issue, on the one hand I do not believe that intelligent animals like whales, dolphins and porpoises should be exploited by being forced to do shows or forcibly bred to keep the tanks full, However I do believe on the other hand that certain concessions need to be made and addressed. Whales, dolphins or porpoises where it has been determined that there is absolutely no way that they could EVER survive in the wild, such as those with such a grievous injury that to be returned to the wild would be certain death, An example of this is a dolphin named Winter who resides at the Clear Water Aquarium in Florida that had to have her fluke amputated due to damage done from a fishing line and now wears a prosthetic in order to swim, she could never survive in the wild, (she is also the star of A Dolphin's Tale) or those who were too young that they were not able to learn the life skills needed to survive would need somewhere safe to go to live out their life. As it stands right now with an outright ban, it leaves these animals facing only death if they cannot be returned to the wild for whatever reason. I also believe that the whales that have been on loan should be brought back to the aquarium to live out what ever days they have left at the aquarium that they originally came from. I also think that this ban leaves the animals that are already in the aquarium facing an uncertain future and they should be allowed to live out the rest of their days at the Vancouver Aquarium. I know that the Vancouver Aquarium does such an amazing job with conservation and rescuing animals and want them to continue to do what they do best saving lives, even if this means that it is better for the animal to be in the aquarium rather than in the wild, at least they would be alive.

Do I think that major changes to the aquarium need to be made? Yes, I think the aquarium needs to be expanded and the tanks made to be much larger then the facilities they now.

Sincerely,

[s.22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Cetacean Ban Hurts Cetaceans  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:00:49 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:00:44 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** The Cetacean Ban Hurts Cetaceans

Hello,

My name is s.22(1) I live at s.22(1) I have lived in Vancouver for my entire life. The Aquarium has been an essential part of that life. My father took me there often when I was a child. Seeing and learning about the animals there fostered my life long passion to learn and protect animals such as the whales.

The cetacean ban will unequivocally be a negative. The aquarium only houses whales who cannot survive in the wild. Furthermore, the research they provide has saved thousands more lives. And where will they go if they're not at the aquarium? Surely being cared for by staff who love and cherish them is preferable to death.

I am a Vancouverite. I know and believe that the aquarium stands for conservation and the protection of cetaceans. If the parks board is meant to enact the voice of the people it certainly has not enacted mine.

Please do not ignore the science. Please do not doom Daisy the porpoise. Please do not doom Helen the dolphin. Please do not doom Chester the whale. Please reconsider the cetacean ban.

A life long Vancouverite and conservationist,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#); s.22(1) [Mayor and Council Correspondence](#)  
**Cc:** s.22(1)  
**Subject:** Fw: The City of Vancouver/Vancouver Park Board/Vancouver Aquarium's whale jail/Mar 8/9 2017  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 12:25:59 PM

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March 9-2017

To the Vancouver Park Board, Park Board Commissioners, City of Vancouver and Vancouver City Council,

Like the majority in a caring world I'm against the return of any whales to the Vancouver Aquarium period.

Personally I find it difficult to believe that the only way to study so-called declining whale populations in the wild is to lock them up in small spaces for public display. Additionally I've yet to see any VA produced evidence that ocean-going mammals who live in groups cannot be reintroduced and accepted by other extended families. We're not talking about forcing solitary animals like adult bears to live together and play nice.

The whales should be given their right to live free and die with dignity nature's way.

One thing nobody from the VPB, COV, VA, or any media outlet is supplying is the perspective of captive live whales from a First Nations and Inuit point of view.

As a Metis male what I see is a contemptuous zeal from an awful lot of White people at the COV, VPB and the VA lusting to hang on to their Colonial/Racist past by resuming the caging up of an important symbol of Inuit and First Nations history and culture.

The ongoing fear campaign by the VA with newspaper and radio ads is insulting.

Have you ever seen the ceremony that goes on when a beluga or narwhal is harpooned and brought to shore for harvesting?

Lets not forget, it wasn't that long ago that Eskimos were captured and put on display for profiteering. What the COV/VPB and VA are allowing and clearly hoping to continue is nothing less than cultural exploitation given that Whitey makes the rules.

Canada 150 and the COV/VPB crow about the Year of Reconciliation. Not caging whales period would be a powerful message of righting past wrongs.


What do I expect the COV, City Council, the VPB, PB Commissioners and the VA to do, show your true colours of course.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



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[www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.  
[www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Facts  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:23:11 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 11:23:01 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** The Facts

Parks Board Commissioners please do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I feel the small group of activists are acting like closed minded people, who will not look at the whole picture. I agree that marine animals should not be hunted for strictly the display and pleasures of humans but for rescue, that will lead to study and help of the species, is a no brainer. Please review some facts below, as stated in an other article on this subject.

The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium?

- Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

Regards  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:52:47 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:52:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** The Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board,

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2017, you made a unanimous vote to end the display of live cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. One of your main reasons for this verdict was based on public decision; you are doing this in the name of Vancouver and that the public is swinging your vote.

However, I would like to ask you, did you ask all citizens in Vancouver? Or did you solely listen to the small group of protesters trying to boycott the aquarium? I can state for a fact that you did not talk to me; a Vancouverite, a Vancouver Aquarium Member and Volunteer. You did not ask the 470+ staff members and the 1,000+ volunteers. You did not ask the 26,000+ households holding memberships and the 1,000,000+ visitors that came to visit last year. You did not ask the 1300+ children that participated in Aquacamps, the 90+ schools that participated in school programming and the 29,000+ members engaged with the AquaVan. You did not ask the 15+ partnerships with the aquarium and all our generous sponsors. You did not ask for the opinion of those who care for the aquarium and the conservation it provides. Instead, you all allowed yourselves to become victims of bullying from the protestors that repeatedly sent emails and organized petitions to get their way. We don't want the rescue, rehabilitation and release of marine animals to stop. Nor do we want the valuable research we have been conducting to come to an end.

The Vancouver Aquarium is an amazing facility dedicated to the conservation of the ocean and its amazing creatures. By removing cetaceans, it can have a negative effect; both on the animals and the visitors that come through our doors.

The display of cetaceans has transformed the public's view. It has transformed scientific view. It has transformed the way scientists interact. By eliminating the display, it puts the danger of cetaceans of being out of sight and out of mind. The Vancouver Aquarium is one of the world's leading facilities for taking in rescued and injured cetaceans. There is nothing more powerful than watching an animal suffer because of human violence and damage to the environment. If cetaceans are banned, I encourage you to go out and watch the stranded cetacean in need of help die.

By eliminating the display of cetaceans, it would limit the experiences and education

of youth through our education programs. The cetaceans offer an up-close experience to students that they would not be able to do on their own. It gives them the “aha” moment. By banning cetaceans, it would eliminate this privilege.

So, I ask you to please take the time and take all opinions into consideration before making decisions on behalf of the City of Vancouver.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

#ISupportVanAqua

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: The whales need our protection - Do not shut down the Aquarium's cetacean program  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 12:07:06 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 12:07:01 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** The whales need our protection - Do not shut down the Aquarium's cetacean program

Dear Parks Board Officials,

The whales need our protection. We must not abandon them in this way after so much important work has been done to make the public aware of their plight and save them.

Please do not interfere with the excellent work being done by the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. They have been doing amazing work and have raised the awareness of the endangerment of marine mammals. People are now much more aware of issues regarding net tangled marine life, the effect of death of or separation from parents and purposeful damage through shooting of marine mammals. These animals need MORE protection, not to have their rescuers prevented from helping them. Please review the facts with a critically attuned attitude. I think you will agree that MMR and the Vancouver Aquarium are doing far more good than harm.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: UBC Dr. Andrew Trites Should Apologize to Scientists Sitting in Boats  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:54:02 PM

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**From:** Gary Charbonneau  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 3:53:58 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** mrobinson@postmedia.com; PB Commissioners; Vancouver Park Board; Coupar, John; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Crawford, Casey; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mackinnon, Stuart; Evans, Catherine; a.trites@oceans.ubc.ca; Bob Mackin, Jr.  
**Subject:** UBC Dr. Andrew Trites Should Apologize to Scientists Sitting in Boats

In a Vancouver Sun article today, Dr. Trites commented "it's simply impossible to learn everything about cetaceans by sitting in a boat and looking at them in the ocean."

Here are some facts for Dr. Trites.

Scientists will follow wild belugas and shoot a specialized dart, without interference or pain, to capture a small portion of blubber. That blubber will disclose an abundant amount of information from pollution, health, fertility and much more. Captivity cannot provide this information on wild belugas.

Furthermore, by observing belugas in the wild, scientist can compare pods, birth and survival rates, migration and monitor behaviour. None of this can be done by captivity.

From a boat, scientists are utilizing drones to fly over wild belugas while dragging a hydrophone obtaining invaluable communication between belugas in their natural habitat.

With a plethora of research from the wild, what has the Vancouver Aquarium produced from captivity? According to the Sun, "They have only done one study and published one paper on its belugas."

Dr. Trites should apologize to those revered scientists playing a pivotal role in conserving belugas by sitting in their boats.



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Van Aqua  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:32:19 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:32:17 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Van Aqua

To Whom it May Concern- Vancouver Parks Board:

The decision of the VPB in regard to the Vancouver Aquarium and its cetacean program shares much with the poorly considered efforts of PETA when they lobbied the US government to close what they described as equine "slaughter houses." They were successful in having them closed. The result? The same number of unwanted horses faced brutal, thousands of miles long journeys to be shipped to Canada and to Mexico where there were still rendering plants. Their efforts did not reduced the number of unwanted horses or bring legal consequences to the indiscriminate breeders- it only increased suffering of the animals. Upon further refection, within a few years, the rendering plants were re-opened.

The Vancouver Aquarium is not Sea World- their cetaceans are not being bred and sold or taught party tricks to please the public (their education is about having the animals demonstrate natural behaviours when instructed to allow for examinations and medications). Do some in critical thinking and research into what the benefits of Van Aqua has been to wild populations, to providing a home to animals that cannot be released. Think about the next porpoise or whale that is ill or stranded- it will have to be euthanized- not rehabilitated and released or given a safe haven in which it can live out its life. Look carefully at their actual policies and procedures- not what you "think they are" or what clearly biased but painfully misinformed lobbyists are telling the public. Look at what this proposal is going to do to limit Van Aqua's ability to support cetaceans in crisis. I implore you to reconsider this proposal.

Regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 6:46:50 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 6:46:47 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and may not live in Vancouver but I live in British Columbia. Vancouver is not British Columbia!

Do not take this wonderful program that is helping our oceans, planet and beautiful province away !!

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium - Response required.  
**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 9:52:46 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 9:52:41 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium - Response required.

Hello Commissioners,

I am going to try this again, as I did not receive a single response from any of you after my first e-mail. Which was disappointing to say the least.

I grew up in the Rocky Mountains, but came to Vancouver once a year to visit my grandparents. My parents can attest to the fact that even from a young age, when asked what I wanted to do while here, the Vancouver Aquarium was the one and only thing on my list.

I still actually have a stuffed Orca from the early 80s, as it was my prized possession after a visit. I was actually probably one of the only kids living in the mountains that grew up in an Orca themed bedroom. I can honestly say that my love of the ocean and ocean life is a direct correlation from my Vancouver Aquarium visits as a toddler onwards.

Growing up and after the deaths of my grandparents, my visit to Vancouver became less frequent, but still the Aquarium remained at the top of my "to do" list when I did come to the city. I supported their efforts so much, that even though I did not live in Vancouver and actually still lived 6 hours away, my dad (who also lives in the Rockies and still does) and I both became yearly members in 2008.

Upon moving to the city in 2010, I kept my membership renewed and became a proud volunteer at the aquarium and at the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre last year.

I also am a student working on a Bachelor of Science and have plans to pursue a Masters in Zoology - once again all inspired by the work of the Vancouver Aquarium.

From being a visitor, to a member, to a volunteer, I do not have enough good things to say about the work the aquarium does. The animal care is BY FAR some one the best in the world and the passion shown by all staff is above and beyond what most people realise.

It is frustrating to me that this issue of the Vancouver Aquarium is even coming forward. How the Parks Board can let itself be bullied into these sorts of debates blows my mind. It also shows a lack of understanding as to what the aquarium actually does, and it saddens me that elected officials have pre-conceived notions and are not listening to leaders in the industry, such as scientists, veterinarians and the DFO.

Let's remember that the Aquarium is a place of science and is a respected leader in the industry. People holding megaphones, that are using the documentary of Blackfish as a basis for their arguments is laughable. Yes, in certain parts of the world, cetacean care is not up to par, but that is not the case here. The work the aquarium is doing can not be done at other facilities as they do not hold the species that we do - for example Daisy the Harbour porpoise helping the save the Vaquita (<http://www.metronews.ca/news/vancouver/2017/01/20/vancouver-aquarium-tries-to-save-endangered-porpoise.html>. )

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### Vancouver Aquarium involved in last-ditch effort to save ...

[www.metronews.ca](http://www.metronews.ca)

Research collected at the Vancouver Aquarium could play a pivotal role in a last-ditch international attempt to save the most endangered marine mammals on earth.

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The aquarium has already said and made a pledge to not do wild capture (which is very important and something that I stand behind) and have said that the planned returning belugas will not breed. I for one, am in complete favour of the belugas being returned to us. The research being done is important for the survival of their species in the St. Lawrence estuary and I would rather see these individual animals here and in our care for them to live out their days. I feel that without there being belugas in Vancouver, no child on the West Coast would actually know or care about them as a species or about the arctic and the waters that they call home. It would be out of sight out of mind.

Having facilities like the aquarium available is important when it comes to the care of Rescue animals as well. If not for the aquarium what would have happened to Chester? Left to die on a beach? He is another example of us having a unique opportunity to learn about a relatively unknown species. If an animal is rescued, the intention is for it to always be returned to the wild, but in some cases that just can not happen. So what will the options be if there is no local facility that can home them? After all the hours spend rescuing and rehabilitating, that animal would have to be euthanized in

front of all of the staff and volunteers that worked so hard to save it and get it healthy? Or would a stranded cetacean be automatically euthanized on a beach, so it would never even have the chance to potentially be released back into the wild should it meet the standards set by the DFO for release?

People can use that arguments that with 3D and 4D it will connect people just as well to these animals. I disagree. When you stand there and witness their power and are able to look into their eyes and connect personally with these smart and dynamic animals, it is completely different than seeing them on a screen.

I know that I could go on and on, but I do know you are getting many, many e-mails.

In closing, I am going to plead with you to do what is right - yes the shift about any animal in captivity is changing, and rightly so, but let's do what's best for the ones that still are living in human care or that have been injured by irresponsible human activity, by giving them the best homes possible (as they no longer possess skills to survive in the wild. And let's continue to let the Scientists and Veterinarians at the Vancouver Aquarium to continue the important work they do to better the lives of these animals and their wild counterparts by being able to learn what they can from these in human care animals, while we still have them and are able to do so.

There will come a time where there will be no captive animals, but right now there still is and Vancouver is the best home possible for them.

I trust the words of the Scientists, people that have dedicated their lives to their studies and show true passion and care for these animals over anyone that can press play on Netflix and watch Blackfish and then hold a megaphone on a side walk.

Please take a moment to look past the yelling and the screaming of the "activists" and listen to the educated people that have dedicated their lives to these animals. No one enters the field of working with cetaceans with an end goal of working at a circus with animals performing tricks. They dedicate their schooling because they have a true love and passion for these animals and they want to do what they can to help them in the wild, some of which is definitely learned by being able to interact with them while in human care.

Thank you for taking the time to read this, and I truly hope that you are able to do something to protect the cetaceans of Vancouver - Helen, Chester and Daisy, as well as our belugas in other facilities, as well as all cetaceans that need help on the West Coast.

In closing, in case it wasn't obvious, I support Vancouver Aquarium and hope that you are able to reverse the decision you so poorly made as a board, and do what is right. Prove that you do not cave into bullies, because what happened at that last meeting was exactly that, bullying. You as a board let it go on. The "activists" bullied anyone that supported the aquarium and I was shocked at the lack of leadership by the chair that allowed the heckling to go on.

I was at aquarium meetings when the past board brought up the aquarium, and any amount of heckling was stopped immediately by the chair and if it continued, he would have had the hecklers escorted out by rangers. He made sure the dialogue was respectful - something that did not happen this time, and you all should be ashamed and embarrassed by what went on.

Please do the right thing - we know that animals being in human care is changing, but don't make an automatic death sentence for rescued animals that need help on our coast.

I once again ask for a response, to prove that you are listening to all voices, because it sure seems as though you caved to the bullies (many of which, are not tax payers or voters in the City of Vancouver), and turned your backs on science and education, how sad.

Kind regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 22, 2017 2:50:29 PM

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From s.22(1)

Sent: Wednesday, March 22, 2017 2:50:24 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
Subject: Vancouver aquarium

To whom it may concern,  
We need to help protect our oceans' wildlife, and that means taking care of those that can't survive in the wild. Please take moment to think of Chester and other marine mammals just like him.

Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 3:44:10 PM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 3:44:07 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Vancouver aquarium

Hello,

I am writing to indicate that I do not support the bylaw that bans cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Although understanding the concerns other residents may have, the Vancouver Aquarium is a sanctuary for rescued animals to go that cannot survive in the wild. The other options those animals face are dying in the wild or being euthanized. Neither option helps to educate the public on who these animals are and what they are capable of. The Vancouver aquarium places pride in their research and the opportunities they have to teach the public, rehabilitate injured animals and protect them from human activity.

They have proved time and time again that they set and follow strict guidelines for themselves to follow as well as following those set out for them by the public.

Many Thanks,  
s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium ban cetacean captivity and imports  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:36:43 PM

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**From:** Lorraine Garnier  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 9:36:36 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium ban cetacean captivity and imports

Aloha Oe!

As a citizen in Hawaii, who is in the middle of legislation to phase out captivity and end breeding at the three marine entertainment parks here, I commend you whole-heartedly for your immense efforts to ban cetacean captivity and importing any mammals back into the aquarium.

Our team here at the Ceta Coalition of Hawaii support your efforts and stand with you each day in your steps forward.

sincerely,

Lorraine  
Lorraine Garnier  
808-375-0248

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:23:12 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 11:23:09 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium ban

Hello,

I am writing to let you know I disagree with the motion to outright ban cetaceans from Stanley Park, and believe this decision was based on pressures from a small, vocal group, that might have good intentions, but is misinformed.

I too consider myself an activist for animal rights, and if the Vancouver Aquarium was run like a SeaWorld I would agree with this ban. However, the aquarium is a research, rescue, and education centre. They banned capturing or accepting animals from the wild over 20 years ago, and will only keep rescued cetaceans if they are deemed unreleasable by the government. I agree that some of the tanks are too small, but the aquarium had plans that were approved to expand these tanks. Furthermore, the science and research conducted by the aquarium team is so, so critical in a world where science and facts are being minimized and overlooked in decision making around the world (this ban being an example). The aquarium's education and outreach efforts are equally as important, to raise our future scientists and to inspire protection for our coasts and oceans.

I don't need an email response, but please know there are many others like me that are in disbelief that the misguided emotions of a few have compromised the world-class facility that Vancouver should be so proud to claim as its own. I hope you reconsider.

Thank you.

s.22(1)





**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium ban  
**Date:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 5:44:06 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 23, 2017 5:44:03 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Re: Vancouver Aquarium ban

Good afternoon,

I am sure you have heard from many citizens since the decision to ban cetaceans from Stanley Park, but it is important to hear from all of us. I wholeheartedly disagree with the motion to outright ban cetaceans from Stanley Park, and believe this decision was based on pressures from a small, vocal group, that might have good intentions, but is misinformed.

I too consider myself an activist for animal rights, and if the Vancouver Aquarium was run like a SeaWorld I would agree with this ban. However, the aquarium is a research, rescue, and education centre. They banned capturing or accepting animals from the wild over 20 years ago, and will only keep rescued cetaceans if they are deemed unreleasable by the government. I agree that some of the tanks are too small, but the aquarium had plans that were approved to expand these tanks. Furthermore, the science and research conducted by the aquarium team is so, so critical in a world where science and facts are being minimized and overlooked in decision making around the world (this ban being an example). The aquarium's education and outreach efforts are equally as important, to raise our future scientists and to inspire protection for our coasts and oceans.

Please know there are many others like me that are in disbelief that the misguided emotions of a few have compromised a world-class facility that Vancouver should be so proud to claim as its own. I hope you reconsider.

Thank you.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Beluga Display  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 7:05:31 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 7, 2017 7:05:28 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Beluga Display

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am unable to attend the upcoming Park Board Meeting discussing the Vancouver Aquarium's new beluga exhibit, so I am writing this email to express my concerns in lieu of attending. I understand that you are busy so I will keep my comments as brief as possible.

In recent years, the captivity of cetaceans has increasingly become questioned amongst both scientists and the general public, with world-renowned animal researchers such as Jane Goodall speaking out against it. Science and experience tell us that these animals are intelligent, sentient, social beings whose needs cannot be fully met in a tank environment, no matter how dedicated and concerned the team that takes care of them.

Building a new beluga tank for the purpose of 10 years of scientific research is not in the best interest of the animals. Belugas are known to form social bonds and the belugas that the Aquarium currently has on loan will presumably constitute the pool from which belugas will be selected for the new exhibit. This move means that most of these animals, which were already once removed from their companions in Vancouver (and from those caught in the wild, from their native pods), will once again be removed from the social bonds that they have formed and the environment they have become accustomed to. They will be shipped back to Vancouver, by ground or by air, and will have to acclimate to their new tank and companions for a third time, all of which are distressing experiences for the animal.

Additionally, the virus that is assumed to have been responsible for the deaths of belugas Aurora and Qila has not been concretely identified; this issue poses a risk for any future belugas at the aquarium (as well as current cetaceans) as it is not known whether this virus entered the enclosure through the water, food, or came into contact with the belugas by some other means.

The recent deaths of belugas Aurora and Qila provide the aquarium the perfect opportunity to phase out their captive cetacean program and adapt their business model to better reflect changing public values. The existing beluga tank can be used to provide a larger environment for some of the other animal residents, such as the harbour porpoise Daisy.

The proposed 20 million dollars that it would cost to build the new beluga exhibit could instead be used for feasible alternatives that could benefit not only wild beluga populations but other sea life. For example, the Aquarium could conduct research on wild beluga populations, partner with aquariums that have belugas on display, or create a new conservation program as they have already done with the successful Ocean Wise Program. Conservation programs such as these are becoming increasingly necessary as we are faced with increasing pollution, overfishing, global warming and, with the recent plans to increase oil exportation, higher risks of oil spills, all of which affect marine life, an example of which is the concerning decline of the already endangered Southern Resident killer whale population.

For the above reasons, I oppose the Vancouver Aquarium's plan to build a new beluga exhibit and bring more belugas to Vancouver.

Thank you for your time in reading this email,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Beluga Research - Please Help  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:09:55 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 8, 2017 8:09:51 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Beluga Research - Please Help

Dear Mr. Coupar,

I am aware that your job is demanding and that your time is limited, so I shall make this brief.

As an 18-year-old former citizen of England, I had never seen any creature more enchanting than a badger until I met Aurora and Qila, beluga whales of the Vancouver Aquarium. I hope that future generations will have such a privilege. As a Gallery Educator, I am often asked by aquarium visitors, "Where could I go to see wild belugas?". I hope never to have to answer, "Nowhere. They went extinct some time ago."

The research that the Vancouver Aquarium proposes to conduct is imperative to keeping these exotic, enchanting creatures in our oceans. And I don't just say that as a supporter of Van Aqua, but also as an 18-year-old Englishwoman, who paints animals to find peace, and who wishes for you to help keep us humans marveling, researching, learning, and helping our beloved planet.

My most sincere thanks for your time and understanding. Please enjoy the rest of your week!

Yours faithfully,  
s.22(1)

Gallery Educating Volunteer

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Bylaw  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:12:17 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 12:12:07 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Bylaw

To whom it may concern,

As a Vancouver resident, I am proud of the work that the Vancouver Aquarium does for wild sea life. The ban display of cetaceans can severely impact how the park functions in the future. Where are the existing cetaceans going to go? Being the only cetacean rescue in Canada, where would future animals be kept for rehabilitation, or in the case of an unreleasable animal, do we just euthanize it because it can no longer lead a fruitful life in the wild? How is this going to effect research?

I believe science, ethical science, is important. In this matter, it is much more important to listen to scientists' opinion on the matter instead of clueless laypeople, and I have seen overwhelming evidence of scientists mourning the possibly loss of such a facility.

Please to not pass the ban on cetacean display at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you for your time,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium cetacean ban - wording  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:10:25 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 6:10:22 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium cetacean ban - wording

Hello Vancouver Parks Board members,

While I do not live in Vancouver itself, I reside in Greater Vancouver and wish to convey my concerns that the ban on cetaceans in general will not allow the Vancouver Aquarium to continue the rescue and rehabilitation work that is currently underway and so vital to support populations of cetaceans outside the borders of the aquarium.

I agree that obtaining new cetaceans from the wild strictly for entertainment purposes should be banned. However, by making rescue and rehabilitation efforts public in a setting such as the aquarium, we raise awareness of environmental issues that affect these creatures, as well as obtain ongoing financial support for the aquarium to continue these particular efforts. People need to see rescue work in action to feel compelled to take what action they can on their own.

I urge you to consider the wording of the action that you are able to take, knowing that the vote has already occurred. The aquarium's efforts in rescue and rehabilitation are similar to that of the SPCA, OWL Rehabilitation Centre, etc. There are numerous animal and wildlife welfare agencies that aim to give abandoned and injured animals a good quality of life and with hopes of returning these animals to their natural habitat when at all possible. Please do not create a blanket action that limits the good that can be done by this company.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:12:36 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:12:32 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** ohn.coupar@vancouver.ca; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Ban

Good Day,

I am writing to protest the incredibly ignorant and short-sighted decision made recently regarding cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium. By folding to pressure from hippy groups you have signed a death warrant for the cetaceans currently living at the aquarium and all future rescue cetaceans. Euthanasia will be the only option left as a result of this ruling.

Vancouver residents absolutely want cetaceans at the aquarium. I am one of them and I now have a list of names to vote against whenever possible. The Vancouver Aquarium is not Seaworld. It is not a circus. The cetaceans who live there do so because they can't be released into the wild and they perform for a few minutes a day, at most. If you have never been, its an educational performance and gives them a chance to play. The Vancouver Aquarium is an educational, research, and rescue facility. This latest ruling is an attack on that, one that is unwarranted and unwelcome.

In summation, this ruling is wrong, ignorant, and an assault on research and education, which will lead to the immediate deaths of the cetaceans at the Aquarium as well as the euthanization of future rescues. As a Vancouver resident and voter I am strongly against it.

Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Captivity To Be Stopped!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 1:39:52 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 25, 2017 1:39:48 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar.John@vancouver.ca; Crawford.Casey@vancouver.ca; Evans.Catherine@vancouver.ca; Coupar, John; Kirby-Yung.Sarah@vancouver.ca; mackinnon.stuart@vancouver.ca; shum.erin@vancouver.ca; wiebe.michael@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Captivity To Be Stopped!

Hi,

PLEASE protect the Cetacean! Support for this vital amendment must continue in order for it to survive on May 15th, 2017. Please do the right thing!!!!

Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Cetaceans ban  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 9:34:30 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 9:34:26 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Cetaceans ban

My name is s.22(1) and I have heard of how Vancouver parks board had decided to ban Cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium. However, I am against this ban because the language used to describe a cetacean is very vague. Also, because it is a vast term, it can potentially cause more damage than good. Vancouver Aquarium "is the only place in Canada that has the capability of responding to a live stranded cetacean, bring them into a facility, and successful rehabilitate those animals".

If there was a ban in place, then all of the injured cetaceans will have to be re-released into the wild and they would have not survived in the wild or would be euthanized. Also, the Vancouver Aquarium does not make the decision on whether or not they can release the cetacean back into the wild. This is made by federal government authorities.

I would like the Vancouver parks board to re-consider this ban. I agree that cetaceans shouldn't be kept in aquariums for profit. However, if the cetacean has been determined by federal government authorities, surely they deserve to be taken care by Vancouver Aquarium where they can continue to live.

Thanks,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Decision  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:38:37 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:38:33 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Decision

Dear Erin,

I am a supporter of Vancouver Aquarium and IMATA and I am a zookeeper in Arizona of the United States. The decision regarding the 'ban of cetaceans' at the Vancouver Aquarium is the wrong choice for a number of reasons: 1) Vancouver Aquarium as I know is apart of a important research program with cetacean bioacoustics, beluga conservation, social structures, porpoise behavior, etc. 2) The Vancouver Aquarium is an important leader in marine mammal rescue, rehabilitation, and release. Not to forget they are the ONLY facility in Canada that has a wide range high class rescue center and research facility specifically for marine mammals. 3) The Vancouver Aquarium was recently vandalized when its belugas died of mysterious antibody like poisons that were put into the pool filtration, and a similar incident occurred at their rescue facility prior to this one with rescued harbor seals. 4) The animal rights activists only arguments against marine mammals in captivity is that 'they are unhappy', 'forced to perform by starving for food', or 'trained to be clowns in front of the public'. These accusations ARE NOT TRUE. You and I both know these animals which are ALL rescues, are ambassadors for their species. They are not forced to perform through starvation, if they were they wouldn't even want to interact with their trainers because the relationship would be horrible. The Aquarium keeps them as stimulated as possible while educating the public about these animals. The animal rights activists don't of coarse know this because THEY DON'T WORK WITH THESE ANIMALS. These people don't know what's best for these animals due to their lack of education and experience, unlike the Aquarium's staff who is highly educated and experienced. 5) Please do not base your decision off of a biased accusation; it's unfair, and not appropriate. I know these places are important because in the wild, animals are mistreated and many are going extinct. In a zoo or aquarium, people can learn things they did not know and can have a appreciation and better understanding for these animals. I know that because I experience it first hand where I work. Please reconsider this decision and let Vancouver Aquarium continue to prosper and do what they do best, protect the wild world by touching the heart to teach the mind. Thank you.

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPad

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium decision  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:49:11 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 9:49:04 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium decision

Hello,

On behalf of my entire family, s. 22(1), we wanted make you aware of our disapproval of the recent decision regarding the Vancouver Aquarium. It is a **rehabilitative** facility, not a showcasing facility. They do not capture for the sake of capturing, but rather they **rescue** and **save** those who would not survive in the open ocean. We all urge you to gather the correct information because the Vancouver Aquarium is NOT Seaworld.

I know you are making this decision on half of the citizens of Vancouver, but there is a lot of misinformation out there. People are swayed by the "Blackfish" documentary and immediately jump to conclusions.

I want you to consider this: If your loved family member was sick and in a near-death situation, would you do nothing about it? Would you deprive them of medical care? If you *knew* there was a way to help, how could you live with yourself knowing you're letting the animals die right in front of your eyes??

As a 19 year-old living in Vancouver, I can tell you that our generation is strongly disappointed in the Park Board. Vancouver is known for being an extremely well-rounded, high-end and environmentally-friendly city, but disregarding our marine mammal population is depressing, unacceptable, and also shameful.

My family lives at s.22(1)

Regards,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Decision  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:48:59 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 1:48:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Decision

Hello, I am a Vancouverite who thinks that what you have decided on regarding the future of cetaceans in captivity is absolutely wrong. The activists you have heard from are more emotionally motivated rather than scientifically motivated. I have done my own research on the issue found myself with the conclusion that whales do thrive in human care. The animals you see at the Vancouver Aquarium were all rescued and rehabilitated animals that were deemed non-releasable by an appropriate government authority. They cannot survive out in the wild, nor can they be moved to another facility other than the one in Stanley Park.

The Marine Mammal Rescue Centre also will have to euthanize any cetacean that is deemed non-releasable by the government and hasn't been found a proper home. The belugas on loan to other facilities in the United States were also moved with the intention of bringing them back for education and conservation initiatives. Not to mention that they inspire numerous visitors to care for the natural world.

I urge you to please overturn your planned ban for the well-being of all whales and dolphins like Chester the False Killer Whale that washes up on the B.C.'s coastline without a home and a family to be released to. I am not being paid by the Vancouver Aquarium or its partners to send you this, but rather a Vancouverite that is concerned for the welfare of cetaceans both in human care and out in the wild.

Thank you.

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium decision  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 11:02:54 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 11:02:50 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium decision

Hi,

I am very disappointed in the decision by the park board to draft the by-law amendment that bans cetaceans at the Aquarium forever. There needs to be exceptions added to allow for animals who cannot be released to still find sanctuary at Vancouver Aquarium. I spent many of my high school years volunteering in their Marine Mammal Rescue centre and can tell you only in dire cases were they to remain at the Aquarium. Cases where they would otherwise die in the wild. I saw so many rehabilitated and released it is an incredible program that you have chosen to bring a complete halt to (I believe to appease public outcry with a lack of evidentiary support and due to inflammatory documentaries about other facilities that bear no resemblance to the Vancouver Aquarium). The animals who need somewhere safe and on the cutting edge of marine mammal research and rescue as well as programs such as ocean wise and others to enhance sustainability in fishing and other businesses deserve better than certain death because people think it "looks better". Some animals need sanctuary. Please consider adding exceptions to this new by-law at the very least.

A concerned citizen,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:59:17 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:59:11 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** joh.coupar@vancouver.ca; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; "michael.wiebe\"@vancouver.ca  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park

Greetings Parks Board Commissioners:

We would like it to be noted that we do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park, Aquarium.

Our grandchildren always get excited that they will experience a close encounter with these beautiful creatures when they visit us from Quebec. They were devastated when we told them about the proposed bylaw and asked us to write and tell you, *"please, please, let them stay. They seem so happy too."* We have numerous overseas family and friends that visit us and always ask to go to the Aquarium so it would be sad if this was no longer a possibility.

Yours sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:19:50 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:19:45 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Marine Science Centre

Hello,

In advance of special Park Board meetings this week, I am writing to urge you to consult experts in the care and research of cetaceans when making decisions about the future of Vancouver's Marine Science Centre. While I fully support the right of citizens to voice their opinion, in this instance, the voice of a few animal rights activists seems to be steering the conversation around the Marine Science Centre's practices. At a time when marine mammals and their habitats are experiencing unprecedented pressure from the effects of human activities, it is important to support basic research on the physiology and behaviour of marine mammals - something that is costly and extremely difficult in the wild - so that we can understand and predict the effects of development on these species, before it is too late.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

Vancouver resident

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium- pls let it do its life's work  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:18:04 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:18:01 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine  
Subject: Vancouver Aquarium- pls let it do its life's work

Dear Councillors,

My children and I have been members of the Vancouver Aquarium for many years. It is because of its fantastic teaching and research approach that my children are both interested in 'saving the environment', that they know what a False Killer Whale is, that they understand that these animals are rescued and would not survive in the wild.

We are worried sick as to what the fate will be for Chester, should this motion be passed. Where will he go, who will take care of him? Will he simply be put down. How can the Rescue side of their organization do their job? No more help? Only euthanize?

The Vancouver Aquarium does 'good works'. Truly. Please let it continue helping and researching our waters.

Please back science.

Thank you,

[s.22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium protects Marine Science and is an important part of Vancouver  
**Date:** Thursday, March 30, 2017 3:08:13 PM

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From: s.22(1)

Sent: Thursday, March 30, 2017 3:07:59 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: Vancouver Aquarium protects Marine Science and is an important part of Vancouver

Dear Elected Officials,

I think your recent decision regarding the Vancouver Aquarium is short sighted and perhaps a knee jerk reaction to a vocal minority. The Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our nation calls on for emergent rescues. It is also a very important part of our community.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium Supporter  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:58:00 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2017 10:57:57 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Supporter

Dear Elected Officials,

I am writing to convey my disappointment and bewilderment at your decision to end cetacean displays at the Vancouver Aquarium. Know that your decision was not supported by science, and that it does not represent a large proportion of the opinions of those of us who live and work in the Greater Vancouver Area.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium to be used for Rescue purposes  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:56:58 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 9:56:55 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium to be used for Rescue purposes

Hello,

I am a concerned citizen who lives out in Surrey.

I was initially very supportive of the fact that the Parks board decided not to continue to have whales in captivity.

However, what I did not read was that you were going to open it up for Rescue And Rehabilitation for all marine mammals

Many aquariums around the world have gone this route and I would be so disappointed to hear that Vancouver was going to turn its back on all the injured Marine Mammals.

Please reconsider this action.

thank you

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver aquarium whales  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 10:27:01 AM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2017 10:26:58 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John  
Cc: Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Vancouver aquarium whales

Good morning,

I am currently a biology student at Simon Fraser University and a future marine biologist, and I am thoroughly disgusted with this planned by-law.

How dare you.

How dare you decide that it would be perfectly acceptable to euthanasia an injured whale or dolphin, simply because there was no place to keep it (there was, but you do seem to be doing your best to change that). How dare you decide that "Dead is better than fed." How does that make sense? When applied to humans, it's morally wrong, and yet now you're saying that it's perfectly acceptable?

I should mention that I don't like the thought of whales in captivity--these are large animals, and need far more room than we can give them--but I realise that there's a reason for it (and it isn't profit). The whales are there to show just how wondrous these creatures are, and to inspire people (like they did for me, and countless others) to want to protect them, to want to study and learn all that we can.

The few whales in captivity are there to help the hundreds living out in the wild.

It seems to me that if a whale is found, injured and suffering (more often than not due to humans), and is deemed not releasable (which means that releasing it would be akin to killing it) then perhaps having it live at the aquarium, where it can show how incredible these animals are, seems wise.

Ecologically smart. Humane, even.

So ban breeding programs if you must, because growing up in captivity is never ideal. But let the non releasable ones stay. Let them show why we must protect the wild whales.

And finally, if you do go ahead and ban rehabilitated whales from the aquarium, you're going to have to stop pretending that you're reasons for this are anything but political gain.

Thank you for your time,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:32:10 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 28 March 2017 11:32:05 (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Thank you for making the right decision to end captivity in Vancouver!  
Please stay the course and do not be intimidated by those who profit from the suffering of these cetaceans.

Thank you so much for your understanding of the science, your reason, judgement and compassion.

~ Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:48:22 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:48:12 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board and Elected Officials,

Thank you for the work you do on our behalf and the beautiful parks and facilities we have access to in Vancouver, however I feel the need to stand up and say that I wholeheartedly DO NOT support the ban to display cetaceans at our Aquarium.

Public education is half the battle in saving our wildlife - who is not moved learning about and seeing a non-releasable creature that has been saved and is thriving?; these creatures are ambassadors for their kind. The smallest percentage are in captivity to allow the largest percentage to survive in the wild. How else can we move forward in nature protection without having access to those creatures we are trying to help? How else do we counter the damage that we as human beings do...?

Further, this ban could set a precedent and threaten other rehab centers/conservation organisations if an uninformed 'group' takes offence to something they do. I personally volunteer with an animal rehabber in BC, I am on call 24/7 and travel all around the Lower Mainland rescuing injured animals. This gives me a real-life and first-hand understanding of the importance of these organisations. The work they do in rescue, rehab, release and education is admirable as well as essential to the well-being of these creatures, their future survival and learning how their presence benefits us.

Lastly, to my mind this ban does not fit with your mission statement ***“Provide, preserve and advocate for parks and recreation to benefit all people, communities and the environment.”***

The work the Aquarium does in rehab, conservation, education and environmental issues is humane and vital. It is a world leader and a national treasure, and should be treated as such.

I am a resident of Vancouver; my family supports the Aquarium and asks you to reconsider the ban.

Thank you for your time,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:44:49 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 5:44:14 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board,

I am grievously disappointed to learn of your recent decision to ban cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. VanAqua is a world class scientific facility with passionate, highly specialized humans on staff who tend to prioritize the well-being of the animals in their care more than they do their own selves. To bar their ability to care for cetaceans at this facility is to harm whales, scientific advancement, the knowledge and awareness of the general public about local marine creatures and issues, and so many valuable, knowledgeable, and highly skilled scientists who have dedicated their lives to working towards healthier, happier, and more sustainable lives for all the creatures in the ocean. The future of both our human and cetacean populations will suffer from this ignorant and harmful decision. I urge you to reconsider the ban and allow the Vancouver Aquarium to continue their important work with cetaceans.

Yours sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 12:30:07 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** March 8, 2017 12:30:03 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Hello Park Board Commissioners,

I know many of you may know me from the s.22(1) but today I am writing you as a defender of the Vancouver Aquarium.

I grew up in the Rocky Mountains, but came to Vancouver once a year to visit my grandparents. My parents can attest to the fact that even from a young age, when asked what I wanted to do while here, the Aquarium was the one and only thing on my list.

I still actually have a stuffed Orca from the early 80s, as it was my prized possession after a visit. I was actually probably one of the only kids living in the mountains that grew up in an Orca themed bedroom. I can honestly say that my love of the ocean and ocean life is a direct correlation from my Vancouver Aquarium visits as a toddler onwards.

Growing up and after the deaths of my grandparents, my visit to Vancouver became less frequent, but still the Aquarium remained at the top of my "to do" list when I did come to the city. I supported their efforts so much, that even though I did not live in Vancouver and actually still lived 6 hours away, my dad (who also lives in the Rockies) and I both became yearly members in 2008.

Upon moving to the city, I kept my membership renewed and became a proud volunteer at the aquarium and at the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre last year.

I also am a student working on a Bachelor of Science and have plans to pursue a Masters in Zoology - once again all inspired by the work of the Vancouver Aquarium.

From being a visitor, to a member, to a volunteer, I do not have enough good things to say about the work the aquarium does. The animal care is BY FAR some one the best in the world and the passion shown by all staff is above and beyond what most people realise.

It is frustrating to me that this issue of the Vancouver Aquarium is even coming forward.



How the Parks Board can let itself be bullied into these sorts of debates blows my mind.

Let's remember that the Aquarium is a place of science and is a respected leader in the industry. People holding megaphones, that are using the documentary of Blackfish as a basis for their arguments is laughable. Yes, in certain parts of the world, cetacean care is not up to par, but that is not the case here. The work the aquarium is doing can not be done at other facilities as they do not hold the species that we do - for example Daisy the Harbour porpoise helping to save the Vaquita.

The aquarium has already said and made a pledge to not do wild capture (which is very important and something that I stand behind) and have said that the returning belugas will not breed. I for one, am in complete favour of the belugas being returned to us. The research being done is important for the survival of their species in the St. Lawrence estuary and I would rather see these individual animals here and in our care for them to live out their days.

Having facilities like the aquarium available is important when it comes to the care of Rescue animals as well. If not for the aquarium what would have happened to Chester? Left to die on a beach? He is another example of us having a unique opportunity to learn about a relatively unknown species.

People can use that arguments that with 3D and 4D it will connect people just as well to these animals. I disagree. When you stand there and witness their power and are able to look into their eyes and connect personally with these smart and dynamic animals, it is completely different than seeing them on a screen.

I know that I could go on and on, but I do know you are getting many, many e-mails.

In closing, I am going to plead with you, the commissioners, to do what is right - yes the shift about any animal in captivity is changing, and rightly so, but let's do what's best for the ones that still are by giving them the best homes possible (as they no longer possess skills to survive in the wild), and let's continue the Scientists at the Vancouver Aquarium to continue the important work they do to better the lives of these animals wild counterparts by being able to learn what they have from these captive animals, while we still have them and are able to do so. There will come a time where there will be no captive animals, but right now there still is and Vancouver is the best home possible for them.

I trust the words of the Scientists, people that have dedicated their lives to their studies and show true passion and care for these animals over anyone that can press play on Netflix and watch Blackfish and then hold a megaphone on a sidewalk.

I look forward to responses from you to prove that you are listening to the voices of the residents of the City of Vancouver and aren't just dismissing opinions that may differ from your own.

Kind regards,

s.22(1)

A large grey rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:40:34 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 10:40:20 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; stuart.mckinnon@vancouver.ca; Shum, Erin  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

I would like to voice my opinion that I do NOT agree with the possible decision being made by you the Vancouver Parks Board to keep cetaceans out of the Vancouver Aquarium. I as a Vancouver resident value what the researchers their do and STRONGLY believe it betters the lives of wild cetaceans.

The mammals being kept at the Aquarium are NOT able to live in the wild and getting rid of this program will only guarantee that these animals be euthanized as well as future animals not able live in the wild.

I urge you all to reconsider your decision made as the vast majority of the voting Vancouverites do NOT agree with it.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:11:39 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 10:11:16 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

To whom it may concern -

I am writing to request that the decision of Park Board be re-considered, and put to a city-wide referendum. The Vancouver Aquarium provides an essential educational experience for local and international visitors. In addition the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre is an invaluable resource for research, and respected worldwide for the high quality care provided.

I grew up in Vancouver and visited the Aquarium many times as a child. I became a youth volunteer during secondary school, and continued to volunteer during my undergraduate degree at UBC. This exposure to top quality research and education inspired my career in health care, and I am now a physician with the Fraser Health Authority.

The brief debate at the Parks Board did not truly represent both sides of the issue, and did not provide an adequate representation of the valuable work done at the Aquarium. This issue deserves a thorough debate, and the input of all stakeholders.

Thank you,

s.22(1)



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**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, March 12, 2017 4:05:32 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Sunday, March 12, 2017 4:05:27 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Councillors,

I write to you today to express how disappointed I am in all of you. I am especially disappointed in Mr. Coupar, Ms. Crawford, Ms. Kirby-Yung, and Mr. Shum. When I voted for you in 2014 it was to take care of the parks for the citizens of Vancouver not out morals. I remember how hard it was to figure out where each of you stood on the issue of the Vancouver Aquarium. Not one of you said you were going to attempt to prevent the aquarium from displaying whales and dolphins. Who granted you the authority to make such a high handed decision? As representatives of the citizens of this great city your responsibility is to take care of the parks not to interfere in the running of a beloved institution which happens to lease land from the city. You have all been led astray by a small, vocal minority who do not represent the will of the people. If you go ahead with your plans to enact a by-law to prevent cetaceans from being displayed in Stanley Park, I can guarantee that not one of you will be getting my vote in 2018 and that I will campaign to make sure that whom ever does get elected removes any such by-law.

[s.22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:03:19 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 8:03:06 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Shum, Erin; Coupar, John; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Hi there,

I live in Victoria, BC and am currently on my way to obtaining my degree in Marine Biology. I would just like to say that I don't agree with a bylaw banning cetaceans if that means the aquariums research and rehabilitation work is effected. The aquarium does a lot of work with marine mammals to rehabilitate them and release them, but there's always going to be animals who simply cannot be released. I care what happens to those animals. I don't want them to be euthanized and I don't want them to be sent elsewhere just so we aren't "breaking any rules". The aquarium does everything they can to make sure animals get a second chance. Not to mention, this is the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada.

Please consider the effects the bylaw would make on future marine mammals.

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my concerns.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:00:37 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 5:00:30 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Hello there,

I am a resident of Surrey, B.C and I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. I believe that the Vancouver Aquarium is a place that is doing good work and is respectable in their practices. The animals that they have care for are there for a reason and need the help and rehabilitation that the Aquarium has to offer.

Please consider that your decisions affect many more than just those in Vancouver and at the Aquarium. Others will follow your example, even if it is the wrong one.

Thank you for your time,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 8:32:38 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 11, 2017 8:32:35 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Stuart McKinnon,

I am writing this letter after the recent airing of the opinions you so generously bestowed upon us, the public, about your stance on rescuing and keeping rescued cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium in Stanley Park.

I believe it would be a real mistake to not only jeopardize the animals contained there, but to put an end to all the hard work done by the employees and volunteers that work at this facility. I for one, am an animal lover. I do not eat meat and I do not believe in the exploitation of animals. However, not allowing this facility to continue to rescue these animals is ignorant and needs to be reconsidered.

I would ask one thing of you. To go yourself, and volunteer at the Vancouver Aquarium. Get a real insight into what you are trying to destroy before taking any further action. At least you will find out that the 100 million was specifically fund raised for habitat restoration and so can not be used to build another facility as you suggested.

Thank you for your time. I will be waiting to see how this unfolds.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:44:54 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 1:44:49 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Hi everyone,

Though I am not a Vancouver resident, my family and I have traveled many times to Vancouver, with the aquarium being the number one visit spot on our list. Our children have learned so much, even at very young ages, about the animals of the ocean.

I do not support the by-law to ban cetaceans in the Vancouver Aquarium.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:51:17 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:51:13 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

I do not agree with your decision to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park. These animals are being rescued, not captured, and without the help of the scientists at the Aquarium, they would surely die. Please reconsider your decision.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:43:53 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 9:43:48 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Hello Vancouver Park Board Member

First of all, thank you very much for your service to the city! We are lucky to have a city that values parks and outdoor activities!

I would like to let you know about my concern and disappointment in the recent decision to remove all cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. I have been reading up on the Vancouver Aquarium and came across this post on social media and it echoes my thoughts exactly. It is well thought out and well written so I am copying it here. Please know that what follows is exactly what I've been thinking and feeling since this decision was made...

"Here are the facts:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!
- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.
- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!
- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!
- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be

used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. Can't we make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for? Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.
- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium?
- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of."

Thank you for taking the time to read my email. I have two questions to wrap up... 1. The first is to ask you to re-consider your decision. Especially given all the good that Vancouver Aquarium does for these rescue animals, their commitment to no breeding and rescued only animals as well as their plan to expand.

2. The second is to answer the public's question about what happens to the cetaceans now. Where will they go? Can you guarantee that they are going to a better home than the one Vancouver Aquarium provides (and will provide once the expansion happens?). My fear is that we aren't thinking about what is truly best for the animals, but only thinking short term (please don't mistake my comment I do care greatly for these animals that is why I truly believe that they are in the best hands at Vancouver Aquarium and am worried about their future).

Again, thank you for taking the time to read my email.

Sent from [Outlook](#)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:02:18 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 17, 2017 8:02:15 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Last week the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium).

If the below facts are true, then i would like my name noted as against this ban. Meaning, keep rescued animals, unable to live and survive in the wild, in a safe aquarium in vancouver.

THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996.
- Vancouver Aquarium is not breeding cetaceans. The Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029.
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result.
- Van Aquarium runs Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Their goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation.
- Vancouver Aquarium doesn't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision.
- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc.
- The Parks Board approved a detailed 3 phase expansion plans. Van Aqu. is about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands the outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site.

Why did the Parks Board approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

Can you answer this question... as to what led to a change?

Can you tell me more about the reasons if it informs me further on the matter, please (and than you)?

IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. Is this true? where to ? euthanized? as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park?

Without a place such as the Vancouver Aquarium, where would an endangered whale go? could they be euthanized rather than rescued?

Parks Board Commissioners, I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park if they would die in their natural habitat (release) or they will be euthanized. And if they could live a life naturally and painlessly in the aquarium.

Thank You.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 6:01:22 PM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 6:01:20 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Vancouver Aquarium

Hello,

I want to start by saying how disappointed I am with the parks board decision.

The aquarium does remarkable work. Where will these animals go? How can they rescue injured animals? The aquarium will cease to exist.

They protect the animals who are being harmed by humans. They started the sustainable seafood program, they run the great shoreline cleanup.

They're in the process of phase 2 at the aquarium. Money that you guys allows them for these phases. Did you give in to bullying by these "activists"? Listen to science and the people who are in this field. They know what's best for those beautiful animals. Go to the facility and watch what they do. You're ultimately making them suffer by taking away what Vancouver can do.

A small group of people against this doesn't speak for Vancouver, they don't speak for me. I stand behind the Vancouver Aquarium. 100%. Nothing will change that. I, however, would greatly lose my respect for the Vancouver Parks Board for allowing this to take place. Absolutely awful.

[s.22\(1\)](#)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:59:03 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:59:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

To The Vancouver Parks Board,

My name is s.22(1) and I grew up in North Vancouver, but moved away for 12 years and then came back to North Vancouver with my family 5 years ago. I spent many childhood years growing up at Stanley Park at the time of the Stanley Park Zoo and the Aquarium. I'm very sad to hear what you are putting the Vancouver Aquarium through. I'm sure you know the kind of education the Vancouver Aquarium provides to adults and to youth on a daily basis. I've been a member of the Vancouver Aquarium for the last 5 years, my two children like to go to the Aquarium as much as possible but when they heard about what the Parks Board was doing they were very upset and angry.

My 11 year old daughter has spent her last three birthdays raising money for the Sea Animals at the Aquarium and it would be really sad to have that all go away. The first year the money went to the Marine Mammal Rescue Center where she met Walter (Sea Otter) for the first time and he stole her heart, so the next year on her birthday she donated money specifically to the Aquarium for Walter (Sea Otter) \$250.00 and she then raised \$300.00 for Chester (the False Killer Whale). All these times she thought about doing this on her own, to help the animals that can't make it on their own in the wild, and she doesn't understand why this would have to change and why the Parks Board is being like this.

My kids have also been going to the Aquarium Camps every summer to learn all the great things about the Sea Life, here and in other places around the World. My daughter has decided to become a Marine Biologist and the Aquarium is the reason for that, it is great place to learn and to study. If you take this away you will be taking away a lot of ways for people to learn about the Whales and Dolphins. We need the Aquarium for the animals that can't go back into the Wild. You have to realize that they just won't survive in the Ocean on their own and what would you have them do if they can't be released back in the Wild, would you kill them? The Aquarium isn't doing this to make a profit, I remember the days of the Killer Whale and Beluga Whale Shows at the Aquarium they had the Whales do tricks. it isn't like that anymore and you know it! The trainers and the staff are there teaching people about the conditions of the Arctic and what is happening to them in the wild.

People are saying that Vancouver is becoming a boring place to visit and it's because people like you are taking away the things that attract the visitors to Vancouver. If your bylaw goes through do you really think people will still visit your Park. I'm sure the Park took a big hit years ago when you closed the Zoo instead of spending money to make it a better place, The Children's Petting Zoo was a great place when I was growing up as well, but you closed that area as well. I don't understand why you are closing things down instead of embarrassing it and helping it along, the Aquarium as I mentioned earlier is a great learning environment and if you take away the Dolphins and the Whales you are taking a huge learning aspect away for the Vancouver Aquarium. It will be a very sad day in my family and lots of other families if you take these animals away from the Aquarium.

Please don't change the Bylaw to what you are asking for, you have no idea what you are doing to the children that want to learn!

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

Vancouver Aquarium Member and Supporter

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:47:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 1:47:17 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Cc:** [sunletters@vancouver.sun.com](mailto:sunletters@vancouver.sun.com)  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I have just been told by my daughter-in-law and grandchildren that you are ending the cetaceans program at the Vancouver Aquarium and am deeply shocked and disappointed. I am a Vancouver born and raised citizen who first learned a love for all our fellow creatures of the ocean from visits as a child to the Vancouver Aquarium. This was a major motivator for my passion for the ocean, why I got my diving ticket and why I spent 3 years sailing the oceans of the world. My grandchildren now share this love to the point that my 13 year old grandson wants to be a marine biologist and has applied as a volunteer at the Vancouver Aquarium.

Please do not let people that are uninformed about the good that the Vancouver Aquarium does, the kindness they use with the rescue animals in their care and the science that has done nothing but help our ocean neighbours. These people do not understand that without this safe environment these rescue animals would be sent to aquariums where "entertainment" is the goal or they would be euthanized. Please do not base your decision on the uninformed masses – teach them what the Vancouver Aquarium does rather than bow to ignorance.

Please reconsider for the sake of future generations who should learn to love and respect the sea and all its residents and for the sake of all these creatures that need a safe and humane home.

Sincere regards,

s.22(1)



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**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:55:56 AM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 8:51:48 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; casey.crawford@vanocuver.ca; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

I do Not agree with the decisions you the Park Board have made with the regard to The Vancouver Aquarium. That facility does so much Good work on behalf of our oceans with their research and Rescue and to cut off that work because of 'loud mouthed activists' is very disturbing.

My children and grandchildren have enjoyed learning about these magnificent creatures.

Because of the aquarium's teaching they are so respectful and knowledgeable of wildlife and our beaches.

If you are supposed to represent us the Vancouver voters, you do not represent me and I will be sure to never vote for any of you again!

s.22(1)



[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPad](#)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium, Stanley Park Vancouver BC  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:34:52 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 21, 2017 11:34:48 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium, Stanley Park Vancouver BC

It was with great frustration and dismay that I read the decision of your vote to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park and therefore Vancouver Aquarium. I am livid that science is being overshadowed by misinformation from people whose only aim in life is to remove all living creatures from the human environment.

The aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. Vancouver Aquarium was the first in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild twenty one years ago, in 1996. If you have been told otherwise, it is not an 'alternative fact' it is a blatant lie.

Vancouver Aquarium, no longer breeds cetaceans, they are kept in same gender groups to avoid all possible opportunities. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the Beluga Research Program would remain non-breeding until it's completion in 2029. Those that are telling you that we breed animals for entertainment or profit are lying to you.

Vancouver Aquarium runs the only marine animal rescue facility in Canada. The goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. The decision whether the animal is releasable is made by the Federal Governments Department of Fisheries, not the Aquarium. They share the same opinion as you, these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life. But some cannot be returned as their injuries would mean certain death, they get a second chance also, they remain safe and cared for and become ambassadors for the kind, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans, while there is still time.

The alternatives do not make sense, death is not an option. Future rescues could not happen, so would die. I don't believe that ALL Vancouver residents want rescue efforts to stop or to end the valuable research that has the potential to preserve these species in the wild.

Please reconsider your decision.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 4:06:50 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 8, 2017 4:06:47 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** Re: Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Vancouver Parks Board,

I write to you as a resident of Vancouver. I am not a member of the Vancouver Aquarium, nor do I believe that zoos and aquariums deserve a free pass in continuing to have animals on public display simply because it is what they have always done. But the Vancouver Aquarium is more than just a tourist attraction. It is an invaluable research facility which uses these animals to help connect visitors with the importance of conservation efforts.

It is easy to be caught up in an emotional response to the death of the two beluga whales this past year. It is harder to quantify the awareness that they brought to the Aquarium's many visitors about the issues facing Canada's Arctic species. Visitors who, for the most part, would never have otherwise had the chance to see a beluga in person.

Those who favor banning all cetaceans in captivity argue that there are plenty of other ways to learn about our oceans and the animals that live in them. But the reality is that many of these do not create the same connection as seeing such an animal in person, while others (such as whale watching tours) are out of financial reach for many, and do not come without their own risks to the greater populations of these species - look no further than the death of the resident killer whale known as J24 late last year, who died of complications due to blunt force trauma.

The reality is that having cetaceans visible to the public and an active part of programming is a large part of what allows the Vancouver Aquarium to continue the important research it conducts to protect these populations. According to their Annual Report, the Museum of Vancouver welcomed 71,612 visitors in 2015. Vancouver Aquarium welcomed more than 15 times that (1,116,075, according to their 2015 Annual Report). People come to the Aquarium to see the animals, and in the process they support research, learn more about these animals, and are provided with a call to action to improve the chances for these species to survive and to thrive.

You do not have to agree with the general concept of animals in captivity. But please recognize that the cetaceans who live at the Vancouver Aquarium are animals who



were rescued, rehabilitated, deemed non-releasable by separate, government organization, and in coming to the Vancouver Aquarium now contribute to much-needed research and education. These animals cannot be returned to their natural habitat. By removing them from public view, all that you are doing is removing their opportunity to continue to educate and inspire visitors.

Voting to hold a plebiscite may be the option that makes the public happy, but it does so at the risk of endangering the Aquarium's ability to continue its research and public education efforts simply to stifle the loudest (and often least informed) of voices, those who believe whole-heartedly in their cause but who are unable to see the bigger picture as a result. I hope that you will consider this big picture as you move toward making a decision. The City of Vancouver prides itself as a green city, and there is nothing green about reducing opportunities to protect our ocean life.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

A grey rectangular box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 2:28:43 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 8, 2017 2:28:37 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Dear John Coupar

I am writing to you to express my concerns regarding the continued use of captured and/or bred whales at the Vancouver Aquarium.

The Vancouver Aquarium, along with a few other outliers such as Marine World and Marine Land, is one of the few aquariums that continue to hold and show large marine mammals, and to participate in the global trade of these animals with other marine parks. While it claims that cetaceans are kept for the purposes of research or rehabilitation, the fact of the matter is that the Aquarium uses whales and other marine mammals for the purposes of entertainment. The importance of profit-motive becomes evident in the Aquarium's consistent warning that any limitations to its ability to keep whales is a threat to the Aquarium's existence. This, of course, is ill-founded, as the success of the Monterey Bay Aquarium, attests.

Given that the Vancouver Aquarium enjoys special status on public park land, it is your responsibility that the Aquarium abide by the educated concerns of citizens and marine biologists. Please push back on the fear-mongering of the Aquarium (it will thrive without whales!) and urge them to become part of the enlightened present, where it is no longer tolerable to treat animals as commodified objects for display.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this matter.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:27:02 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 11:26:20 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

To whom it may concern,

In regards to banning the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver aquarium I wish to share my opinion as a permanent Vancouver resident.

I was born in 1993 and have lived in this city all my life. I grew up learning how to care for my local oceans through my father, a B.C. Coast Pilot, and the Vancouver Aquarium. I am also s.22(1) an 'Ocean Wise' participant and we are known for our sustainable seafood. I wish to share with you a few facts below:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!

- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!

- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

#### IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

Thank you very much for taking the time to read this. I hope that my opinion as a long time Vancouverite will help take one small step in the direction of science and furthering our research to protect these beautiful creatures.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:32:14 AM

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**From** s.22(1) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:32:10 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Vancouver Park Board; PB Commissioners; Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Thank you for doing the right thing and banning cetacean captivity and imports from the Vancouver Aquarium! Please continue your fight against the aquarium -- all cetaceans deserve to live in freedom!

s.22(1) [REDACTED]

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:33:41 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:31:42 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

I do NOT support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and the Aquarium. I believe the Aquarium should continue to be used to house and care for rescued animals as it currently does.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 12:36:39 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 13, 2017 12:36:35 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Cc:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium

Hello -

As one who makes it a point to always visit the Aquarium every time I come to Vancouver, I would like for you to provide me with scientific evidence (titles of peer-reviewed publications will do) that you used to make your recent decision to unconditionally prohibit the keeping of small cetaceans anywhere in the city of Vancouver so that I may form an fair opinion on this issue. Thank you.

Yours truly,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium: STOP THE CRUELTY  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:12:13 AM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: March 08, 2017 8:11:48 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
Subject: Vancouver Aquarium: STOP THE CRUELTY

Dear Elected Officials

The time has come to shut down the capture, breeding, display and CRUELTY of all cetaceans under the guise of education and conservation.

The 'education' argument that advocates of the aquarium use is outrageous. My grandchildren learn more about cetaceans in one hour watching a nature program on television, than they would learn spending a week at the aquarium. The conservation argument is equally false. What does having cetaceans living in prison-like pens have to do with their conservation.

Do not fall for the aquarium's lobbying efforts and arguments....tantamount to propaganda.

I urge you all to do the RIGHT THING, deny the aquarium their demands.

If you were to put this issue to plebiscite, you would easily see where the thoughts of the public are.

s.22(1)





**From:** [Crawford, Casey](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: vancouver aquarium/beluga whales  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 9:15:51 PM

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From: s.22(1)  
Sent: 017 9:15:48 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John  
Cc: Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Crawford, Casey  
Subject: Re: vancouver aquarium/beluga whales

Park Board Commissioners  
Vancouver Park Board

Dear Commissioners,

For your bold, progressive and enlightened decision tonight - THANK-YOU!

Yours Truly,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Aquarium/Stanley Park bylaw  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:13:28 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 7:13:23 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium/Stanley Park bylaw

Good morning,

I know you are going to be flooded with emails regarding the recent bylaw that bans cetaceans, some support and some oppose this decision. I am in the camp of NON SUPPORT on this matter. I agree that breeding animals like this in captivity is wrong and should be banned - but a full on ban just seems ridiculous. The Vancouver Aquarium and it's marine rescue centre does everything in their power to rehabilitate animals and release them back into the wild, but for some animals (cetaceans or otherwise) cannot be re-released back into their natural habitat due to injury, abandonment, or otherwise without the outcome being death as they cannot survive on their own. Not all aquariums are SeaWorld. Not all Aquatic research facilities are the "big bad" everyone seems to be "woke" to. I understand that your heart is in the right place but this bylaw is just wrong. It condemns cetaceans that cannot be rehabilitated to probable death as there are not a lot of facilities like The Vancouver Aquarium out there in the world. It will halt so much research and progress into understanding the life of these amazing animals. This bylaw causes more harm than good and you know it. I get that technically since I do not live in your riding or "Vancouver proper" that this might fall on deaf ears but I am emailing anyway. Why? Because I have volunteered with the Vancouver Aquarium, I have a membership to the aquarium. and I support Vancouver Aquarium and their Marine science research. Do not halt science because you are afraid of what a vocal minority says. Do not punish Vancouver Aquarium because of misinformation and a tragedy that ended in the lives of two whales - remember the Aquarium and their research team was crushed when they lost them. Please reconsider this bylaw. Please support Ocean science in all its glory.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

and avid supported of the Vancouver Aquarium

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Cetacean Ban  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:50:15 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 4:50:10 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vancouver Cetacean Ban

Hello,

My name is s.22(1) and I am a resident of Vancouver. I am writing to ask you to reconsider your recent motion to ban cetaceans from the Vancouver Aquarium. While I agree that no cetacean should every be captured from the wild to be put on display (a practice that the Vancouver Aquarium does not partake in), there are many circumstances in which it is acceptable to keep cetaceans in a facility such as the Vancouver Aquarium.

The Vancouver Aquarium does incredibly valuable work as a cetacean (and other marine mammal) rescue and rehabilitation facility. Their goal in the case of any rescued cetacean is to rehabilitate the animal, but there are many situations where releasing the animal back into the wild would be a death sentence. For instance, if the animals were rescued at a very young age, they would not have learned the necessary hunting skills to be able to feed themselves. Or, the animal may have been so injured that it is unable to hunt or defend itself.

Additionally, the research that is done on these rescued animals is very valuable for scientists. They can learn a lot about cetacean behaviour and biology by studying the rescued animals in captivity, and can then apply that knowledge to preservation efforts for wild populations.

I strongly urge you to reconsider this legislation. While I believe that the intent of this legislation is to protect cetaceans, I also believe that preventing the Vancouver Aquarium from doing the work that it does will end up doing more harm than good.

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Shum, Erin](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Cetaceans are Important to me.  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 6:19:37 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 6:18:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver Cetaceans are Important to me.

Good evening,

I grew up in an era where Orcas were viewed at Stanley park, where baby whales died due to what I believe to be lack of knowledge at how care for born in captivity animals.

Years later, it would seem that much has been learned from those early days where now, a baby false killer whale can be rescued from starvation in the wild, and brought back to health by the caring team working out of facilities at Stanley Park.

I support 100% the continued use of Stanley park for rescuing, saving, displaying and hopefully releasing cetaceans to the wild. In the event an animal such as the dolphin with no flippers who can not be returned to the Ocean from which she came, I am in favour of the Vancouver Aquarium providing long term accommodations to any and all cetaceans that come through the rescue centre.

I am frustrated that to this point the future of the Vancouver Aquarium is limited to the opinions of a few outspoken individuals against captivity of animals. I am also appalled that the decision is solely up to residences of Vancouver proper as the Vancouver Aquarium is supported by many individuals lying just outside the lower mainland and around BC.

I live in Squamish,

I support the Vancouver Aquarium,

I am in favour of the Marine rescue centre having cetaceans on display and providing long term homes to rescued, unreleasable animals,

I would like my opinion taken in consideration too.

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver Park Board Whale Hearings March 8 @ 6pm  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 2:54:49 PM  
**Importance:** High

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From: No Whales In Captivity  
Sent: Tuesday, March 07, 2017 2:54:46 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe@vcn.bc.ca; Wiebe, Michael; Evans@vcn.bc.ca; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Crawford, Casey; Coupar, John; Shum, Erin  
Cc: PB Commissioners  
Subject: Vancouver Park Board Whale Hearings March 8 @ 6pm

Vancouver Park Board Commissioners  
RE Park Board Special Meeting on Cetacean Captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium - March 8 @ 6pm

Dear Mr. Chairman and Park Board Commissioners,

I am writing on behalf of the members and volunteers of No Whales In Captivity, to urge you to vote at tomorrow's board meeting to put strict measures in place to ban cetacean imports immediately.

At your January 23rd board meeting, we were encouraged to witness every one of you showing political will towards ending whale and dolphin suffering in Stanley Park, and we sincerely congratulate you for that.

At that meeting, park board staff reported to have received in the prior week, 447 emails urging commissioners to end cetacean captivity at the aquarium; 117 emails in support of the cetacean plebiscite motion; and a No Whales In Captivity's online petition with 4,521 signatures. FYI the petition now has 5,198 signatures. Here is a link to our petition:  
<https://www.change.org/p/vancouver-park-board>

In contrast, the Park Board received 3 e-mails opposed to holding a cetacean plebiscite.

However, No Whales In Captivity was disappointed when commissioners did not agree at that meeting to simply amend the second part of the motion, and instead voted in favour of a staff report that further delayed you making a decision, especially when everybody seemed to be on board.

By delaying this vote, you have given the Vancouver Aquarium the opportunity to announce seriously misleading plans that we fear some of the commissioners may decide to accept as a compromise. Please, we strongly urge you not to do that.

The Aquarium's absurd proposal to continue with its plans to spend \$20 million on expanding the cetacean exhibits for the next two years only to keep performing belugas for 10 more, is something we fear may sink the possibility of the Park Board finally imposing strict restrictions on cetacean importation, if a majority of commissioners decide to trust the Aquarium's claims.

Just the fact that the Aquarium has announced that it has no plans in regards to the future of those proposed expensive new whale show tanks after 2029, should give commissioners enough cause for concern to make you reject the Aquarium's unethical proposal altogether.

At your January 23rd board meeting, a motion was presented to hold a cetacean plebiscite in 2018. The motion also asked that the Park Board "write to the Vancouver Aquarium asking it consider not bringing cetaceans into the facility until after the results of the 2018 plebiscite are received."

We were hoping that commissioners at that meeting would have agreed to simply drop the word "consider" and just told the Aquarium not to bring any more cetaceans, period. If the Aquarium then announced that it refused to abide by your request, commissioners would have been justified to find a way to impose strong legal measures to restrict the Aquarium.

Furthermore, if the commissioners had voted in favour of a motion with strong amendments, we would now at least have the guarantee that the issue of whales in captivity would be placed in the next Vancouver municipal election's ballot so the public would finally have been allowed a say.

Although we are very much hoping that our concerns are unfounded and that this delay and the upcoming staff report, will only serve to strengthen your resolve to ban captivity immediately, we remain confused as to why a cetacean plebiscite, as well as a moratorium on imports, couldn't have been approved at that January 23rd meeting.

With all due respect, we can't help but wonder if Visions Vancouver and Green Party commissioners who voted in favour of the delay, were just not ready to give the lead on this issue back to the NPA, the party who started this ball rolling back in 1995 when NPA Park Board Chairman David Chesman warned the Vancouver Aquarium that any further request for land to expand the whale tanks would be sent for public vote in the form of a cetacean plebiscite in the elections of 1996. In the end, the board unfortunately compromised and enacted a bylaw that never worked, as 4 dolphins have already swam through the bylaw's loopholes and ended up performing at the Aquarium.

Considering that all the municipal political parties that commissioners currently represent on the board (NPA, Visions and Greens), as well as COPE, have taken turns at different times during the last 3 decades to rally behind holding cetacean plebiscites, as well as trying their hand at imposing restrictions on cetacean trade and breeding, it has been disheartening for us to witness the Vancouver Aquarium continuing to import performing cetaceans, while blatantly refusing to recognize the intent of any of the Park Board's restrictions.

At tomorrow's special meeting, you will be presented with a Park Board staff report, which should include options for banning captivity. Tomorrow you will again have the opportunity to erase our concerns and prove that your intentions are honourable and that you will all focus on finding a way to stop cetacean imports. We urge you not to compromise on this issue, to stand strong against powerful Aquarium pressure, and to please vote in favour of restrictions that will stop all cetacean imports.

Many thanks for your attention to our concerns and recommendations. No Whales In Captivity will have representatives speaking on behalf of our group at tomorrow's special meeting. Please contact me if you have any concerns or questions, as I would be more than happy to discuss them with

you.

Best regards,

Annelise Sorg  
President  
No Whales In Captivity  
Box 461 - 1755 Robson Street  
Vancouver, BC V6G 3B7 CANADA  
Tel: 604-736-9514  
E-mail: [info@nowhalesincaptivity.org](mailto:info@nowhalesincaptivity.org)  
[www.Facebook.com/NoWhalesInCaptivityBC](http://www.Facebook.com/NoWhalesInCaptivityBC)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vancouver resident who is not pleased with the recent  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 2:00:07 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** March 17, 2017 1:59:27 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael

**Subject:** Vancouver resident who is not pleased with the recent

My name is Samuel Cantor, I'm a geologist currently getting my masters at UBC, and live in Kits and have thoroughly enjoyed my time visiting the Vancouver aquarium.

Whenever people visit it's always in the top 3 places I recommend visiting. I recently came across an article describing your recent vote.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/vancouver-park-board-votes-to-end-display-of-cetaceans-at-aquarium-1.4018872>

I think the vote had its heart in the right place, but is misapplied with respect to the Vancouver Aquarium. Given that the current cetaceans living there can't exist in the wild, are not being bred, and no plans are made to obtain new cetaceans, it doesn't make sense to get rid of the ones that are already there.

By all means, place a ban on new cetacean acquisitions, but please don't force the aquarium to suddenly do away with an exhilarating and informative exhibit.

Thanks

Concerned resident,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Voicing displeasure with vote to end cetaceans  
**Date:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:47:15 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 17, 2017 9:47:11 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Voicing displeasure with vote to end cetaceans

To all it may concern,

I as a resident of the GVRD am quite displeased with the decision to ban the display of cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

The Vancouver aquarium does not breed, or have any cetacean's that are able to be released into the wild. The Aquarium is a rehabilitation center for animals that otherwise have no chance, and this is going to damage their ability to do important work.

If you wanted to appease the public, you could pass a motion that is already how the Aquarium works. Vote to amend your previous motion to "Ban import of bred whales in captivity, and only allow Cetaceans that are deemed unable to be released into the wild", which would allow the Aquarium to continue their good work without change, and appease the public who are uninformed.

Please do not let the uninformed loud population drive a poor scientific decision.

Thank you for listening to my concern.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote on the Aquarium and keeping cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:29:48 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 18, 2017 12:29:43 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Vote on the Aquarium and keeping cetaceans

hi

I know you voted on this, but just wanted to say, as a Vancouver resident, I don't believe that all the facts were presented and since reading them (thanks FaceBook) that I do not feel that the Aquarium should be banned from the valuable research and rescue operations that they have been doing.

In other words - reverse your decision, it was not a good logical one, more like you got bullied into it.

thankyou

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: We elected you to support the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 3:00:58 PM

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**From** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 20, 2017 3:00:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Evans, Catherine; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
**Cc:** [Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org](mailto:Meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org)  
**Subject:** We elected you to support the Vancouver Aquarium

Dear Park Board Commissioners (especially NPA representatives)

I was very disappointed to learn of the mistrust you have shown in the Vancouver Aquarium. You have decided that you know better when it comes to what is best for these cetaceans, or any consequences your decision may have.

What is particularly frustrating is that during the 2014 municipal elections the NPA played the 'Aquarium supporter' card. Although Vision swept the election again, the Parks Board was completely overturned from a Vision near-sweep in 2011 to an NPA majority - do you believe this was a coincidence? You were elected to support the Vancouver Aquarium.

I would also like to add the solution here isn't to take the issue to a public vote. This type of pass-the-buck tactic is unsuitable in this case, where public opinion has no relevance on the needs of rescued mammals.

The Vancouver Aquarium has been instrumental in our knowledge and appreciation of these mammals and marine sustainability in general. Look at their knowledge and accomplishments in this field over the past 60 years, and the global recognition they have received by respected organizations. Their knowledge and actions will continue to grow and evolve in the future, regardless of today's 'state of the art' activities.

The Parks Board has a difficult decision to make in the interest of the marine mammals and society in general (and not in the interest of public opinion). Sometimes you need to decide who to trust and let them be accountable. If you trust the right people they won't disappoint you.

I sincerely hope you reconsider your decision.  
Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: We love our aquarium, protecting the future of the oceans by educating our children  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 9:47:35 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Saturday, March 25, 2017 9:47:25 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor  
Subject: We love our aquarium, protecting the future of the oceans by educating our children

Good morning elected officials,  
Though I family support everything the aquarium wrote in their letter I would like to add a slightly more personal one.

I am a microbiologist and [s.22\(1\)](#) I have three children, one who is now on his way to veterinarian school. The other two are a top students at UBC engineering and honor roll high school student. We believe in education for our children. We are also a family of vegetarians, so animal rights have always been on the forefront of the education we give our children. Since my children were babies I have been bringing them to the Vancouver aquarium. Not to look at caged animals doing tricks but to educate them into the importance of our environment and protection of animals. We do not visit Sea world when we travel or any facility that does not have high standards for the care of their animals. But we visit the Vancouver aquarium regularly. Every year I am tempted to not get a membership to save some money but every year we renew, as even with older children we love what we learned every tour of the aquarium.

Recently we brought my sister to the aquarium. She is an animal health technician by profession but also a staunch animal advocate as she lives in Hawaii and is active in the Marines life protection there. She was impressed with the care of the animals but with the focus of education on all the programs.

Please consider what the aquarium does not from the eyes of a radical loud protester but from the quiet and educated mouths of those who know.

Thank you for your time

[s.22\(1\)](#)

Cheers, [s.22\(1\)](#)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: we will loose expert aide for injured marine animals  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 4:33:56 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** , 2017 4:33:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Subject:** we will loose expert aide for injured marine animals

Dear sir,

I feel very strongly that the decision to stop the Aquarium's work is short sighted. They are the only help available to injured marine life on our coast. Surely, with the threatened increase of coastal traffic there has to be a way to fund that rescue/research to continue.

I do agree that keeping cetaceans as a " Trick performance show" is wrong . For years this has not been the case at the Aquarium. They have stressed how important care of our oceans and fellow creatures that inhabit them is. The animals, for the most part, cannot be successfully released . They act as ambassadors for their wild counterparts. The aquarium has helped me, my children and now my grandchildren learn how we can help save our wonderful coast and amazing wildlife from the dangers that increase each year . They have encouraged us to learn more and think more about our impact on our world.

PLEASE do not tie their helping hands, find a way that their work can continue .

yours sincerely

s.22(1)

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Whale ban at Van Aqua  
**Date:** Monday, March 20, 2017 12:15:34 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** 0, 2017 12:15:31 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael; Mackinnon, Stuart; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Evans, Catherine; Crawford, Casey  
**Subject:** Whale ban at Van Aqua

Dear board members,

As a Vancouver resident I was so disappointed to hear you had succumbed to the emotional cries of ignorant people, and banned live cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

1. The only cetaceans permitted at the Aquarium are deemed non-releasable. They are deemed this by the DoF; Vancouver Aquarium cannot bias the decision in order to add another attraction. YOU KNOW THIS. If they are non releasable, where do you expect them to go? Cart them off to be someone else's problem? Move them off site to some windowless tank?

2. Vancouver Aquarium is the only local marine mammal rescue organization. Who will take over this responsibility now? No one? So all marine mammals, releasable or not, are doomed to certain death?

3. I love what the Aquarium does locally. The OceanWise program for local restaurants. The Great Canadian Shore Clean Up. And of course, the unique, accessible way to reach and educate children on the topic of marine life. Do you have a vision for the future of the aquarium, so that these initiatives can continue?

It's very clear that this decision was an appeal to emotion rather than fact. It is so frustrating as a voter to see the trend of alternate facts Trumping true facts. This is a topic I feel very strongly about and will remember in October 2018.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

Resident of Vancouver

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Whale celebration!!  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 8:52:04 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 9, 2017 8:52:00 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** Whale celebration!!

Thank you Stuart! You rocked it. Beautifully done. I was watching on line. Thank you for all of your hard work. The whales thank you!!! This is huge progress and you have just made history!

I can't believe all the commissioners supported your motion!

Very exciting! Lets celebrate tonight and make sure there are no loop holes in May:))

Thanks Stuart.

Well done!

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Whales - agree with john nightingale  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:45:54 AM

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From [s.22\(1\)](#)  
Sent: Wednesday, March 08, 2017 8:45:50 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
To: Wiebe, Michael  
Subject: Whales - agree with john nightingale

I think it's worth having a few whales in captivity as long as they aren't forced to perform, for the benefits of creating awareness and empathy from people all over the world, especially countries that hunt whales, and for creating environmentalists out of all the children that visit. This may be the only time they will ever have to see a whale.

[s.22\(1\)](#)



Sent from a hand held device, please excuse the brevity...



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: What is wrong with you People! Protect marine science and have some common sense!  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 6:00:49 PM

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**From** s.22(1)

**Sent:** Friday, March 24, 2017 6:00:44 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael; Mayor and Council Correspondence; Robertson, Gregor;  
meighan.makarchuk@vanaqua.org  
**Subject:** What is wrong with you People! Protect marine science and have some common sense!

Dear Elected Officials,

Please stop listening to a vocal uninformed minority with a strong but completely wrong belief and follow the guidance of common sense and scientific experts (Scientists) before you make a mistake that "protects" the whales by killing them. These people should be protesting amusement park style aquariums and are just not smart enough to know the difference between those types of facilities and the Vancouver Aquarium. If you have morality questions as to whether it's cruel to put whales or other mammals in tanks and care for them in captivity because they cannot care for themselves due to illness, injury or abandonment in the wild, please think of the elderly or the orphaned HUMANS who are put into care facilities. It's the same idea. Would you shoot your Grandmother instead of putting her in a care centre with activities for her to do to keep her active and health care to take care of them?

if you ever want my vote again or the votes of many other outraged people who see you making a huge mistake based on either poor scientific understanding or the belief that a few vocal and completely wrong protestors make up the majority of the people you are supposed to represent, please read the following and take it to heart. Don't make a decision based on misguided belief, make it based on facts and science or to actually protect the Animals these protestors claim to care about.

"Vancouver Aquarium is Canada's leading marine science centre recognized worldwide for its high standards of animal care. At a time when our oceans need more protection, I strongly disagree with your approach to stopping critical science in its tracks.

Canada's Arctic is facing unprecedented change and beluga whales are under threat. Vancouver Aquarium provides critical research opportunities to protect wild populations.

Vancouver Aquarium is also the only marine mammal rescue centre in Canada and the only real hope for stranded, sick and injured marine mammals. These are the first responders our

nation calls on for emergent rescues.

I encourage you to review the best practices in animal care, welfare and rehabilitation. As one of the top five marine science centres in the world, Vancouver Aquarium is the one setting those high standards of practice.

As a representative of the majority of Vancouver residents who support the groundbreaking research led by the Aquarium, I encourage you to listen to your constituents who are stepping up and speaking out against the small minority of animal rights groups trying to shut down our Vancouver Aquarium."

**From:** [Mackinnon, Stuart](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: With heartfelt Thanks for your courageous and ethical decision last night  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 4:24:52 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 10, 2017 4:24:50 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Mackinnon, Stuart  
**Subject:** With heartfelt Thanks for your courageous and ethical decision last night

Hi Stuart,

Thank you very much for bringing forward the motion to ban cetacean captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium and for making the courageous and historic decision to end cetacean captivity at the Parks Board meeting last night. WOW! I also very much appreciated your thoughtful and thought-provoking questions on Wednesday and Thursday.

Thank YOU from the bottom of my heart--also on behalf of the cetaceans who will benefit from this decision. I am very hopeful and optimistic that you will approve the amended bylaw in May. This is a meaningful step toward promoting animal welfare and joining the worldwide progressive movement to end cetacean captivity.

With gratitude,

s.22(1)



"The great fault of all ethics hitherto has been that they believed themselves to have to deal only with the relations of human with humans. In reality, however, the question is what is our attitude to the world and all life that comes within our reach." Albert Schweitzer (1875 – 1965)

Vancouver Aquarium Uncovered: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation\\_id=annotation\\_408121121&feature=iv&src\\_vid=SaX7GGo3bTk&v=i0SvYN\\_p8OA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?annotation_id=annotation_408121121&feature=iv&src_vid=SaX7GGo3bTk&v=i0SvYN_p8OA)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o0VrZPBskpg&sns=em>

**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Writing to express disapproval of cetacean ban in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:44:20 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 6:44:17 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Writing to express disapproval of cetacean ban in Stanley Park

Hello,

I grew up in the Lower Mainland and have been a resident of Vancouver since 2008. I currently live on s.22(1). I was speaking with a friend about the cetacean ban and she recommended that if I wanted to do more about it to email this group.

I understand there are reasons that cetaceans should not be in captivity. I would never support someone capturing a wild dolphin/porpoise and putting it in a pool/tank. No way. But the Vancouver Aquarium is not an organization that does that. The cetaceans in captivity there cannot be released into the wild, and if they don't live there (where they are currently receiving the best care you could ever ask for), they just have to go live in captivity somewhere else. The ban doesn't make sense, and it actually creates a potential animal welfare issue (relocating the cetaceans), which is the opposite of its intended purpose. Please consider changing the ban to restrict only HEALTHY, WILD cetaceans from being held in captivity. However, for other individuals there may be exceptions where everybody, including the animals, can benefit. A blanket policy is the wrong approach. Consider making decisions on an individual animal basis. I have a background in wildlife management, and I believe this is the best approach for both conservation and animal welfare purposes.

Thanks for you time reading my email,

Sincerely,  
s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Yes to Cetaceans in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:29:04 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** March 16, 2017 9:28:55 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John; Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Yes to Cetaceans in Stanley Park

Hello Commissioners,  
I do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park. As a voter in Vancouver I'd like my support to be noted. I support continuing the scientific study, education, and rescue work currently under way.  
Thank you for your public service and your attention on this difficult file.  
Regards,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Evans, Catherine](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: You do not speak for me!  
**Date:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:04:14 AM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 19, 2017 8:04:09 AM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Coupar, John  
**Cc:** Crawford, Casey; Evans, Catherine; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Mackinnon, Stuart; Shum, Erin; Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** You do not speak for me!

Attention Vancouver Parks Board Commissioners

You DO NOT speak the voice of all Vancouverites nor all British Columbians.

I do not support your attempt to ban all cetaceans at Stanley Park.

Imagine the uproar if the parks board was voting to close the one and only dog rescue facility in Canada?

I'm guessing no one would think it humane to close the only dog rescue facility, so why is it so hard to understand that rescued marine life need a facility? A safe place to be rehabilitation or live out their lives with staff that care deeply about their wellbeing?

Or, to all those opposite, would you simply prefer to let them die?

Vancouver parks board - get the facts.

Last week you the Vancouver Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium).

I am applaud that you have allow yourselves to be overshadowed by misinformation alternative facts and not responsible to actual science.

THE FACTS:

The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild.

Vancouver Aquarium was the first in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild, **21 years ago, in 1996.**

They do no breed cetaceans.

The Aquarium is committed the beluga research program would **remain non-breeding** (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029.

**The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals**

**that cannot survive in the wild.**

I listen to the CBC radio interview with Vancouver parks board member, the day after the March meetings - I was appalled at the response to the question - "what should the Vancouver Aquarium do with the cetaceans that already call the aquarium home"? - **we don't care, they can re-house them in the aquariums other facilities, just not in Stanley park!!!**

**Seriously - you are a group of elected representatives that are clearly placating to noisy activist groups who are not communicating the facts - rather their own "alternative facts".**

**Our** aquarium is Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility.

Any rescued animal (cetacean or not) is released after rehabilitation.  
It's what happen to these animal if they can't be released ...what throw them away - euthanize? Fancy work to disguise killing?

Sea pens are not an alternative  
to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable.

Why?

water pollutants,  
risk of illness,  
impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden - with upgrading building a new facility  
More staff requirements to run a secondary facility and veterinarian monitoring  
risk of animals getting entangled in storms,  
not the appropriate water temperature.

What's up parks board commissioners with approving the expansion of the aquarium, including the cetacean pools, to pulling the plug once the money has been raised?

I've done plenty of fund raising and know all to well the organization can't not simple re-allocate funds from one expenditure to another... and to tell the public that this is an option is irresponsible communication of misinformation.

If funds are raised for said purpose (project), they can not be use to fund another.  
That's the law.

There is much work to be done and the rescued cetacean can teach us more.  
Particularly in our urgent need to understand the impacts of global warming on ourselves and wildlife that the aquarium is trying to protect.

The Vancouver Parks Board is does not speak for all Vancouvrites nor British Columbians!

You certainly DO NOT speak for me!

I do not support the bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park.

Regards,

s.22(1)





**From:** [Wiebe, Michael](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Your Vancouver Aquarium Decision  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:57:23 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:57:16 PM (UTC-08:00) Pacific Time (US & Canada)  
**To:** Wiebe, Michael  
**Subject:** Your Vancouver Aquarium Decision

To whom it may concern.

I would like to ask you to rethink your decision about not only the ban of cetaceans at the aquarium. But also the decision to want to remove the current three they have.

Starting with the ban. Yes Vancouver wants to be a leader in animal well fair and conservation but this is not the answer! Yes unfortunately they did loose their Belugas last year but I do sense something strange happened, animals get sick just like people do. The aquarium has housed these animals for years successfully and sadly this happened so suddenly and so close to eachother. I do not for one second believe that they did anything wrong. The staff fought hard 24hour watches to try and get them back to health.

The aquarium is a vital life line for cetaceans in the wild. They are one of the only facilities that do in-house research. They contribute so much to the knowledge of these species survival out in the wild. And now sadley you want to take that away. Not a good step towards conservation I think.

What they have done for Chester the False Killer Whale is almost unheard of. Cetaceans do not usually make it. And today he is healthy. Daisy the porpoise is endangered so hardly any facilities around the world has them. So where do you want to send them? Guess like PETA euthanasia is the only policy. And the will be the only policy from now on. Wonder if the rest of the world will take favour to that?

I beg of you to allow Vancouver Aquarium to do their vital work for cetacean conservation. Just no shows maybe just education talks about the animals more like they are doing at present. I'm sure you can give them applause for that at least that they have moved away from huge shows and the international typical trends. They are the leaders in the field!

Please do not become the coffin for B.C.s cetacean populations. Let Vancouver Aquarium stay a life line. Thank you for reading this.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Date:** Thursday, March 16, 2017 9:45:44 PM

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Dear Commissioners

This is a Facebook post from Shawna Caldwell, I have also sent you a letter that my husband posted as a reply.....Thank you all for banning Whales in captivity

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** March 16, 2017 at 9:39:49 PM PDT  
**To:** s.22(1)

Last week the Parks Board voted to ban the display of cetaceans in Stanley Park (and therefore at the Vancouver Aquarium). I am livid at how science can be overshadowed by misinformation. I understand that scientists can come across arrogant (and therefore unlikable) – but that doesn't make what they say any less true!

Hopefully the below will offer my friends some insight into my frustration & encourage them to take the time to write an email in support of an organization I am extremely passionate about.

THE FACTS:

- The Aquarium does not capture from the wild or accept animals into the facility other organizations have captured from the wild. We were the first Aquarium in the world to pledge not to capture from the wild 21 years ago, in 1996. If you've been told we capture from the wild (or condone others doing it), that's not an 'alternative fact', that is a blatant lie!
- We aren't breeding cetaceans. In the three years I've been here, I can personally attest there has been no opportunity for mating as there were no mixed gender sexually mature groupings. Just last month, the Aquarium committed that the beluga research program would remain non-breeding (same gender groups) until its completion in 2029. Those that tell you we breed animals for entertainment/profit are lying to you!
- The cetaceans that currently reside at the Aquarium are rescued animals that cannot survive in the wild. Chester (False Killer Whale) & Daisy (Harbour Porpoise) were both stranded in the first two months of their lives. In the simplest of terms: they cannot be released as they'd starve. Helen (Pacific White Sided Dolphin) was fishing by catch in Japan and had her front flippers partially amputated as a result. She is a fighter but her injuries would be a death sentence in the wild. These animals serve as ambassadors for their species, involved in research programs to protect wild populations and inspiring our youth to preserve our oceans while there



is still time.

- We run Canada's only marine mammal rescue facility. Our goal when rescuing any animal (cetacean or not) is to release the animal after rehabilitation. We don't decide if an animal is releasable, the federal government (department of fisheries) makes that decision. We share the same opinion as you, that these majestic animals deserve a second chance at life!

- Sea pens as an alternative to Aquariums to home rescued animals that are deemed non-releasable are not an option for numerous reasons: water pollutants, risk of illness, impact on local wild cetaceans, excessive financial burden, risk of entanglement in storms, veterinarian monitoring etc. Sometimes the reasons are more obvious than others: Chester, for example, is a warm water species that could not thrive in our local waters. If this was an option, with our 61 year history of marine research and innovative 'can do' nature, we'd be all over it!

- The Parks Board approved our detailed 3 phase expansion plans. We are about to launch phase 2 this Fall which expands our outside cetacean habitat space. The funds have been raised but come with strings attached as to what they can be used for and when they must be used by – they cannot be redirected off site. So anyone that tells you we should be spending that money on building sea pens or expanding the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre does not have the facts. I'd suggest asking them why the Parks Board would approve the expenditure only to turn around a few years later once we've raised the money and ban cetaceans at the facility.

#### IF THE MOTION GOES AHEAD AS PLANNED:

- The rescued cetaceans currently living at the Aquarium would have to go. They don't care about where to (or if they are euthanized), as long as they aren't on display in Stanley Park. If they cared about animal welfare, they'd make provisions to let these animals remain where they are well cared for. Daisy and Helen are both also reaching the end of their natural life spans.

- The Aquarium would not be able to offer a home for rescued cetaceans. Without a potential long term home for these animals to go to, they could be euthanized rather than rescued. Ask yourself if you believe that animals are better off dead than in an aquarium? If your answer is no, then we need your help! If your answer is yes, please unfriend me because your value system is whacked!

- Our research on the Arctic will be severely impacted at a time when global warming is not a theory, but a reality. Our beluga research program has allowed scientists to develop theories and perfect their methods before working with wild populations. We won't be able to bring older non-breeding belugas (which weren't captured from the wild) from other aquariums to continue the vital work that Aurora and Qila were part of.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

The Parks Board is doing this in your name! They are saying Vancouver

residents do not want us to have cetaceans at the Aquarium. I don't believe that Vancouver residents want us to stop our rescue efforts or to end our valuable research that has the power to preserve these species in the wild.

This issue may seem bigger than you but I promise it is not. The Parks Board is being pressured by a small group of activists that believe animals are better dead than in an aquarium – your voice can make a difference!

Please email the Parks Board Commissioners indicating you do not support a bylaw to ban cetaceans in Stanley Park and include your mailing address (all letters are valued but Vancouver residents will have the largest impact as these are elected positions).

Their emails: [john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca); [casey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:casey.crawford@vancouver.ca); [catherine.evans@vancouver.ca](mailto:catherine.evans@vancouver.ca); [sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca); [stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca); [erin.shum@vancouver.ca](mailto:erin.shum@vancouver.ca); [michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca](mailto:michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca)



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286



Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** March 16, 2017 at 7:15:55 PM PDT  
**To:** s.22(1)

Vancouver,  
16 March 2017.

Dear Ms. Calderwood,

I admire the passion you show for marine mammals but strong emotions often make people take black and white positions. I hope you'll allow some disagreement with your points without considering all dissenters as being the enemy. One small example would be your point about choosing captivity over euthanasia. I can assure you there are many people who would choose painless death over a lifetime of captivity. That opinion does not mean their value systems are whacked, it simply means that they differ from you. There are grey areas in ethical dilemmas.

This is an important and unavoidable issue if you take on the difficult task of animal rehabilitation. No matter what species you treat, there are only three outcomes of rehabilitation— survival with release, death-euthanasia and survival but unreleasable. What do you do with those animals that can't be released? I put a lot of work into animal rehabilitation and frequently have to confront this question myself. Unfortunately, I cannot pretend to have a convenient answer but I do accept that long term care is a supportable proposition for unreleasable animals. That is the one area where I agree with the aquarium's practice (and their possible future role).

I followed the treatment of the false killer whale that was treated at the aquarium and was full of admiration for the care and attention it received. The animal looked so sick that I could hardly believe it when I read that it had survived – a fantastic effort. I quite accept that the animal cannot be released so what do you do next? I think most would accept that any rehab facility should have the ability to house animals who are stable, pain free but are clearly unable to return to the wild. I think it is fair to allow the public to see such animals but not to get them to perform tricks. My preference would be for a system of sea pens but I fully understand the practical and financial problems you touched upon.

Now I come to areas where we differ greatly and I'll start with your claims about the aquarium's research. Biological research is not easy – poorly chosen end points and, above all others, sampling error are at the top of the list of common mistakes. Studies of a small group of whales held in a small tank in Vancouver, apply only to other captive whales held in a temperate climate. That's it. Extrapolating those results to free swimming whales in an arctic climate is pseudo-science. The need for research is not a defensible reason to justify keeping whales captive. If you keep unreleasable animals then study them by all means but don't think those results inform anything other than the care of other rehabilitated whales. That's a fine aim of research but it does not tell you what goes on in the arctic. Finally, I would have more faith in the aquarium's claims that research is their emphasis if their peer-reviewed publication record weren't so sparse.

I am an older person and have had time to see that society constantly changes its attitudes with time. The majority opinion is now against the display of animals. The days when you could hold animals and charge people to gawp at them are coming to an end. If you stick to those old beliefs you will be on the wrong side of history. My advice is that the aquarium does not choose to fight against the inevitable but uses its skills to design a new approach that fits with the current opinion. Please do not waste your abilities trying to justify the unjustifiable.

Invest in modern virtual reality technology so that animals can be displayed without the need for their capture. It is a far better way to teach kids about wildlife. Use your skills to be a world centre for marine mammal rehabilitation and use your goodwill to get people to support a move towards a system of sea pens. Above all, please accept that there are large numbers of completely normal people that feel that keeping intelligent animals in small enclosures is cruel and harms the captive and captor alike.

With my very best wishes

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Dear Vancouver Park Board  
**Date:** Friday, March 31, 2017 6:57:23 AM

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**Emne:** Dear Vancouver Park Board

The Vancouver Parks Board voting to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks is great.

I support that this vital amendment must continue in order for it to survive.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Keep Vancouver Aquarium's tanks empty  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:45:52 AM

---

John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Date:** February 23, 2017 at 10:36:08 PM PST  
**To:** John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Keep Vancouver Aquarium's tanks empty

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am writing to express my support for a ban on whale and dolphin captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

As you are aware, the issue of captive cetaceans in Stanley Park comes before Park Board year after year, and each year, the cries to end the practice grow louder.

This is not just happening in Vancouver. Around the world, people have come to realize that keeping cetaceans in captivity is cruel. The National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

It is now clear that the needs of these intelligent, social and self-aware animals -- biologically adapted to roam hundreds of miles a day in a diverse ocean environment -- cannot be met in captivity. It is this simple fact that underlies the 'unsolved' deaths of Qila and Aurora, and the approximately 40 other cetaceans who have died in Stanley Park.

For anyone who has grown up in Vancouver, the names Tuaq, Tuvaq, Nala and Tiqa are sad reminders of the costs of captivity. Three generations of Vancouver children have now suffered the heartbreak of watching their beloved baby belugas die as mere infants. Enough is enough.

Vancouver Aquarium's recently announced plans to bring in additional belugas from its partners like SeaWorld is nothing more than a desperate attempt to cling to a business model that has no place in modern society. That these belugas are necessary for important research is specious, at best. Despite 50 years of beluga research at the aquarium, there still has not been a single wild beluga helped by any of this research. Having provided only vague promises of an 'expanded research



program', why would we expect the next 10-12 years to do any better?

We elect our public officials with the expectation that they will make the right decisions under even difficult circumstances. I therefore call upon you now to do the right thing and stop any further beluga imports into Stanley Park, and ban captivity and breeding of whales and dolphins immediately.

Perhaps then, we will have an aquarium in Stanley Park that all Vancouverites can be proud of.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: My Vancouver has no whales in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:44:33 AM

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John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s. 22(1)  
**Date:**  
**To:** John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** My Vancouver has no whales in Stanley Park

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I was sad and appalled to hear that the Vancouver Aquarium would be bringing in belugas from other locations. This just does not seem right especially with the unexplained, recent loss of Qila and Aurora. Over the years 40 plus cetaceans have died in Stanley Park. How many more must perish before the decision is made that enough is enough?

These intelligent, social and self-aware animals have evolved to roam the oceans far and wide, being held captive in small ponds is cruel and inhumane. It is time to end this barbaric practice. The National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

The Vancouver Aquarium's reason for this recent decision to bring in belugas from SeaWorld does not make sense. How do they plan to protect these creatures if they do not know the cause(s) for the recent deaths of Qila and Auroa? How can they justify this reckless decision with the explanation that their research is necessary. How has 50 years of such research benefitted belugas in the wild?

I call upon you to make the right, humane decision and stop any further importation of belugas into Stanley Park. Please, no more cetaceans should held captive, lets put an end to this inhumane and barbaric practice.

Thanks for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

s. 22(1)

From: [Coupar, John](#)  
To: [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
Subject: Fwd: Please don't fail the whales again  
Date: Monday, February 27, 2017 8:44:23 AM

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John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

From: s.22(1)  
Date: ST  
To: John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: **Please don't fail the whales again**

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am writing to express my support for a ban on whale and dolphin captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

Around the world, people have come to realize that keeping cetaceans in captivity is cruel. For example, the National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

Vancouver Aquarium has itself tacitly acknowledged, in its 'phase-out' plan, that the needs of these intelligent, social and self-aware animals -- biologically adapted to roam hundreds of miles a day in a diverse ocean environment -- cannot be met in captivity. What is right in ten years is right today. We know better. Enough is already too much.

The argument that the belugas which the Aquarium is proposing to bring in are necessary for 'important research' is no more credible than Japan's similar claims in support of their whale hunt. At one time, the claims that being able to see the whales in captivity had educational value had some validity, but for many years past we've been able to see and hear cetaceans in their natural habitat, and learn about their needs and habits - not obeying trainers' cues for behaviours out of context - through nature programs available.

As public officials, you are facing the decision of doing the right thing - stopping the import of cetaceans into Stanley Park - versus continuing the wrong thing for short-term economic advantage. The issue is clear enough for a child to understand.

What will your decision teach our children?

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Please, no more belugas in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:45:38 AM

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John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** February 23, 2017 at 5:42:14 PM PST  
**To:** John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Please, no more belugas in Stanley Park

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am writing to express my support for a ban on whale and dolphin captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

As you are aware, the issue of captive cetaceans in Stanley Park comes before Park Board year after year, and each year, the cries to end the practice grow louder.

This is not just happening in Vancouver. Around the world, people have come to realize that keeping cetaceans in captivity is cruel. The National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

It is now clear that the needs of these intelligent, social and self-aware animals -- biologically adapted to roam hundreds of miles a day in a diverse ocean environment -- cannot be met in captivity. It is this simple fact that underlies the 'unsolved' deaths of Qila and Aurora, and the approximately 40 other cetaceans who have died in Stanley Park.

For anyone who has grown up in Vancouver, the names Tuaq, Tuvaq, Nala and Tiqa are sad reminders of the costs of captivity. Three generations of Vancouver children have now suffered the heartbreak of watching their beloved baby belugas die as mere infants. Enough is enough.

Vancouver Aquarium's recently announced plans to bring in additional belugas from its partners like SeaWorld is nothing more than a desperate attempt to cling to a business model that has no place in modern society. That these belugas are necessary for important research is specious, at best. Despite 50 years of beluga research at the aquarium, there still has not been a single wild beluga helped by any of this research. Having provided only vague promises of an 'expanded research

program', why would we expect the next 10-12 years to do any better?

We elect our public officials with the expectation that they will make the right decisions under even difficult circumstances. I therefore call upon you now to do the right thing and stop any further beluga imports into Stanley Park, and ban captivity and breeding of whales and dolphins immediately.

Perhaps then, we will have an aquarium in Stanley Park that all Vancouverites can be proud of.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Proud of Vancouver, ashamed of Vancouver Aquarium's whale program  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:45:10 AM

---

John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** February 23, 2017 at 7:05:50 PM PST  
**To:** John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** **Proud of Vancouver, ashamed of Vancouver Aquarium's whale program**

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am writing to express my support for a ban on whale and dolphin captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

As you are aware, the issue of captive cetaceans in Stanley Park comes before Park Board year after year, and each year, the cries to end the practice grow louder.

This is not just happening in Vancouver. Around the world, people have come to realize that keeping cetaceans in captivity is cruel. The National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

It is now clear that the needs of these intelligent, social and self-aware animals -- biologically adapted to roam hundreds of miles a day in a diverse ocean environment -- cannot be met in captivity. It is this simple fact that underlies the 'unsolved' deaths of Qila and Aurora, and the approximately 40 other cetaceans who have died in Stanley Park.

For anyone who has grown up in Vancouver, the names Tuaq, Tuvaq, Nala and Tiqa are sad reminders of the costs of captivity. Three generations of Vancouver children have now suffered the heartbreak of watching their beloved baby belugas die as mere infants. Enough is enough.

Vancouver Aquarium's recently announced plans to bring in additional belugas from its partners like SeaWorld is nothing more than a desperate attempt to cling to a business model that has no place in modern society. That these belugas are necessary for important research is specious, at best. Despite 50 years of beluga research at the aquarium, there still has not been a single wild beluga helped by any of this

research. Having provided only vague promises of an 'expanded research program', why would we expect the next 10-12 years to do any better?

We elect our public officials with the expectation that they will make the right decisions under even difficult circumstances. I therefore call upon you now to do the right thing and stop any further beluga imports into Stanley Park, and ban captivity and breeding of whales and dolphins immediately.

Perhaps then, we will have an aquarium in Stanley Park that all Vancouverites can be proud of.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Support for Motion  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:52:19 AM

---

Thank you for putting an end to cetacean captivity at the aquarium! A principled stand!

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** January 23, 2017 at 4:03:23 PM PST  
**To:** [pbcommissioners@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbcommissioners@vancouver.ca)  
**Subject:** Support for Motion

Considering that 2 belugas have recently died at the Vancouver aquarium, I urge you to reconsider your position and support, as I do, the motion to hold a whale plebiscite and to place a moratorium on the importation of more whales and dolphins into the Vancouver Aquarium.

It's 2017 and it's time to dispense with old beliefs that it is acceptable to keep large marine animals in captivity when they should be living in marine sanctuaries.

Regards,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Vancouver Aquarium Beluga Conservation Program  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:44:01 AM

---

John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:**  
**To:** <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>, <[casey.crawford@vancouver.ca](mailto:casey.crawford@vancouver.ca)>, <[catherine.evans@vancouver.ca](mailto:catherine.evans@vancouver.ca)>, <[sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca](mailto:sarah.kirby-yung@vancouver.ca)>, <[stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca](mailto:stuart.mackinnon@vancouver.ca)>, <[erin.shum@vancouver.ca](mailto:erin.shum@vancouver.ca)>, <[michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca](mailto:michael.wiebe@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Vancouver Aquarium Beluga Conservation Program

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing in support of the Vancouver Aquarium's Beluga Conservation Program. On a personal level I would prefer that the Aquarium not keep or display belugas; however, I am setting aside my person feelings based on the view that the knowledge again is critical to any attempts, feeble and futile as they might prove be, to counter the effects that humans are inflecting on the arctic ecosystems. Our ability to conduct field research on belugas, narwhals, bowheads as well as other marine species, is extremely limited and under funded. The work that the aquarium is doing is one of the few avenues available outside of the arctic to gain the knowledge that we need to offer, hopefully, of some success in the preservation and protection of belugas.

Sincerely,  
s.22(1)

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Whale and dolphin captivity is a relic of the past  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:44:43 AM

---

John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** February 23, 2017 at 4:27:59 PM PST  
**To:** John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** **Whale and dolphin captivity is a relic of the past**

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am writing to express my support for a ban on whale and dolphin captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

As you are aware, the issue of captive cetaceans in Stanley Park comes before Park Board year after year, and each year, the cries to end the practice grow louder.

This is not just happening in Vancouver. Around the world, people have come to realize that keeping cetaceans in captivity is cruel. The National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

It is now clear that the needs of these intelligent, social and self-aware animals -- biologically adapted to roam hundreds of miles a day in a diverse ocean environment -- cannot be met in captivity. It is this simple fact that underlies the 'unsolved' deaths of Qila and Aurora, and the approximately 40 other cetaceans who have died in Stanley Park.

For anyone who has grown up in Vancouver, the names Tuaq, Tuvaq, Nala and Tiqa are sad reminders of the costs of captivity. Three generations of Vancouver children have now suffered the heartbreak of watching their beloved baby belugas die as mere infants. Enough is enough.

Vancouver Aquarium's recently announced plans to bring in additional belugas from its partners like SeaWorld is nothing more than a desperate attempt to cling to a business model that has no place in modern society. That these belugas are necessary for important research is specious, at best. Despite 50 years of beluga research at the aquarium, there still has not been a single wild beluga helped by any of this research. Having provided only vague promises of an 'expanded research

program', why would we expect the next 10-12 years to do any better?

We elect our public officials with the expectation that they will make the right decisions under even difficult circumstances. I therefore call upon you now to do the right thing and stop any further beluga imports into Stanley Park, and ban captivity and breeding of whales and dolphins immediately.

Perhaps then, we will have an aquarium in Stanley Park that all Vancouverites can be proud of.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** [Coupar, John](#)  
**To:** [Chan, Cheryl](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Whales don't belong in Stanley Park  
**Date:** Monday, February 27, 2017 8:44:53 AM

---

John C. Coupar ,Commissioner  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation  
604 761 0795

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** s.22(1)  
**Date:** February 23, 2017 at 5:40:30 PM PST  
**To:** John Coupar <[john.coupar@vancouver.ca](mailto:john.coupar@vancouver.ca)>  
**Subject:** Whales don't belong in Stanley Park

Dear Commissioner Coupar,

I am writing to express my support for a ban on whale and dolphin captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

As you are aware, the issue of captive cetaceans in Stanley Park comes before Park Board year after year, and each year, the cries to end the practice grow louder.

This is not just happening in Vancouver. Around the world, people have come to realize that keeping cetaceans in captivity is cruel. The National Aquarium in Baltimore recently acknowledged this and has announced plans to move all their captive dolphins to a sea-pen sanctuary.

It is now clear that the needs of these intelligent, social and self-aware animals -- biologically adapted to roam hundreds of miles a day in a diverse ocean environment -- cannot be met in captivity. It is this simple fact that underlies the 'unsolved' deaths of Qila and Aurora, and the approximately 40 other cetaceans who have died in Stanley Park.

For anyone who has grown up in Vancouver, the names Tvaq, Tuvaq, Nala and Tiqa are sad reminders of the costs of captivity. Three generations of Vancouver children have now suffered the heartbreak of watching their beloved baby belugas die as mere infants. Enough is enough.

Vancouver Aquarium's recently announced plans to bring in additional belugas from its partners like SeaWorld is nothing more than a desperate attempt to cling to a business model that has no place in modern society. That these belugas are necessary for important research is specious, at best. Despite 50 years of beluga research at the aquarium, there still has not been a single wild beluga helped by any of this research. Having provided only vague promises of an 'expanded research

program', why would we expect the next 10-12 years to do any better?

We elect our public officials with the expectation that they will make the right decisions under even difficult circumstances. I therefore call upon you now to do the right thing and stop any further beluga imports into Stanley Park, and ban captivity and breeding of whales and dolphins immediately.

Perhaps then, we will have an aquarium in Stanley Park that all Vancouverites can be proud of.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

A large rectangular grey box redacting the signature of the sender.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Give Thanks! Vancouver Aquarium Cetacean Captivity To Be Stopped!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 4:49:13 AM

---

On March 9, the Vancouver Parks Board made a decisive move and voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the Vancouver Aquarium from displaying cetaceans in captivity. The Parks Board commissioners will soon vote on approving the measure that will effectively stop the aquarium from bringing in cetaceans for exhibition and entertainment, while also preventing the import of five beluga whales that it currently has loaned out on abusive "breeding loan" deals with SeaWorld and other commercial facilities. The commissioners deserve your thanks and require encouragement not to change their minds before the final vote, which will be sometime before May 15.

Whale and dolphin advocates have campaigned to end captivity at the Vancouver Aquarium for two decades. The deaths of 21-year-old Qila and her 30-year-old mother Aurora in November 2016 provided the opportunity for anti-captivity advocates to make another appeal to the Parks Board, which oversees the Aquarium's lease on Stanley Park land. In a public hearing held on March 9 and 10 to hear four options from its staff regarding captivity, the board quickly decided to choose one that is designed to see the end of cetacean captivity altogether.

Commissioner Stuart Mackinnon moved that the following amendment to its bylaws be drafted: "The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation directs staff to prepare and bring forward for enactment by the Board an amendment to the Parks Control By-law to prohibit the importation and display of live cetaceans in Vancouver parks and report back not later than 15 May 2017."

One-by-one, the commissioners, some of whom have been captivity proponents in the past, voted and gave their own reasons after listening to Mackinnon stating in part, "Commissioners, the time to act is now. The Aquarium has no intention of listening to us or listening to the voters. They have no intention of ending captivity for cetaceans themselves. Therefore, we must do it here and now. ...The fate of these creatures is in our hands."

As active supporters of In Defense of Animals, many of you had contacted the commissioners over the past few months at our request to implore the Parks Board to end cetacean captivity. In concert with other organizations and many other people, your efforts have made a difference. Now it's time to thank the commissioners who may again face a lawsuit from Vancouver Aquarium. Ask them to stay the course and follow through on their vote when they meet again May 15.

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Gratitude re: prohibiting the display cetaceans  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 2:46:59 PM

---

As a resident of the United States and potential visitor to Vancouver, I thank you. Thank you for voting unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. I am looking forward to it's implementation.

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** hearings  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 11:22:47 AM

---

You had it right to unanimously draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. Please continue in this direction. Thank you.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [k Board](#)  
**Subject:** I am writing to tell you that i agree with the amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks.  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 10:04:10 AM

---

I am writing to tell you that i agree with the amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks.

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** I SUPPORT THIS CHANGE AGAIN  
**Date:** Friday, March 31, 2017 10:15:17 AM

---

The Vancouver Aquarium suffered a major defeat on March 9 when the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. The commissioners acknowledged the incredible amount of support that people had sent in. Your voice was definitely heard! But the commissioners need to hear from you again. They are currently preparing the new by-law and it will be subject to another round of hearings around May 15th. Support for this vital amendment must continue in order for it to survive. Emails that congratulate the commissioners for making the right decision, and continuing to do so, are key right now.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Importation of Cetaceans  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 7:42:33 AM

---

Sirs,

I'm emailing to congratulate the commissioners for making the right decision to end the importation of cetaceans for display in Vancouver parks.

Your listening to the concerns of the public on this subject is much appreciated, and certainly appreciated by all of the cetaceans who will be

left to live their normal lives.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** info  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 28, 2017 12:55:12 AM

---

The Vancouver Aquarium suffered a major defeat on March 9 when the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. The commissioners acknowledged the incredible amount of support that people had sent in. Your voice was definitely heard!

But the commissioners need to hear from you again. They are currently preparing the new by-law and it will be subject to another round of hearings around May 15th. Support for this vital amendment must continue in order for it to survive. Emails that congratulate the commissioners for making the right decision, and continuing to do so, are key right now.

**From:** [Gary Charbonneau](#)  
**To:** [Sarah Blyth](#); [PB Commissioners](#); [Vancouver Park Board](#); [annelise sorg](#); [Jeffrey B. Matthews](#)  
**Subject:** Kirby-Yung Hypocritical on Captivity  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 4:00:50 PM

---

On a radio interview, NPA Park Board Commissioner Sarah Kirby-Yung blamed former Vision Park Board for not implementing a breeding ban and independent oversight committee. She stated, "Previous board had the opportunity to deal with this issue...they chose not to."

However, Kirby-Yung failed to disclose that upon winning her seat, she promised to reverse the breeding ban and independent oversight committee.

Former Vision Commissioner Sarah Blyth said, "We were ready to deal with it but the NPA shut it down without reviewing any information. This caused us to revisit how to move forward."

Since 2015, Kirby-Yung and the NPA have seen four cetaceans die and have done nothing. With mounting public pressure, Kirby-Yung once again is ignoring the issue by pushing it to 2018.

It seems like it's the NPA that is choosing to do nothing!

It is imperative that a moratorium on expanding the tanks and importing cetaceans be enacted until the 2018 referendum.

Gary Charbonneau  
Vancouver Aquarium Uncovered

**From:** s.22(  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 11:04:01 PM

---

Thank you commissioners - for making the right decision for the animals by prohibiting the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. Please continue with theses humane and progressive actions.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



From: s.22(1)  
To: [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
Date: Friday, March 24, 2017 6:43:09 PM

---

Thank you for your amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks

#### ANIMAL LIBERATION

All Animals, Birds and Insects, ALL LIFE have the Right to Live Free in a Safe Healthy Natural Environment Free from Exploitation, Pollution, Poisoning, Harm, Abuse, Torture and Murder.

Animals Exist for their Own Reasons not to be Endangered to Satisfy the Blood Lust or Greed of Stupid Barbarians and for the Profit of Greedy Capitalists.

It's their world too.

The Endangering, Enslavement, Exploitation, Imprisonment and Degradation, Abuse, Torture and Murder of Feral or Stray Animals, Animals in the Wild, on Farms, as Beasts of Burden, in Forced Fights, in Rodeos, Circuses, Zoos and Vivisection Laboratories, Brutalises the Perpetrators and those who witness it and leads to Violence towards Humans.

Violence towards animals leads to violence towards humans.

Violence breeds Violence.

Each and every Animal deserves Justice in the event that their Rights are Abused.

[www.gentleworld.org](http://www.gentleworld.org)  
[www.govegan.org.nz](http://www.govegan.org.nz)  
[www.vegansociety.co.nz](http://www.vegansociety.co.nz)  
[www.chooseveg.com](http://www.chooseveg.com)  
[www.pcrm.org](http://www.pcrm.org)  
[www.vegsource.com](http://www.vegsource.com)  
[www.veganeasy.com](http://www.veganeasy.com)  
[www.abolitionistapproach.com](http://www.abolitionistapproach.com)  
[www.howdoigovegan.com](http://www.howdoigovegan.com)  
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[www.forksoverknives.com](http://www.forksoverknives.com)  
[www.vegan.com](http://www.vegan.com)  
[www.webvege.com](http://www.webvege.com)

s.22(1)





**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 4:58:27 PM

---

That is wonderful Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks.

Congratulate the commissioners for making the right decision!

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Date:** Monday, March 27, 2017 2:55:31 PM

---

You made the right decision on the aquarium!

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 12:27:00 PM

---

Thank you for stopping whale and Dolphin captivity. You are appreciated. s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** March 9's Vancouver Aquarium decision  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 10:17:00 AM

---

Good morning

As a lifelong resident of Vancouver, I have always been interested in the success of our city's notable attractions including The Vancouver Aquarium.

I became aware of the meetings that you have had this week regarding whales at the aquarium and just heard on the radio that a decision against whales was rendered last night by the commissioners.

As a taxpayer and city voter, I wanted to pass along my strong condemnation of the Park Board commissioners making such an outrageous decision against visions that the world-renowned Vancouver Aquarium deems responsible and appropriate. It would be my view that the Park Board should show support for the expertise and efforts of the Vancouver Aquarium and its team who have created a facility of which the city can be proud

I've never felt moved in the past to object to decisions, however, this decision shows me that the current Park Board is swayed by the noisy few without regard for the vast majority of Vancouverites who put their faith in the expertise of The Vancouver Aquarium.

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Cc:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Marine mammal death  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2016 10:52:29 AM

---

Dear Sirs,

I was shocked but not surprised to hear that another one of your captive mammals has died. This is just one more in a long line of creatures that have not done well in your facility. There is so much negative publicity about marine parks. Why do you continue to defend the indefensible? Please don't tell me it is educational as I am not buying.

Please do the right thing and close down now - even if it is through attrition.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Marine mammal death  
**Date:** Friday, November 18, 2016 6:03:06 PM

---

I am writing to express my outrage over yet another tragic death of a marine mammal at the Vancouver Aquarium. There is no need to repeat here what has already been said, that marine mammals do not belong in captivity for the purposes of entertainment and profit. As for educational purposes, it is ludicrous to suggest that removing wild animals from their families and placing them in an alien environment, devoid of any natural stimulation, is education. All it teaches youngsters is that it is okay to exploit wild animals, regardless of how much stress is involved for the animals.

The capture and imprisonment of all wild animals has no place in an enlightened society and the public is awakening to the plight of these hapless creatures. It is high time that the City of Vancouver recognizes this archaic and callous business for what it is and commits itself to phasing out the display of marine mammals.

Yours sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Mayor and Council Feedback-101008786159  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 06, 2016 5:30:42 PM  
**Attachments:** [Mayor and Council Feedback-101008786159.rtf](#)

---

Dec 06, 2016

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)

**From:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Mayor and Council Feedback-101009176347  
**Date:** Monday, February 20, 2017 5:19:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [Mayor and Council Feedback-101009176347.rtf](#)

---

20 Feb 2017

Mayor and Council have received the attached citizen feedback. Forwarding this copy for your information and review. If response is required, please send copy to Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office (under Global Address List), which will be further distributed to Mayor and Council.

Thanks.

K a t h y

Kathy Bengston  
Correspondence Clerk  
City Clerk's | City of Vancouver  
T: 604.871.6222 | F: 604.873.7419  
[kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca](mailto:kathy.bengston@vancouver.ca)



**From:** s.22(1) [REDACTED]  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Meeting Around May 15th on the Vancouver Aquarium Amendment  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 2:32:50 PM

---

Dear PBCommisioners

I am writing to you today about the Vancouver Aquarium Amendment.

Draft an amendment that prohibits the display and importation of Cetaceans within the Vancouver Parks.

Please stand by your amendment - don't back down.

Thank you for taking your time out to read this short message.

Sincerely

s.22(1) [REDACTED]

From: s.22(1)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: Mislead and short-sighted  
Date: Friday, March 10, 2017 7:25:30 AM

---

I know why you banned cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium. It has nothing to do with long-term implications--such as where unreleasable, rescued cetaceans may find a home, or how people will change the way they see cetaceans--but your short-term goals of keeping your jobs by making the loud, uneducated and mislead the public "happy".

You may have given them their "Free Willy" moment, but you have put the nail in the coffin of the endangered southern resident killer whales.

Did you know all this "anti-captivity" stuff drives up whale watching numbers? This means more boats, which increases the noise and number of hours the endangered southern resident killer whales are surrounded by boats.

Did you also know the research to help these animals, namely the drone projects, has been funded by SeaWorld? Yes, that's money and base-information brought in by a marine park being put forward to help their wild cousins.

Relying solely on wild animals for research is not cost-effective and harasses them. This means less is accomplished while we're hurting the animals we're trying to save.

So, good job at dooming the future of wild cetaceans. I can't believe such a decision was made. How about, "Housing RESCUED animals only"?! Now the aquarium will have to appeal, which means MORE money that should be going to research won't, all because you had to humour a bunch of ignorant, short-sighted, emotionally-driven and ill-educated fools.

Thank god you're not in charge for our health system or vaccines would surely be banned too. Idiots.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** My expressed support of your steps taken towards cetaceans welfare.  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 6:11:01 PM

---

Hello.

I support your steps taken towards animal welfare. Thank you and please accept my best wishes of love on every step of life.

I'm writing according to this article:

<https://idausa.org/campaign/cetacean-advocacy/latest-news/vancouver-park-board-needs-to-hear-from-you-again/>

--

Greetings.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Enid Breakstone](#)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#); [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** New Amendment  
**Date:** Friday, March 24, 2017 10:13:58 AM

---

Dear Commissioners:

I support the new amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. Thank you for considering this important issue.

Celebrating 20 years of protecting animals,  
Enid

Enid Breakstone, M.Ed  
Founder & Executive Director  
The Queenie Foundation, Inc.  
*Animal protection through humane education and rescue/adoption*  
Manchester, CT  
860 649 4488  
[www.queeniefoundation.org](http://www.queeniefoundation.org)

*The Queenie Foundation promotes kindness to all animals through humane education and companion animal rescue/adoption.*

**\*Donation Opportunities\***

Use goodsearch.com when you search the Internet and name The Queenie Foundation as your charity and we get a penny at no charge to you! Your penny with everyone else's penny adds up to a lot.

Donate to us at [www.queeniefoundation.org](http://www.queeniefoundation.org). Click on the yellow Donate button and follow the prompts. We thank you for your generosity!

Go vegan here: <http://eatdrinkbetter.com/2014/01/13/top-10-vegan-lifestyle-sites/>

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** New Chairman  
**Date:** Friday, February 03, 2017 8:59:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [Scientists statement on captive cetaceans 08Feb16.rtf](#)

---

Dear Vancouver Park Board Commissioners

I am writing to congratulate you on the election of a Green party Commissioner as the chairman of the Vancouver Aquarium Park Board.

I understand that the Green party are against cetacean captivity, therefore there is hope that the Board will decide to ban the keeping of cetaceans at the Aquarium or ban the import of more whales and dolphins into the Vancouver Aquarium.

I sincerely hope that this is the case and the Board do the right thing and ban whale imports and cetacean captivity at Vancouver Aquarium.

Your sincerely

s.22(1)



From: s.22(1)  
To: [PB Commissioners](#)  
Subject: New direction for kept creatures  
Date: Saturday, March 11, 2017 2:32:29 PM

---

I am so over joyed to hear the terrific news of the end of displaying - hopefully the capture of - these wonderful mammals.

After seeing an Orca in the "swimming" pool at the Victoria Aquarium in 1974, I have been disgusted that we have continued to capture and house these creatures in less than adequate homes.

I couldn't imagine being stuck in my house for my entire life, without experiencing the world.

We have prevented these creatures from having a fulfilling life.

You have heard and listened to those of us who have been the voice for others

I thanks you from deep in my heart and soul

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** Nix importation of cetaceans & their "display" within Vancouver parks, please!  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 8:52:49 PM

---

The Vancouver Aquarium suffered a major defeat on March 9 when the Vancouver Parks Board voted unanimously to draft an amendment that will prohibit the display and importation of cetaceans within Vancouver parks. The commissioners acknowledged the incredible amount of support that people had sent in. Our voices were definitely heard!

In your current preparing the new by-law and it will be subject to another round of hearings around May 15th. Support for this vital amendment must continue in order for it to survive. It is highly commendable your work (congratulations!) the commissioners for making the right decision, and continuing to do so, are key right now!

In this critical juncture, I strongly urge Vancouver Park Board commissioners to make sure this needless, senseless, highly disrespectful abuse/suffering to highly intelligent, sentient beings- Stops! Let them live in the wild. They are also vital to ecosystem balance.

Your attention to this most urgent matter would be much appreciated by all present & future generations of all species.

Thank you

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** no cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 2:05:26 PM

---

Thank you for your decision. I'm a marine biologist in the area of animal behaviour and ecology, working primarily with fishes but very concerned about cetaceans in captivity. You have made the aquarium make the leap into a more realistic and humane world in which wild animals that are social and need open spaces (in this case, the ocean) are treated with respect.

My very best wishes to you all.

s.22(1)





**From:** [Kathleen Barnett](#)  
**To:** [Kirby-Yung, Sarah](#)  
**Cc:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#); [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** No more belugas at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Sunday, December 11, 2016 1:59:01 PM  
**Attachments:** [Scientists statement on captive cetaceans 08Feb16.rtf](#)  
[ATT00001.txt](#)

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Dear Ms. Sarah Kirby-Yung,

I am writing to you as the Chair of the Vancouver Aquarium Park Board concerning the beluga whale exhibit at Vancouver Aquarium. I understand that the belugas Qila and Aurora have died recently and this seems to offer a wonderful opportunity to cease the keeping of this species at the Aquarium. It is well known that cetaceans do not thrive in captive environments and I am attaching a statement by a group of eminent scientists that categorically supports this.

I welcome your position in wanting to involve Vancouver residents in the decision, but urge Vancouver Aquarium to take a lead in ending the keeping of belugas in captivity now. I oppose totally the suggestion that you are going to import and house yet more beluga whales and increase the size of the whale tank, before the public vote to be held in 2018. Would you not consider bringing this vote forward to 2017 and delaying the import of any more whales until the results of the vote have been counted?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully

Kathleen Barnett.

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** no more cetaceans in captivity  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 3:34:42 PM

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Dear Commisioners of the Park Board:

I am writing to thank you deeply for your recent decision to bring forward a bylaw change by May 2017 prohibiting display of cetaceans at Vancouver Aquarium. This is a major step forward for animal welfare and for the worldwide movement to end cetacean captivity.

I honour you for this brave and historic decision.

Thank you,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** No more whales at Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 12:19:21 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

We are very pleased to learn that you have all decided not to have cetaceans kept in cramped and unnatural quarters at the Aquarium.

We applaud your decision and thank you!

Most sincerely,

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** No more whales in captivity - thank you!  
**Date:** Monday, March 13, 2017 12:17:02 PM

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Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

It was very good news to hear you decided - unanimously - to ban keeping whales and other cetaceans at the Vancouver Aquarium.

I was so very happy to hear this.

Such a wise and humane decision you have made, thank you!

With Youtube and so many other Google applications available, anyone can now get a real sense of what these beautiful mammals are like, especially in their natural surroundings.

With gratitude and best wishes,  
s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Park Board Meetings](#)  
**Cc:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** No more whales in captivity  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 7:43:00 PM

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For years we have been trying to stop the removal of wild whales for aquarium pens and entertainment. It was the saddest thing in the world to see these poor killer whales and other whales enclosed in those pitiful pools with their magnificent dorsal fins curled over and useless. How can humans even consider doing this to another species. We could never take our children to the Vancouver Aquarium because of the anger we felt at seeing this. There should be no more removal of wild species from our oceans, especially now that they are down to such few numbers. Our love and compassion for these other beings that share this planet with us must become evident or we will not be worthy of inheriting such a beautiful place. What we do to one, we do to ourselves, everything is connected. NO MORE WHALES IN CAPTIVITY NOW or EVER Aagin. Sincerely s.22(1)  
and family s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** no more whales  
**Date:** Saturday, March 25, 2017 11:22:07 AM  
**Attachments:** [image004.png](#)

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Please, stop abusing whales for profit. People no longer find this acceptable. Times are changing, be in the forefront not desperately trying to hang on to the past and dwindling revenue.

Please put the animals first. We owe it to them and the future generations.

Cheers.

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#); [Park Board Meetings](#)  
**Subject:** NO NEW CETACEANS - BAN IMPORTS NOW No Whales or Dolphins In Captivity  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 6:32:51 PM

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Dear Park Board Manager and Commissioners:

I am hoping that there finally will be an end to whales and dolphins in captivity.

I believe that these mammals must go insane living in such a small area when they

are accustomed to travelling in great distances and eating live food in the ocean.

It saddens me deeply when I watch the brutality of the dolphin hunters when they

kill dolphins and leave there young without mother or father. The capture of dolphins

and whales to sell to aquariums is what drives these hunts. The dolphin meat is filled

with mercury and not safe to eat.

Please support No New Cetaceans - Ban Import Now.

We need to set the example for the rest of Canada and the world.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)



Dolphins have self recognition which deems  
them intelligent mammals.



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** No New Cetaceans - Ban Imports Now  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 07, 2017 6:27:47 PM

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To the Park Board Commissioners,

As a long-time resident of Vancouver, I urge you to ban cetaceans in captivity. Captivity is inhumane and we need to move toward becoming a more compassionate

society and treat animals with the respect and dignity they deserve. How can we in all conscience justify confining these large, intelligent animals in nothing more

than a cramped, concrete, water prison, for the remainder of their lives? No wonder they suffer mentally as well as physically. What a sad and tortuous existence.

NO NEW CETACEANS - BAN IMPORTS NOW

Thank you.

s.22(1)



**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** No new cetaceans--  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 08, 2017 9:23:03 AM

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Please ban imports now. Thank you.

s.22(1)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#); [Mayor and Council Correspondence](#)  
**Subject:** No WHALES IN CAPTIVITY PLEASE  
**Date:** Thursday, March 09, 2017 7:12:17 PM

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for the sake that is all humane, please do not let the aquarium keep these belugas in these concrete prisons. While the aquarium pleads Rescue, Research and Rehabilitation, in ACTUALITY they are renting the wombs of our Belugas to SeaWorld for profit.. THIS NULLIFIES whatever claims of compassion and righteousness they state. NO!!!! this is not acceptable.

Vancouver has voted time and time again, NO WHALES IN Captivity!!

thank you. please do what is right. ethical. and humane.

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Subject:** No whales in captivity! Ditch that arrogant twit aquarium ceo! This guy needs to know who pays his salary.  
**Date:** Monday, November 28, 2016 9:50:56 PM

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**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** no whales in captivity  
**Date:** Saturday, March 11, 2017 10:19:03 AM

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Dear Park Board

Thank you for voting to keep whales out of the Vancouver Aquarium. I look forward to returning to the aquarium because I stopped going there on account of the whales in captivity.

I've seen the beluga whales in Churchill, Manitoba, while I was working for the railway.

s.22(1)

**From:** [Peter Hamilton](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#)  
**Cc:** [Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office](#)  
**Subject:** Now It Is Time To Stop Aquatic Circuses!  
**Date:** Monday, January 16, 2017 12:59:04 PM

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## NEWS INFORMATION

Re: Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus recently announced it was closing after 146 years, citing falling ticket sales, high operating costs and changing public tastes in entertainment.

The first bans on wild and domestic animal acts in circuses were in Saanich and Victoria. As a result of LifeForce investigations of circuses, Saanich and then Victoria were the first cities in the world to ban all animal acts - both domestic and wild animal acts in 1991.

Based on LifeForce investigations of a circus in Burnaby, these bylaws banned both domestic and wild animal acts in circuses and other types of shows. The Victoria SPCA with a veterinarian confirmed our findings. In addition to lions, tigers, monkeys, and elephants; the horses, dogs, and birds were injured and subjected to abuses.

The SPCA inspected the circus and noted the following: the majority of the horses had lacerations, abrasions or scars from old injuries. There was no food or water available for the tigers. The cages for the monkeys were extraordinarily small, not allowing the monkeys to stand on their hind legs. The inspector was told by the circus that the monkeys and dogs are kept in the cages at all times, except for the show performances. No water was provided for the monkeys and dogs. One dog broke a leg.

The inspector stated in her report, "this circus, where the animals did not have food or water available, where the animals were kept entirely in cages too small to allow the least bit of movement or comfort, and where it was impossible to find anyone to accept basic responsibility for the care of the animals was a prime example of everything that should not be allowed to occur in a circus".

Regretfully, other organizations failed to protect all circus animals when they later lobbied for bans on only "wild" animals in other cities. They failed to protect "domestic" animals.

Now it is time to stop aquatic aquarium circuses! We hope that the Vancouver Park Board will strengthen the 1996 Cetacean Bylaw to phase out the captivity as was intended!

For further information: [lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com](mailto:lifeforcesociety@hotmail.com)

**From:** [Gary Charbonneau](#)  
**To:** [Vancouver Park Board](#); [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** NPA ALSO TO BLAME IN QILA'S DEATH  
**Date:** Saturday, November 19, 2016 4:06:55 PM

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John Coupar, Sarah Kirby-Yung, Erin Shum and Casey Crawford all ignoring the staggering death toll of three cetaceans in less than 24 months. Nanuk, Hana and now Qila have all died during their tenure as commissioners and they continue to do nothing.

NPA also neglect the Charter:

2.5

When making decisions, Council officials, staff and advisory body members must consider all relevant facts, opinions and analyses of which they should be reasonably aware.

When will they show some compassion and do their jobs?

**From:** [annelise@look.ca](mailto:annelise@look.ca)  
**To:** [?Kirby-Yung@look.ca](mailto:?Kirby-Yung@look.ca); Kirby-Yung, Sarah  
**Cc:** [?Cupar@look.ca](mailto:?Cupar@look.ca); Coupar, John; Shum, Erin; [?Crawford@look.ca](mailto:?Crawford@look.ca); Crawford, Casey; Mackinnon, Stuart; Wiebe, Michael; Evans, Catherine; Correspondence Group, City Clerk's Office; Vancouver Park Board  
**Subject:** Park Board has authority to ban whale imports  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 29, 2016 11:29:38 AM

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## NO WHALES IN CAPTIVITY LETTER TO PARK BOARD - 29NOV16

RE: Park Board has authority to ban whale imports

Dear Madam Chair,

On behalf of the members and volunteers of No Whales In Captivity, I would like to thank you for proposing that the city hold a plebiscite on whale captivity during Vancouver's 2018 municipal elections. While we still need to discuss the wording of such whale referendum vote, there are more pressing issues at hand.

The empty whale show tank at the Vancouver Aquarium gives the Vancouver Park Board commissioners an immediate opportunity to finally end the importation of more whales. I understand that commissioner Mackinnon asked park board staff at your board meeting last night, whether the Park Board has the authority to impose a moratorium on the importation of whales until the public can be consulted in 2018. With all due respect, Madam Chair, your staff's negative answer was wrong.

In 1996 the Vancouver Park Board, responding to the ethical principles of the community, enacted a bylaw intended to phase out the further introduction and imprisonment of cetaceans (whales, dolphins and porpoises) in Vancouver parks.

The Parks Control Bylaw section 9(e) was enacted by the Vancouver Park Board on November 4, 1996, under the authority of the Vancouver Charter, section 491 (a), which gives the Park Board the power to pass bylaws for "the exclusion from any of the parks, or any part thereof, of any animal or vehicle". This is section 9(e).

9. (e) No person shall bring into any park or keep or otherwise maintain in any park any aquatic mammal of the Cetacean order including, but not limited to, baleen whales, narwhals, dolphins, porpoises, killer whales and beluga whales, which has been captured or otherwise taken from its natural wild habitat, except that this prohibition shall not apply to:

- (i) captive cetaceans caught from the wild prior to September 16, 1996 and cetaceans born into captivity at any time,
- (ii) cetaceans which are already being kept or maintained in a park as of September 16, 1996,
- (iii) a member of an endangered cetacean species, provided that approval for bringing it into a park has first been obtained from the Park Board, and
- (iv) an animal that has been captured or otherwise taken from its natural wild habitat for the purpose of rehabilitating it from injury or preventing its death due to stranding provided that its capture or taking and subsequent release to natural habitat is done under the jurisdiction and with the approval of the federal agency responsible and provided that the Park Board has been informed in as timely a manner as possible.

We strongly urge you to consider imposing an immediate ban on the importation of more whales, as the Vancouver Charter, section 491 (a) gives the Vancouver Park Board the authority to do just that. It is time



for the Park Board to end the international commercial trade in performing beluga whales in Stanley Park.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Annelise Sorg  
President  
No Whales In Captivity  
461-1755 Robson Street  
Vancouver, BC V6G 3B7  
TEL: 604-736-9514  
E-MAIL: [info@nowhalesincaptivity.org](mailto:info@nowhalesincaptivity.org)

**From:** s.22(1)  
**To:** [PB Commissioners](#)  
**Subject:** Parks Board Vote Regarding the Vancouver Aquarium  
**Date:** Friday, March 10, 2017 8:54:45 AM

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Dear Parks Board Commissioners,

I'm writing to you to ask for further clarification on your recent vote regarding the Vancouver Aquarium. While

I am not heavily involved in this issue I do support the scientific and rehabilitation work done by Aquarium staff. The language in the motion voted on by yourselves at last night's meeting was unclear to me. I have a few questions which I would appreciate further clarification on:

- 1) Is it the intention of the Board to ban the retention of any whale or dolphin from being kept at the Aquarium facilities, even if not on public display?
- 2) If this is the case, what will be done with the existing animals at the Aquarium?
- 3) If again this is the case, what does the Parks Board recommend happen in the future with animals such as Chester who cannot be released into the wild?

I'm sure that the Commissioners spent a long time thinking about this issue and that the decision was a difficult one. I also haven't had an opportunity yet to read the minutes of yesterday's meeting, which I look forward to doing when they are published. I do, however, have a policy background, and I'm employed in implementing decisions like the one you voted on last night. I urge you to consider the various scenarios identified above and adapt the future proposed bylaw if those put the lives of captured and wild animals at risk.

Many thanks for your time, and thank you in advance for your response.

Sincerely,

s.22(1)

Sent from my iPhone