

File No.: 04-1000-20-2021-474

December 21, 2021

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 dated September 10, 2021 under the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, (the Act)***, for:

**Correspondence to/from the Park Board GM and Leadership team regarding aggressive coyote attacks in Stanley Park including any plans or directives to/from the Park Board GM and Leadership team about mitigating the problem.
Date Range: August 1, 2021 to September 3, 2021.**

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed, (blacked out), under s.13(1), s.15(1)(l), s.16(1)(b), and s.22(1) of the Act. You can read or download these sections here:

http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00.

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, 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 (#04-1000-20-2021-474); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

[Signature on file]

Barbara J. Van Fraassen, BA
Director, Access to Information & Privacy

Barbara.vanfraassen@vancouver.ca
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Or you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604.871.6584.

Encl.

:kt

From: ["PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)
To: ["PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca)
CC: ["PB SLT \(Senior Leadership Team\) - DL" <s.15\(1\)\(l\)>](#)
["PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)
["McDonald, Dana" <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca)
["Townsend, Chad" <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca)
["Shearer, Doug" <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca)
["Dejong, Uultsje" <Uultsje.Dejong@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Uultsje.Dejong@vancouver.ca)
["Araujo, Sev" <Sev.Araujo@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sev.Araujo@vancouver.ca)
["Silva, Octavio" <Octavio.Silva@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Octavio.Silva@vancouver.ca)
["Collins, Tim" <Tim.Collins@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Tim.Collins@vancouver.ca)
Date: 9/3/2021 4:27:13 PM
Subject: Advance Information Bulletin: Stanley Park to extend overnight closure hours to support Provincial coyote management plan

Good afternoon Commissioners,

Please be advised, the information bulletin below will be shared with media and park businesses/stakeholders shortly.

Sincerely,

Christine

**Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
Information Bulletin
Sept. 3, 2021**

Stanley Park to extend overnight closure hours to support Provincial coyote management plan

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation will be extending the hours of the temporary closure of non-essential access to Stanley Park between the hours of 7 pm and 9 am, beginning tonight. Previously the park was reopening at 7 am.

The closure is in place to support the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development in their efforts to address the concerning number of coyote encounters in the park. It will remain in effect until the situation has been resolved to the satisfaction of all parties working across this response.

During the closure, businesses within the park will remain open in accordance with their individual hours of operation. Patrons who wish to visit restaurants, and other

businesses within the park should drive or take motorized transport to the venue and leave the park immediately afterwards.

Patrons are advised to contact individual businesses for more information on the nearest parking locations, and measures being taken to ensure safety, specific to each venue.

Those with tickets to upcoming events scheduled within the park are advised to confirm the same information alongside any further event logistics with organizers.

Staff from the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation installed additional fencing infrastructure around the perimeter of the park today to support the overnight closure.

Controlled access points and fencing are in effect throughout the park to prevent recreational use during the closure and ensure those entering between 7 pm – 9 am are doing so on essential business only, for example staff travelling to and from worksites within the park or visiting a business during its open hours of operation. Fencing will remain until the temporary closure is lifted.

While the Causeway will remain open, access to the seawall will be closed overnight. Park Rangers will be patrolling the park throughout the closure to monitor activity. Individuals who remain in the park after the closure begins will have unrestricted access to leave through the control points.

The public are reminded to dispose of garbage appropriately and that feeding all wildlife within the park, including coyotes, raccoons and birds, is strictly prohibited.

Visitors to the park must also be aware of their surroundings, especially at dusk and dawn. If a coyote is encountered:

- ☐ Make yourself big. Face the coyote, stand tall, arms stretched. Do not run.
- ☐ Speak loudly and make noise (but do not scream).
- ☐ Call the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277 to report any aggressive behaviour or wildlife feeding.

- 30 -

Media contact:

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
pb.communications@vancouver.ca

From: ["Ulmer, Christine" <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca)
To: ["PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca)
CC: ["PB SLT \(Senior Leadership Team\) - DL" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>](#) s.15(1)(l)
Date: 8/31/2021 5:10:51 PM
Subject: Advance notice of new release: Stanley Park to extend overnight closure due to coyote risk

Good evening Commissioners,

Please be advised the following information will be shared with business partners inside Stanley Park and the media within the next hour.

**Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
News Release
August 31, 2021**

Stanley Park to extend overnight closure due to coyote risk

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation will be extending the temporary closure of all non-essential access to Stanley Park between the hours of 7 pm and 7 am beginning tonight. The closure, which was originally implemented to mitigate fire risk, is being extended in an effort to reduce continued conflict between park users and coyotes.

Park Rangers will continue to maintain temporary overnight access control points at four locations across the park to reduce the number of individuals in the park overnight. Vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians, and anyone who does not require essential access to the park will be turned around at access control points.

Anyone requiring entry into the park during the closure, including the #19 bus, emergency services, patrons and staff of park businesses, will be permitted to enter through the control points. Individuals who remain in the park after the closure begins will have unrestricted access to leave the park through the control points.

The access control points are positioned at the following locations:

- Traffic circle off Georgia Street
- The corner of Barclay and Park Lane
- The South exit of the Stanley Park Causeway (closure in effect from 10pm)
- The North exit of the Stanley Park Causeway (closure in effect from 10pm)

The Causeway will remain open. Access to the seawall will be closed. Signage will be placed along the access points of the seawall to advise pedestrians and cyclists of the closure. Park Rangers will be patrolling the park throughout the closure to monitor activity.

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is working with the BC Conservation Officer Service, Stanley Park Ecology Society, the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development on ongoing efforts to address and reduce coyote conflicts in the park.

“We are taking the escalating conflicts with coyotes extremely seriously and have offered our full support to the Province to do whatever we can inside Stanley Park as public safety is our number one priority,” said Donnie Rosa, General Manager of the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation. “At this point, a number of options are on the table and our focus remains on removing attractants and influencing public behaviour to ensure direct and indirect feeding of coyotes and other wildlife comes to a stop.

“In the last week alone we have removed 1,000 kgs of garbage from the park, secured animal-proof garbage cans that will be installed shortly, and printed 96 new signs to be installed at key locations where the majority of coyote incidents are taking place. We are asking the public to help us with this issue and to observe the park closures overnight, to stay off trails when visiting businesses in the park, and to report any feeding of wildlife.”

The public are reminded to dispose of garbage appropriately and that feeding all wildlife within the park, including coyotes, raccoons and birds, is strictly prohibited.

Visitors to the park need to be aware of their surroundings especially at dusk and dawn. If a coyote is encountered:

- ☐ Make yourself big. Face the coyote, stand tall, arms stretched. Do not run.
- ☐ Speak loudly and make noise (but don't scream).
- ☐ Call the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277 to report any aggressive behaviour or wildlife feeding.

- 30 -

Media contact:

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
pb.communications@vancouver.ca



Christine Ulmer, MSc. | Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications
Vancouver Park Board | 2099 Beach Avenue
t. 604-404-1797
christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca



From: ["Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>](mailto:pbgmo@vancouver.ca)
To: ["PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca)
CC: ["PB SLT \(Senior Leadership Team\) - DL" s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#)
["PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)
["Silva, Octavio" <Octavio.Silva@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Octavio.Silva@vancouver.ca)
Date: 9/3/2021 5:57:12 PM
Subject: Concerts in Stanley Park During Coyote Risk – Board Briefing Memo
Attachments: PB - GMO - Concerts in Stanley Park During Coyote Risk - Board Briefing Memo - 2021-09-03.pdf

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to inform you about the approach being taken with concerts in Stanley Park during the current period of ongoing conflict between coyotes and park users. As communicated publicly, Stanley Park businesses continue to operate, and this includes the delivery of concerts at Malkin Bowl (four concerts are scheduled between September 3 and September 18).

While Malkin Bowl is a fenced and secure venue, located at the entrance to Stanley Park in an area without recent aggressive coyote behaviour, Park Board staff are working closely with the venue operator and concert organizers to implement targeted mitigation measures aimed at further reducing risk and promoting safe event delivery. These measures are focused on safe ingress/egress through the park to the event venue and include:

- Guest Messaging
 - providing advance notification to attendees of the increased coyote activity in the park;
 - advising attendees to arrive before the 7:00pm park closure time (concert goes arriving after 7:00pm will still be permitted access similar to patrons of other park businesses);
 - discouraging walking or cycling to/from these events;
 - directing guests to proceed directly to the event venue (which is fenced and secure), and to not loiter outside the venue or go for walks in the park;
 - advising guests to not walk alone when moving to/from the venue, whether it is to parking lots, the bus terminal, or in/out of the park;
 - reinforcing these messages from the stage, particularly at the conclusion of the concert;
- Modified Ingress/Egress & Parking Lot Operations
 - positioning additional staff/security (with noise makers) along key ingress/egress routes to the venue; specific focus on access to parking lots, bus terminal, and Pipeline Road;
 - prioritizing use of the Railway parking lot;
 - avoiding use of Service Yard parking lot; if this lot must be used, position additional staff along ingress/egress routes from the lot to the venue;
 - providing enhanced lighting along key ingress/egress routes;
- Waste Management
 - immediately cleaning-up waste after the event (since this is the key attractor for coyotes).

Park Board staff and organizers anticipate that these additional mitigation measures, in addition to regular operational procedures, will promote the safe delivery of upcoming concert initiatives in the park.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Regards,

Donnie Rosa (*they/she*)

General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation



September 3, 2021

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Donnie Rosa - General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Concerts in Stanley Park During Coyote Risk – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to inform you about the approach being taken with concerts in Stanley Park during the current period of ongoing conflict between coyotes and park users. As communicated publicly, Stanley Park businesses continue to operate, and this includes the delivery of concerts at Malkin Bowl (four concerts are scheduled between September 3 and September 18).

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 - discouraging walking or cycling to/from these events;
 - directing guests to proceed directly to the event venue (which is fenced and secure), and to not loiter outside the venue or go for walks in the park;
 - advising guests to not walk alone when moving to/from the venue, whether it is to parking lots, the bus terminal, or in/out of the park;
 - reinforcing these messages from the stage, particularly at the conclusion of the concert.
- Modified Ingress/Egress & Parking Lot Operations
 - positioning additional staff/security (with noise makers) along key ingress/egress routes to the venue; specific focus on access to parking lots, bus terminal, and Pipeline Road;
 - prioritizing use of the Railway parking lot;
 - avoiding use of Service Yard parking lot; if this lot must be used, position additional staff along ingress/egress routes from the lot to the venue;
 - providing enhanced lighting along key ingress/egress routes;
- Waste Management
 - immediately cleaning-up waste after the event (since this is the key attractor for coyotes).



Park Board staff and organizers anticipate that these additional mitigation measures, in addition to regular operational procedures, will promote the safe delivery of upcoming concert initiatives in the park.

Please contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Donnie Rosa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Donnie Rosa (*they/she*)
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/os

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
PB Business Development
PB Communications

From: "Ulmer, Christine" <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>
To: "PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>
CC: "PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL" s.15(1)(l)
Date: 9/1/2021 10:33:41 AM
Subject: Confidential Update: Coyote attacks in Stanley Park Aug. 31/Sept. 1
Attachments: image005.png
image005 (1).png

Good morning Commissioners,

In the hours since announcing the extension of the temporary closure of Stanley Park due to heightened coyote risk, an additional four attacks have taken place. Details are still coming in from the BC Conservation Officer Service and they will be releasing the information publicly shortly.

The details I know at this point are that last night between the hours of 5-6pm a four-year-old child was bitten on the rear. Later that evening an adult and child were bitten at approximately 9pm. Another bite took place this morning. From what I know, both children were taken to hospital and released. None of the attacks resulted in serious injury.

BCOS staff euthanized an aggressive coyote this morning near Brockton Oval.

We will be hosting a joint press conference at 1 pm in Stanley Park today to update and inform the media on new information.

Sincerely,

Christine



Christine Ulmer, MSc. | Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications
Vancouver Park Board | 2099 Beach Avenue
t. 604-404-1797
christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca



s.13(1), s.16(1)(b)



s.13(1), s.16(1)(b)



From: "Downie, Alex" <alex.downie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Rosa, Donnie" <Donnie.Rosa@vancouver.ca>
"Shearer, Doug" <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>
"Ulmer, Christine" <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>
"Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
"Dejong, Uultsje" <Uultsje.Dejong@vancouver.ca>
"Carter, Stacey" <Stacey.Carter@vancouver.ca>
CC: "Jackson, Steve" <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>
"Stewart, Ian" <ian.stewart2@vancouver.ca>
"Dunlop, Emily" <Emily.Dunlop@vancouver.ca>
"Townsend, Chad" <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>
"Hutch, Dave" <dave.hutch@vancouver.ca>
"MacLean, Jeff" <Jeff.Maclean@vancouver.ca>
"Pottinger, Guy" <guy.pottinger@vancouver.ca>
"Bishop, Janice" <Janice.Bishop@vancouver.ca>
"Gandha, Amit" <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>
"Odong, John" <John.Odong@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/17/2021 10:30:33 AM
Subject: CTV News item - Coyote attacks linked to drugs?

Hello all,

Sharing this article and video from CTV News on the recent Stanley Park coyote attacks. The expert interviewed posits that homeless in the park may be contributing to the problem.

<https://bc.ctvnews.ca/coyote-attacks-expert-says-animals-in-vancouver-s-stanley-park-exhibiting-abnormal-behaviour-1.5549005>

From: s.22(1)
To: "Hutch, Dave" <dave.hutch@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/26/2021 11:29:55 AM
Subject: [EXT] Coyotes

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hey Dave- to whom should I direct comments/opinions about coyotes in Stanley Park? Board chair?

Thanks

s.22(1)

Vancouver BC

From: ["Rosa, Donnie" <Donnie.Rosa@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Donnie.Rosa@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Gandha, Amit" <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca)
Date: 9/1/2021 9:52:17 AM
Subject: FW: 266781 Decision Note - SP Human-Coyote Conflict V2
Attachments: 266781 Decision Note - SP Human-Coyote Conflict V2.docx

For our meeting

From: Lensky, Kristina FLNR:EX <Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 4:08 PM
To: Rosa, Donnie <Donnie.Rosa@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>; McDonald, Dana <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>
Subject: [EXT] FW: 266781 Decision Note - SP Human-Coyote Conflict V2
Importance: High

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hi Donnie,

I wanted to share and discuss with you the attached draft decision note. It includes statements that define VPB's role, so I want to check-in with you and make sure I'm not mis-representing anything on your end.

We've also be talking about a longer-term coyote management strategy. This is an extra-ordinary circumstance and we don't want to have things ever escalate to this state again. Given that, I've been asked to verify your commitment to a longer-term coyote management strategy. So want to discuss that more with you as well.

Can we setup a meeting for tomorrow? I can accommodate your schedule.

Thank you,
Kristina

Kristina Lensky, RPBio, GDBA, BSc

Pronouns: she/her

Resource Manager, Stewardship – South Coast Region

Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development

Suite 200, 10428 - 153 St, Surrey, BC, V3R 1E1

Tel: (778) 572-2179 / Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca

With respect and gratitude, I acknowledge the Coast Salish People on whose traditional territory I work and live.

From: Psyllakis, Jennifer FLNR:EX <Jennifer.Psyllakis@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: August 31, 2021 2:54 PM
To: Plante, Laura FLNR:EX <Laura.Plante@gov.bc.ca>; Lensky, Kristina FLNR:EX
<Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: 266781 Decision Note - SP Human-Coyote Conflict V2

Here is the updated BN after our conversation. Kristina, look forward to your update from VPB. Laura, for DMO, we should have revised version in Eapprovals asap. It will probably take at least 24 hours to get confirmation from VPB on roles and commitment for them.
Talk soon.
Jen

BRIEFING NOTE FOR DECISION

Formatted: Left: 0", Right: 0", Top: 0", Bottom: 0"

DATE: August 27, 2021
PREPARED FOR: David Muter, Assistant Deputy Minister, Resource Stewardship Division
ISSUE: Managing Human-Coyote Conflicts in Stanley Park

RECOMMENDED OPTION:

Immediate lethal removal of coyotes to reduce local density and risk of attacks

BACKGROUND:

- Urban wildlife management is a shared responsibility. Generally, primary responsibilities are as follows: municipalities manage people's behaviour, secure attractants and take other steps to avoid human-wildlife conflicts. The Conservation Officer Service (COS) responds to attacks to ensure public safety and compliance and enforcement of the Wildlife Act. FLNRORD is responsible for the Wildlife Act, is the Statutory Decision Makers provides expertise and partnership support to develop and implement wildlife management plans. Population control is rarely necessary; when required, the municipality typically leads with the support of FLNRORD expertise (e.g., rabbits, deer). This is an extraordinary circumstance with dangerous wildlife, therefore, FLNRORD is taking a leadership role in addressing the management of the situation given the escalating risk to the safety of the public.
- Since December 2020, the Conservation Officer Service (COS) has confirmed nearly 40 coyote attacks in Stanley Park. The frequency of attacks has varied over time, but they have recently escalated with nine separate attacks reported in July and four-six to date in August. Most reported attacks have occurred during dawn and dusk; there are some outliers both during daylight and night-time hours. Two young children were bitten, one on the leg and one on the neck and head, which required hospitalization.
- The coyotes are believed to be highly food conditioned and human-habituated. Excessive food subsidies are available through public wildlife feeding (both direct hand-feeding and intentional food stashes), garbage from visitors, people sheltering in the park and the productive marine foreshore. These factors also lead to an increase in abundance of prey (e.g., rodents).
- The coyote density estimates range from 12 to 35 individuals within the park boundaries. Coyote territoriality and subsequent aggression is thought to increase with increasing food availability.
- Management of human behaviour is a critical aspect of wildlife management in urban environments to ensure healthy co-existence with wildlife. Human behaviour management strategies currently underway include public education, patrols, and park 'closures' of high-risk trails and at high-risk times. These 'closures' are not currently legally enforceable.
- The priority for direct management of coyotes is public safety. The COS has attempted to target the lethal removal of coyotes involved in human attacks. However, it is very difficult to confirm that the animals removed were actually those involved in the attacks. Six individual coyotes were trapped and euthanized over two occasions. Health test results received to date, do not indicate acute disease, but some underlying conditions (e.g., parasites).
- Actions taken to date have not resulted in a reduction in the frequency of attacks. Both human and wildlife management measures must be escalated to ensure public safety.

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

DISCUSSION:

Co-existing with wildlife is an important principle of wildlife management in BC. Despite actions in place, the aggressive behaviour of the coyotes in Stanley Park is exceptional, and the underlying factors are not fully understood.

It is likely the attacks are a result of multiple factors leading to individual coyotes developing human-habituated and aggressive behavior, including but not limited to, repeated intentional feeding, high population density, disease, toxins, or injury.

Through discussions with FLNRORD and the COS, the Vancouver Parks Board (VPB) is working to implement strategies to address human behaviour and availability of food and garbage, as well as develop a bylaw to enable enforcement for feeding wildlife or implementing park closures. FLNRORD is willing to support VPB towards developing a long-term co-existence plan for management actions in the park.

s.13(1)

These actions are essential to 'reset' the park environment and ensure sustainable coexistence with coyotes through the long-term. Timelines and feasibility of full implementation of these actions are confounded by the park user density, ~~the number of people~~ sheltering in the park and the size and complexity of the park itself. In the short-term, escalated and direct coyote management controls are needed to address coyote behaviour and ensure public safety.

VPB has asked for provincial support to address the issue. FLNRORD biologists and the COS have had internal discussions to explore different coyote management options. Capture and live release or holding in captivity was considered but it is not deemed feasible or humane (e.g., very high mortality for translocated individuals, lack of suitable ev enclosures). The following two options are considered feasible.

s.13(1), s.16

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1)

s.13(1), s.15, s.16



s.13(1)

s.13(1)

PREPARED BY

Kristina Lensky
Resource Manager, Stewardship
South Coast, Resource Management
(778) 572-2179

REVIEWED BY

	Initials	Date
WHB Director / A/ED	JP	August 27, 2021
DRM South Coast .	SB	August 27, 2021

Attachment 1. Draft Communications Message to be jointly shared across COS, FLNRORD and VPB.

Through discussions with the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development and the Conservation Officer Services, the Vancouver Parks Board is working to implement strategies to address human behaviour and availability of food and garbage. **s.13(1)**

s.13(1)

From: "Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>
To: "Jackson, Steve" <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>
"PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
CC: "Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/18/2021 10:50:12 AM
Subject: FW: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks
Attachments: Confidential Update: coyote incident in Stanley Park on July 22.eml
image001.png
image002.jpg
image003.jpg

Hi Steve & Jeannine,

Copying you on this stream FYI.

Thanks,

C.

~~~~~

**Cheryl Chan** (*she/her*)  
Office of the General Manager  
Vancouver Park Board

t: 604.257.8451 m: **s.15(1)(l)**

e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

---

**From:** Ulmer, Christine <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 8:35 AM  
**To:** Shearer, Doug <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>; Gandha, Amit <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>;  
Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>  
**Cc:** Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks

Hi Doug [we updated the entire Board with information about the incidents and our response so this inquiry is wrapped up.

Thx,

Christine

---

**From:** Chan, Cheryl <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 6:05 PM  
**To:** Shearer, Doug <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>; Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>  
**Cc:** Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks



Hi Doug/Chad,

s.13(1)

Your thoughts?

Thanks,

c.

~~~~~

Cheryl Chan *(she/her)*
Office of the General Manager
Vancouver Park Board

t: 604.257.8451 m: s.15(1)(l)

e: Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca

From: Shearer, Doug <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 5:13 PM
To: Gandha, Amit <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>; Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>; Ulmer, Christine <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
Subject: RE: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks

Hi Chad, Amit, Christine, does anyone know if Cmr Demers received a response on this?

thanks

Doug Shearer
Manager, Planning, Policy & Environment
Vancouver Park Board
c. s.15(1)(l)
(he, him, his)

From: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 3:08 PM
To: Gandha, Amit <Amit.Gandha@vancouver.ca>; Shearer, Doug <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>; Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>; Ulmer, Christine <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>

Subject: FW: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks

Please see email from Commissioner Demers asking for an update.
Thanks.

Ellen

From: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 1:56 PM
To: Demers, Dave <Dave.Demers@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>; Rosa, Donnie <Donnie.Rosa@vancouver.ca>
Subject: RE: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks

Hello Commissioner Demers,

Thank you for your email.

We will follow up with staff.

Regards,

Office of the General Manager
Vancouver Park Board
2099 Beach Avenue, Vancouver, BC
Email: pbgmo@vancouver.ca

We acknowledge that we are on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Nation, the x̱m̱ (Musqueam), Ō̱wú7mesh (Squamish) and's lilw̱ ta (Tsleil-Waututh)

From: Demers, Dave <Dave.Demers@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2021 11:11 AM
To: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>; Rosa, Donnie <Donnie.Rosa@vancouver.ca>
Subject: Fwd: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks

Hello,

Could Commissioners be updated on this situation? Requests for comments are coming in fast...

And if I may: are we considering immediately temporarily closing more trails through SPark, as a precaution?

Thanks

Dave Demers
604.348.6784
Vice Chair, Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation

Begin forwarded message:

From: Courtney Dickson <courtney.dickson@cbc.ca>
Date: July 14, 2021 at 10:51:05 AM PDT
To: <Dave.Demers@vancouver.ca>
Subject: [EXT] Comment on Stanley Park coyote attacks

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hi there,

I'm with CBC Vancouver and we're hoping to do an interview or get a comment on both the most recent coyote attack in Stanley Park as well as information about what's being done to stop these attacks.

You can reach me by email or at 778-522-2551. Hoping we can either set up an interview before 1pm today or after 3, or get an emailed statement by 4pm.

Thanks!

Courtney

--

Courtney Dickson
CBC [British Columbia \[cbc.ca\]](https://www.cbc.ca)
Contact: courtney.dickson@cbc.ca

s.13(1), s.16(1)(b)



s.13(1), s.16(1)(b)



From: "Jackson, Steve" <steve.jackson@vancouver.ca>
To: "Araujo, Sev" <sev.araujo@vancouver.ca>
"Octavio Silva \ (Octavio.Silva@vancouver.ca)" <Octavio.Silva@vancouver.ca>
Date: 9/1/2021 12:21:45 PM
Subject: FW: Stanley Park coyote attack

More FYI

From: Ulmer, Christine <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 12:19 PM
To: Jackson, Steve <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>
Subject: FW: Stanley Park coyote attack

The messaging below from COS is strongly to avoid entering Stanley .just wanted to flag this for you in context of impact on businesses.

C

From: Bell, Danielle L ENV:EX <Danielle.Bell@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, September 1, 2021 12:16 PM
To: Lensky, Kristina FLNR:EX <Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca>; Nadia Xenakis <urbanwildlife@stanleyparkecology.ca>; Pottinger, Guy <guy.pottinger@vancouver.ca>; Walker, Kristen <kristen.walker@ubc.ca>; Ariane Comeau <conservation@stanleyparkecology.ca>; Tricia Collingham <exec@stanleyparkecology.ca>; Kathleen Stormont <sponsors@stanleyparkecology.ca>; McDonald, Dana <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>; Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>; Dejong, Uultsje <Uultsje.Dejong@vancouver.ca>; Penton, Christopher <Christopher.Penton@vancouver.ca>; Alyx Coulter <outreach@stanleyparkecology.ca>; Milne, Andrew ENV:EX <Andrew.Milne@gov.bc.ca>; Bickerton, Nicola FLNR:EX <Nicola.Bickerton@gov.bc.ca>; Gravel, Simon ENV:EX <Simon.Gravel@gov.bc.ca>; Cook, Eva <Eva.Cook@vancouver.ca>; Malt, Joshua FLNR:EX <Joshua.Malt@gov.bc.ca>; Mike Mackintosh <mike@groundowl.com>; Hunter, Todd J ENV:EX <Todd.Hunter@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: PB Communications <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
Subject: [EXT] RE: Stanley Park coyote attack

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hello everyone,

Please be advised that we will be posting information about the latest incidents online, as well as holding a media availability afterwards with Parks as well.

Thank you

The COS is responding to the latest coyote attack incidents in Stanley Park.

Three attacks occurred overnight, including two on children.

One coyote, which demonstrated signs of food habituation, was killed.

The COS will remain in the park to patrol and respond to this specific incident. The COS is working with wildlife biologists from the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development, who are responsible for managing wildlife, to determine next steps.

The COS cannot stress enough to avoid Stanley Park, especially during dawn and dusk hours, when coyotes tend to be more active.

If you do choose to go, please take precautions. Safety tips can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2fpx78nu> [[tinyurl.com](https://tinyurl.com/2fpx78nu)]

From: Bell, Danielle L ENV:EX

Sent: August 30, 2021 3:05 PM

To: Lensky, Kristina FLNR:EX <Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca>; Nadia Xenakis

<urbanwildlife@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Pottinger, Guy <guy.pottinger@vancouver.ca>; Walker,

Kristen <kristen.walker@ubc.ca>; Ariane Comeau <conservation@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Tricia

Collingham <exec@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Kathleen Stormont <sponsors@stanleyparkeecology.ca>;

McDonald, Dana <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>; Townsend, Chad

<Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>; Dejong, Uultsje <uultsje.dejong@vancouver.ca>; Penton,

Christopher <christopher.penton@vancouver.ca>; Alyx Coulter <outreach@stanleyparkeecology.ca>;

Milne, Andrew ENV:EX <Andrew.Milne@gov.bc.ca>; Bickerton, Nicola FLNR:EX

<Nicola.Bickerton@gov.bc.ca>; Gravel, Simon ENV:EX <Simon.Gravel@gov.bc.ca>; Cook, Eva

<Eva.Cook@vancouver.ca>; Malt, Joshua FLNR:EX <Joshua.Malt@gov.bc.ca>; Mike Mackintosh

<mike@groundowl.com>; Hunter, Todd J ENV:EX <Todd.Hunter@gov.bc.ca>

Subject: RE: Stanley Park coyote attack

Hello everyone,

Please be advised of the latest coyote attack in Stanley Park, which occurred this morning near Second Beach.

Two additional attacks were also reported to the COS over the weekend. We will be putting out this information on our social media channels as well.

Thank you,
Danielle

The COS is investigating after a coyote attack in Stanley Park this morning.

At approx. 5:30 a.m., a man suffered minor injuries to his leg when he was bitten by a coyote near Second Beach, along the seawall.

Two additional coyote attacks were also reported to the COS over the weekend. A runner was bitten near Lost Lagoon shortly after 6 a.m. Friday. Later that day, a man walking along the seawall, near the Lions Gate Bridge, was bitten shortly after 9 p.m.

From: Lensky, Kristina FLNR:EX <Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: August 24, 2021 4:26 PM
To: Nadia Xenakis <urbanwildlife@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Pottinger, Guy <guy.pottinger@vancouver.ca>; Walker, Kristen <kristen.walker@ubc.ca>; Ariane Comeau <conservation@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Tricia Collingham <exec@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Kathleen Stormont <sponsors@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; McDonald, Dana <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>; Townsend, Chad <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>; Dejong, Uultsje <uultsje.dejong@vancouver.ca>; Penton, Christopher <christopher.penton@vancouver.ca>; Alyx Coulter <outreach@stanleyparkeecology.ca>; Milne, Andrew ENV:EX <Andrew.Milne@gov.bc.ca>; Bickerton, Nicola FLNR:EX <Nicola.Bickerton@gov.bc.ca>; Gravel, Simon ENV:EX <Simon.Gravel@gov.bc.ca>; Cook, Eva <Eva.Cook@vancouver.ca>; Bell, Danielle L ENV:EX <Danielle.Bell@gov.bc.ca>; Malt, Joshua FLNR:EX <Joshua.Malt@gov.bc.ca>; Mike Mackintosh <mike@groundowl.com>; Hunter, Todd J ENV:EX <Todd.Hunter@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: FWD: Stanley Park coyote attack 2021-08-23

Hi All,
We're still working on a better procedure to distribute information on attacks, but in the interim please see below email regarding a new attack last night.
Thank you,
Kristina

From: Schley, Cam D ENV:EX <Cameron.Schley@gov.bc.ca>
Sent: August 24, 2021 1:45 PM
To: Lensky, Kristina FLNR:EX <Kristina.Lensky@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Stanley Park coyote attack 2021-08-23

Hi Kristina,

The latest Stanley Park coyote attack which was reported to the RAPP line this morning but occurred approximately 930 pm last night was reported as a woman being bitten by a coyote at ~2130h last night in the 2000 block of Nelson Street. The victim went to s.22(1) for treatment, received medical attention and was released from hospital after receiving that medical attention. If you would like to share this with the Task Force, that would be appreciated.

Cam



Cam Schley Acting Deputy Chief
OIC of Provincial Operations | BC Conservation Officer Service
Ministry of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
1020 Murray Street □ Smithers, B.C. V0J 2N0
Phone: 250-847-0432
www.env.gov.bc.ca/cos [env.gov.bc.ca]

From: "Ulmer, Christine" <Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca>
To: "PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>
CC: "PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL" s.15(1)(l)
"PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
"Sangalang, Ellen" <Ellen.Sangalang@vancouver.ca>
"Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/25/2021 4:13:55 PM
Subject: Key Messages for Coyote incidents in Stanley Park
Attachments: KMs_ Stanley Park Coyotes - Aug 25.docx

Good afternoon Commissioners,

Over the past several weeks we have been compiling information, facts, and best practice advice for the public and all visitors to Stanley Park in regard to the escalating incidents of aggressive coyote encounters in Stanley Park.

As you know, there are still many unresolved questions surrounding why coyotes are behaving in this way and we are working closely with our partners at SPES, BC Conservation Officer Service, researchers, and the Ministry Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development to answer outstanding questions and provide solutions to reduce these conflicts, as they are serious in nature.

The attached key messages guide has been developed by the communications team and previously shared with Park Board spokespersons. It is an evolving document that is regularly updated but I think it will be useful for each of you for background information and to guide you with talking points when you receive questions from the public and media.

I will be happy to continue to provide updated versions as new information becomes available to be sure you have the most current and up-to-date information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Christine



Christine Ulmer, MSc. | Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications
Vancouver Park Board | 2099 Beach Avenue
t. 604-404-1797
christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca



Key Messages

Stanley Park Coyotes

Communications Need

Stanley Park has seen an unusual increase in coyote activity and attacks over the past seven months. Public messaging is needed to provide clarity to the public on the Park Board's role when incidents occur, and to educate the public on coexisting with coyotes.

Key Messages

Primary Messages

- This year we have seen an unusual increase in coyote incidents in Stanley Park. This is unprecedented not only in Canada, but in Vancouver. This coyote behaviour we've seen is unique to Stanley Park, nothing we've observed in other Vancouver Parks.
- Coyotes play an important part in balancing our ecosystem, and we need to do our part to coexist.
 - Experts have explained that even if we removed all the coyotes in the park, other coyotes would come. Something in the park is causing this behaviour, and we're working with our partners to understand and address it.
- Although our research partners are looking closely into the cause of this behaviour, one factor we can confidently point to is the access coyotes have to food in the park.
 - Direct access: coyotes being fed by humans or food they leave behind
 - Indirect access: coyote prey (like rodents) are being fed and that increase in population, competitive behaviour in coyotes.

What We're Doing

- This is a complex issue, and our staff are working closely with a number of partners including BC Conservation Officers (COs) and wildlife biologists to reduce coyote conflicts in the park.
 - Since December 2020, the Stanley Park Ecological Society (contracted by the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation) has spent over 500 hours researching and providing public education, and Park Rangers have spent well over 150 hours responding to incidents (in partnership with the BC Conservation Office), posting signage, managing trail closures as needed, and supporting public education.
- While Stanley Park is within the Park Board's jurisdiction, the BC Conservation Office oversees the wildlife within the park. As such, **the public is asked to report any aggressive coyote behaviour directly to the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277.**
 - Once BC Conservation Officers monitor the line 24/7, they will address the situation immediately. When necessary, Park Rangers will support by closing trails or designated areas within the park.

- What additional work we're doing:
 - Offering additional funding to SPES for research and public education
 - Producing and installing more signage
 - Working with our city partners to pilot new wildlife-proof waste bins, and increase enforcement of the bylaw which prohibits feeding wildlife.
- Our researchers and partners are making ongoing observations, which we will use to inform our approach and observations.

Public Actions:

- Visitors to the park need to be aware (especially at dusk and dawn) and should be prepared in the event they encounter a coyote. If you see a coyote, you should:
 - Make yourself big. Face the coyote, stand tall, arms stretched. Do not run.
 - Speak loudly and make noise (but don't scream).
 - Call the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277 to report any aggressive behaviour or attacks.
- **Do not feed wildlife or leave food behind.** They are not your pets. People feeding coyotes, both directly and indirectly, is a known factor that contributes to coyote aggression. Report wildlife feeding to 311.
- Respect trail and park closures, and please do not move signage.
- Do not tamper with research equipment including wildlife trail cameras.
- Keep your pets on leash, and keep your young children close by.

Questions & Answers

Q. How many coyotes are in the Park? How many attacks have there been?

A. We do not know an exact number at this time, but we are working with researchers to determine that.

Q. Is the park safe?

A. The park is safe, but the public should avoid the park at dusk and dawn, and needs to be prepared should they encounter a coyote. If you come across a coyote:

- *Make yourself big. Face the coyote, stand tall, arms stretched. Do not run.*
- *Speak loudly and make noise (but don't scream).*
- *Call the RAPP line at 1-877-952-7277 to report any aggressive behavior or attacks.*

Q. What has/is the Park Board doing about this issue?

A. To date, the Stanley Park Ecological Society (contracted by the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation) has spent nearly 500 hours researching and providing public education, and Park Rangers have spent well over 150 hours responding to incidents (in partnership with the BC Conservation Office), posting signage, managing trail closures as needed, and supporting public education.

We are also offering additional funding to SPES for research and public education, producing and installing more signage, and working with our city partners to pilot new wildlife-proof waste bins, and increase enforcement of the bylaw which prohibits feeding wildlife.

Q. Why are coyotes being aggressive?

A. It is not normal behaviour for coyotes to pursue people. Aggressive behaviour towards people is usually the result of the animal becoming comfortable due to being fed, either directly or indirectly by people.

Q. Are the coyotes on drugs / opioids?

A. We do not have enough information to know what the coyotes are ingesting or have any evidence to definitively know that the coyotes have ingested any illegal substances.

Q. Why don't we just relocate coyotes?

A. Experts have explained that even if we removed all the coyotes in the park, other coyotes would come and fill the void. Something in the park is causing this behaviour (we know it's unique to just Stanley Park) so we're working with our partners to understand and address it.

Q. Why aren't people feeding animals getting ticketed/fined?

A. Our park rangers don't currently have the authority to issue these tickets. However, we are working with our city partners to better enforce this bylaw in the park.

Q. What is the Park Board doing about the garbage issue?

A. Park staff are partnering with the City sanitation area to pilot wildlife-proof garbage bins. Operational plans are still being worked through.

Spokesperson(s):	Donnie Rosa , GM, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation Amit Gandha , Director, Park Operations
Communications:	Christine Ulmer , Senior Manager, Marketing and Communications
Key Business Partners:	Chad Townsend , Senior Planner, Environment and Sustainability Uultsje Dejong , Lead Park Ranger Dana McDonald , Environmental Stewardship Coordinator

From: "PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
To: "PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>
CC: "PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL" s.15(1)(l)
"PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
"Townsend, Chad" <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>
"McDonald, Dana" <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>
"Shearer, Doug" <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>
"Dejong, Uultsje" <Uultsje.Dejong@vancouver.ca>
Date: 9/2/2021 2:11:24 PM
Subject: Messaging Update: Management of coyote population in Stanley Park

Good afternoon Commissioners,

Further to the information you received earlier today regarding messaging about the Province's plan for coyote management in Stanley Park, I can confirm the following statements are approved for your use publicly.

- Co-existing with wildlife is an important principle of wildlife management in BC, but this is an extraordinary circumstance with dangerous wildlife, with serious escalating risk to public safety.
- Given the extraordinary circumstance, FLNRORD will be undertaking direct coyote management controls that includes lethal removal to ensure human safety.
- We (FLNRORD) are working through logistical and safety considerations to implement as soon as possible.

I would request that if you are pressed for more details on what that plan will look like, how many coyotes, methods of removal etc., that you refer to the Province (FLNRORD), as they are responsible for those operational decisions. Another key message that can be shared is that GM Rosa has approved the full cooperation and support of staff from the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation to assist in the Province's strategic and operational needs.

Thank you.

Christine



Christine Ulmer, MSc. | Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications
Vancouver Park Board | 2099 Beach Avenue
t. 604-404-1797
christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca



From: "Guerette, Jeannine" <Jeannine.Guerette@vancouver.ca>
To: "Chan, Cheryl" <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>
"Jackson, Steve" <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>
"PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
CC: "Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/18/2021 10:57:26 AM
Subject: RE: coyote complaint feedback - FYI/action in my absence

Hi Cheryl,

We prepared and shared a KM doc (including Q&A) with commissioners around the time this memo was sent. We can work to update it, but honestly, I'm unclear of what more has been done operationally. We have a meeting at 1pm with the task force, so hopefully we'll know more then and can update it.

Thanks,
Jeannine

From: Chan, Cheryl <Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 10:47 AM
To: Jackson, Steve <Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca>; PB Communications <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
Cc: Park Board GM's Office <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
Subject: FW: coyote complaint feedback - FYI/action in my absence

Hi Steve & Jeannine,

In light of recent enquiries, I'm copying you on the below stream from Doug re: handling complaints to ensure you're both in the loop. I'm not sure if there were any further edits from Comms re: the proposed messaging, but I would suggest an FAQ that could be shared with the Board and Council would be helpful at this point.

FYI I will forward another email stream on this topic re: Board updates & no memos on this topic have been sent, rather a couple of Communications updates that both alerted to attacks/actions /media interest and responded to enquiries.

Thanks,
C.

~~~~~  
**Cheryl Chan** (she/her)  
Office of the General Manager  
Vancouver Park Board

t: 604.257.8451 m: s.15(1)(l)  
e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)



---

From: Shearer, Doug <[Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca](mailto:Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca)>  
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2021 3:14 PM  
To: Ulmer, Christine <[Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca](mailto:Christine.Ulmer@vancouver.ca)>; Park Board GM's Office <[pbgmo@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbgmo@vancouver.ca)>  
Cc: Jackson, Steve <[Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca](mailto:Steve.Jackson@vancouver.ca)>; Stewart, Ian <[ian.stewart2@vancouver.ca](mailto:ian.stewart2@vancouver.ca)>; Dunlop, Emily <[Emily.Dunlop@vancouver.ca](mailto:Emily.Dunlop@vancouver.ca)>; Townsend, Chad <[Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca](mailto:Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca)>; Hutch, Dave <[dave.hutch@vancouver.ca](mailto:dave.hutch@vancouver.ca)>; Downie, Alex <[alex.downie@vancouver.ca](mailto:alex.downie@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: RE: coyote complaint feedback - FYI/action in my absence

Hi again all:

@Christine, I'm wondering if PB Comms could review Chad's standard response below, and if it's acceptable, let us collectively know if we can start sending that out to citizens who are asking about coyotes w/o being uncivil or abusive. And also, who should be sending it out.

Please including Ian and Emily in your response as I'll be gone for two weeks.

Thanks,

Doug Shearer  
Manager, Planning, Policy & Environment  
Vancouver Park Board  
c. s.15(1)(l)  
(he, him, his)

---

From: Shearer, Doug  
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2021 12:02 PM  
To: Downie, Alex <[alex.downie@vancouver.ca](mailto:alex.downie@vancouver.ca)>  
Cc: Park Board GM's Office <[pbgmo@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbgmo@vancouver.ca)>; Jackson, Steve <[steve.jackson@vancouver.ca](mailto:steve.jackson@vancouver.ca)>; Ulmer, Christine <[christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca](mailto:christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca)>; Stewart, Ian <[ian.stewart2@vancouver.ca](mailto:ian.stewart2@vancouver.ca)>; Dunlop, Emily <[emily.dunlop@vancouver.ca](mailto:emily.dunlop@vancouver.ca)>; Townsend, Chad <[chad.townsend@vancouver.ca](mailto:chad.townsend@vancouver.ca)>; Hutch, Dave <[dave.hutch@vancouver.ca](mailto:dave.hutch@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: coyote complaint feedback - FYI/action in my absence

Hi Alex:

Cc'ing others for their info:

To answer your question about how I've been responding: while acting as director for Dave, I've decided to not respond to coyote complaints if

- a. They haven't asked for a response, or
- b. They have but have been uncivil/abusive in their email or phone call

For requests for a response that are not uncivil or abusive, I have been emailing or calling back on a

case by case basis with a response, relying on the below facts, compiled by Chad.

FYI In my absence for next two weeks, Ian will be acting as director for Dave, and Emily will be acting as Planning manager for me.

Cheers,  
Doug

Coyote facts:

- Coyote management is a provincial jurisdiction in BC, including urban environments. The Conservation Officer Service (CO) receive incident reports, and decide on action. Removals of individuals are considered as a last resort (now 6), and the Park Board is supportive of this approach. Park Board Rangers assist with area closures and signage. Removals are based on definitive reporting of individual markings, and public closures are necessary to ensure public safety when these occur.
- For a number of years Park Board has contracted Stanley Park Ecological Society (SPES) to provide a city-wide Co-existing with Coyotes:  
<http://stanleyparkecology.ca/conservation/co-existing-with-coyotes/>  
sighting are recorded and mapped, and public advice given.
- In the last months, Park Board has participated in a Coyote Task Force with a variety of CO and SPES staff. These regular meetings are to analyse all aggressive incidents for potential coyote behavior patterns, ensure consistency of action, and public warning messaging,. Given the number of Stanley Park incidents of this year, SPES contracted coyote researchers from UBC, Alberta, and Ontario to help try to identify the root causes. They were shown video of erratic behaviors, and covert wildlife cameras have been placed to further understand the coyote movements and any sources of human feeding, direct or indirect.
- Some defensive activity is expected annually around Denning Season, but the level of aggressive incidents in Stanley Park this year is unprecedented according to SPES data. It is not occurring in other areas of the city, or parks system where coyotes sighting are reported.

**From:** ["Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>](mailto:pbgmo@vancouver.ca)  
**To:** ["Coupar, John" <John.Coupar@vancouver.ca>](mailto:John.Coupar@vancouver.ca)  
["Barker, Tricia" <Tricia.Barker@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Tricia.Barker@vancouver.ca)  
**CC:** ["PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca)  
["PB SLT \ \(Senior Leadership Team\ \) - DL" s.15\(1\)\(l\)](#)  
["PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)  
**Date:** 9/3/2021 12:36:09 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Special Meeting Request - Stanley Park Coyotes

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Dear Commissioners Barker and Coupar,

As follow-up to our phone conversations, please accept this email as official confirmation that I have received your request to call a Park Board Special meeting to discuss the your submitted motion recommending that "the Vancouver Park Board request the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service remove the existing coyote population from Stanley Park immediately in the interest of public safety for residents and visitors to the park".

Based on the recent update provided by staff regarding the Province's plan for coyote management in Stanley Park, I respectfully request that you withdraw your request for this special meeting as it is my understanding that this work is already underway. According to the staff update, General Manager Rosa has approved the full cooperation and support of Park Board staff to assist with the Province's strategic and operational needs, and the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNRORD), which is responsible for the operational decisions related to wildlife management, has provided the following statements:

- Co-existing with wildlife is an important principle of wildlife management in BC, but this is an extraordinary circumstance with dangerous wildlife, with serious escalating risk to public safety.
- Given the extraordinary circumstance, FLNRORD will be undertaking direct coyote management controls that includes lethal removal to ensure human safety.
- FLNRORD is working through logistical and safety considerations to implement as soon as possible.

I trust this addresses the intent of your motion and that your request for a special meeting can be withdrawn.

Regards,

Camil Dumont  
Chair Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

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From: Park Board GM's Office <[pbgmo@vancouver.ca](mailto:pbgmo@vancouver.ca)>  
Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2021 3:41 PM

---

To: Dumont, Camil <[Camil.Dumont@vancouver.ca](mailto:Camil.Dumont@vancouver.ca)>  
Cc: PB Commissioners <[PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca](mailto:PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca)>; PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL  
s.15(1)(l) PB Communications <[PB.Communications@vancouver.ca](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)>  
Subject: Special Meeting Request - Stanley Park Coyotes

Dear Chair Dumont,

Attached, please find a written request from Commissioners Barker and Coupar for you to call a special meeting to discuss the removal of coyotes in Stanley Park. The submitted members' motion is included in the written request.

Please note, that as per the [Park Board Procedure By-laws](#), any two members may request that the Chair call a special meeting. The Chair then needs to provide a minimum of 48hrs notice to Commissioners once the meeting has been called. To clarify, the meeting does not need to be called within 48 hours of receiving the request. Also, I would like to remind Commissioners that the Park Board boardroom is currently undergoing an A/V upgrade and so we are not currently able to run or stream a public meeting from the boardroom until those upgrades and subsequent training is complete. In order to ensure the special meeting is publicly accessible, we will need to work with the City digital services and network teams to make alternate arrangements.

Thanks,

C.

~~~~~

Cheryl Chan (*she/her*)
Manager, Executive Office & Board Relations
Office of the General Manager
Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4
t: 604.257.8451 m: s.15(1)(l)
e: Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca

*I respectfully acknowledge that I live, work, and play in the traditional territories of the xʷməθNə́m̓ (Musqueam),
ḵʷəmə́kw̓ 7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətaʔ (Tsleil-Waututh) Coast Salish peoples.*

From: "Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>
To: "Dumont, Camil" <Camil.Dumont@vancouver.ca>
CC: "PB Commissioners" <PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca>
"PB SLT \ (Senior Leadership Team\) - DL" s.15(1)(l)
"PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>
Date: 9/1/2021 3:41:23 PM
Subject: Special Meeting Request - Stanley Park Coyotes
Attachments: PB - GMO - Special Meeting Request - Coyotes in Stanley Park - 2021-09-01.pdf

Dear Chair Dumont,

Attached, please find a written request from Commissioners Barker and Coupar for you to call a special meeting to discuss the removal of coyotes in Stanley Park. The submitted members' motion is included in the written request.

Please note, that as per the [Park Board Procedure By-laws](#), any two members may request that the Chair call a special meeting. The Chair then needs to provide a minimum of 48hrs notice to Commissioners once the meeting has been called. To clarify, the meeting does not need to be called within 48 hours of receiving the request. Also, I would like to remind Commissioners that the Park Board boardroom is currently undergoing an A/V upgrade and so we are not currently able to run or stream a public meeting from the boardroom until those upgrades and subsequent training is complete. In order to ensure the special meeting is publicly accessible, we will need to work with the City digital services and network teams to make alternate arrangements.

Thanks,

C.

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**Cheryl Chan** (she/her)  
Manager, Executive Office & Board Relations  
Office of the General Manager  
Vancouver Park Board

2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC V6G 1Z4  
t: 604.257.8451 m: s.15(1)(l)  
e: [Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca](mailto:Cheryl.Chan@vancouver.ca)

*I respectfully acknowledge that I live, work, and play in the traditional territories of the xʷməθNə́m (Musqueam), ḵʷəḵʷə 7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Coast Salish peoples.*



September 1, 2021

Commissioner Camil Dumont  
Park Board Chair  
Board of Parks and Recreation  
2099 Beach Avenue  
Vancouver, BC  
V6G 1Z4

Dear Chair Dumont,

**Re: Special Meeting Request - Coyotes in Stanley Park**

Please accept this letter as our formal written request for a Park Board Special meeting to be called as soon as possible to discuss the attached Member's Motion recommending the removal of coyotes from Stanley Park.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is "Tricia Barker" and the second is "John Coupar".

Tricia Barker & John Coupar  
Commissioners  
Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/clc

Copy to: PB Commissioners  
PB Senior Leadership Team  
PB Communications



## **SPECIAL MEETING – MEMBER’S MOTION**

*Submitted to Board Chair on 2021-09-01*

### **Coyotes in Stanley Park**

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Barker & Commissioner Coupar

#### **WHEREAS:**

1. The [British Columbia Conservation Officer Service](#) (BCCOS) is responsible for protecting the environment and [natural resources](#) in British Columbia. Conservation Officers are [peace officers](#), armed, and enforce 6 federal statutes and 25 provincial statutes, including the Species at Risk Act, Liquor Control and Licensing Act, Wildlife Act, and Environmental Management Act.[2];
2. The Vancouver Park Board has jurisdiction over Stanley Park, the largest public park within the City of Vancouver
3. Wild coyotes in Stanley Park have attacked more than 40 people since December 2020, including 2-year-old and 5-year-old children.

#### **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:**

- A. THAT the Vancouver Park Board request the British Columbia Conservation Officer Service remove the existing coyote population from Stanley Park immediately in the interest of public safety for residents and visitors to the park.
- B. FURTHER THAT once the coyotes are removed from Stanley Park, that staff immediately reopen the park to its regular hours to insure access to user groups and business partners.

**From:** "Park Board GM's Office" <pbgmo@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "PARK BOARD STAFF - 2099 Beach - DL" s.15(1)(l)  
**CC:** "PB ELT (Extended Leadership Team) - DL"  
**Date:** 9/3/2021 10:51:06 AM  
**Subject:** Stanley Park

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Hello team,

If you're in the area of Stanley Park today you will notice a red fence and controlled access points.

The purpose of this fencing is to control access in order to limit the number of folks in the park when it's closed (7pm-7am - times subject to change.)

The park is closed overnight in order to support the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations, and Rural Development in their efforts to address the coyote /human incidents in Stanley Park.

Thank you.

Donnie  
they/she



**Donnie Rosa | General Manager**  
**Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation**  
2099 Beach Avenue, Vancouver | 604.257.8448  
**Pronouns:** They/She

*I acknowledge that we are on the unceded territories of the Coast Salish Nation, the xʷməŋɬəḥəm (Musqueam), Ḵóowú 7mesh (Squamish) and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh)*



**From:** "PB Communications" <[PB.Communications@vancouver.ca](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)>

**To:** "PB Commissioners" <[PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca](mailto:PBCommissioners@vancouver.ca)>

**CC:** "PB SLT (Senior Leadership Team) - DL" s.15(1)(l)

["PB Communications" <PB.Communications@vancouver.ca>](mailto:PB.Communications@vancouver.ca)

["Townsend, Chad" <Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Chad.Townsend@vancouver.ca)

["McDonald, Dana" <Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Dana.McDonald@vancouver.ca)

["Shearer, Doug" <Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Doug.Shearer@vancouver.ca)

**Date:** 9/1/2021 7:12:25 PM

**Subject:** Update on Provincial announcement

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Good evening Commissioners,

This note is to advise you that the Province has not yet communicated its action plan and approach to management of the coyote population in Stanley Park. We anticipate there will be an announcement tomorrow, and are working with their communications team in the morning to provide any support or alignment that may be required.

We will share any updates on the timing and details of the announcement when they become available.

Sincerely,

Christine



Christine Ulmer, MSc. | Senior Manager, Marketing & Communications  
[Vancouver Park Board](#) | 2099 Beach Avenue  
t. 604-404-1797  
[christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca](mailto:christine.ulmer@vancouver.ca)

