

Vote NO to Culling

November 2nd

Vote Against Deer Slaughter



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Culling
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- Vote NO ↔ If you value wildlife
- Vote NO ↔ If you want to leave deer alone
- Vote NO ↔ If you believe animals feel pain
- Vote NO ↔ If you don't want to pay for deer slaughter
- Vote NO ↔ If you want Invermere to be a "Wildlife Safe" town

More Information
250.341.7312

Please vote NO to the deer cull referendum question

"Do you approve Council of the District of Invermere

to use a deer cull as one of the methods to control the urban deer population?"

When and Where

Wednesday	October 23	8 AM to 8 PM	DOI Office
Thursday	October 31	8 AM to 4:30 PM	DOI Office
Saturday	November 2	8 AM to 8 PM	Community Hall

Culling is Killing

- Cull means "kill, slaughter, massacre or butcher".
- Goal of the Urban Deer Advisory Committee
"Coming up with an alternative to calling it a cull". Minutes May 30, 2012
Terms "more publicly pleasing—herd reduction, harvest, population control..." *E-mail April 19, 2011*

Killing is Expensive

- Actual cost of culling, Cranbrook 2013
\$625 per deer
\$13 per pound (1170 lbs venison = 5000 lbs beef)
Cost of Cranbrook council secrecy—shame
Urban Deer Management Annual Report, 2013, City of Cranbrook
- Some complainers received a "benefit" of deer on their property killed —taxpayers paid
- Unlike Cranbrook, DOI never reported details of the 2012 cull
- DOI incurred legal fees to end an injunction, to dismiss (failed), to postpone twice and finally to defend doomed recommendations (sharpshooting, perimeter fencing and re-location) and ignored recommendations (education)

Culling is Bad for Business

- Wildlife viewing IS a tourist attraction—wildlife slaughter is NOT
- Radium Hot Springs ♥♥ sheep • Banff ♥♥ elk • Invermere kills deer
- On-going bad publicity – we could have shown "How to Live with Wildlife" but instead we fight for the right kill
- Money spent to appease complainers and battle citizens in court is wasted
- Facebook Page "We Support the Culling of Invermere Deer" – councillors, small business owners, their family and friends—shameful for DOI image
- Sharpshooting in Invermere? Recommendation # 2—Final Report and Recommendations, DOI



Culling Doesn't Work

- "Mule deer population in East Kootenay is declining" and migration to municipal areas will further reduce population.
Ministry of Forests, Land, Natural Resource Operations, 2012
Kootenay-Boundary Mule Deer Management Plan: Outline and Background Information
 - Another concern is that there will be increased immigration into an area that has been depopulated due to the newly available habitat and resources.
BC Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis, March 2010
 - Perimeter fencing of the whole town might stop this but is completely impractical.
"constructing a community fence along municipal boundaries"
Recommendation # 3—Community Fencing
Final Report and Recommendations, DOI, July 2011
 - "Any method of population reduction will be an on-going activity." "When discussing population reduction as a management intervention, there is concern about the reproductive rebound effect, which can happen when an animal population quickly takes advantage of resources freed up by a population reduction program and rapidly builds up to pre-reduction levels."
BC Urban Ungulate Conflict Analysis, March 2010
- "Mayor Gerry Taft says the cull is a last resort but most people demanded something be done about the aggressive deer."
CBC, March 3, 2012

Wildlife viewing
in Invermere?

Deer slaughter

Fawn butchering

Deer in traps

Deer poaching

Deer stoning

Deer bullying

What if...

"a child is killed....?"

- "The three leading causes of injury-related children and youth deaths are motor vehicle collisions, drowning and threats to breathing"
- Falling is the leading cause of children being hospitalized
- Approximately 390 children aged 14 and younger died annually from unintentional injuries & another 25,500 were hospitalized in Canada (Stats Canada)

Fact: There have been no reports of any deer caused child's death in Canada

"an adult is injured....?"

- Very low likelihood and low severity = low risk
- Culling does little or nothing to reduce risk—avoidance does
- DOI is not responsible for the actions of wildlife—or to protect you from deer
- "Leading causes of death in Canada are cancer, heart disease, stroke, chronic respiratory diseases, accident, diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, influenza, pneumonia, kidney disease and suicide. In 2008, almost 3000 died in traffic-related accidents."

Fact: There have been very few injuries and no reports of deaths caused by urban deer

"deer eat my plants...?"

- Number one complaint in Invermere
- Perimeter fence, site specific fence, seasonal fence, temporary fence, resistant species, protect bark etc.
- Personal responsibility—taxpayers are not responsible to protect your property!

"deer attract predators....?"

- Predators enter town to find easy food—cats, fruit and garbage; not deer
- DOI has Wildsafe to protect predators and deer
- Culling deer in winter does little or nothing to discourage predators



Culling is Un-Ethical

Ethical hunters oppose culling

"Harvest game only in Fair Chase. FAIR CHASE, as defined by the Boone and Crockett Club, is the ethical, sportsmanlike, and lawful pursuit and harvesting of any free-ranging, native North American big game animal in a manner that does not give the hunter an improper advantage over such animals."

Lake Windermere District Rod and Gun Club Code of Ethics

There is no evidence of "over-abundance" - simply a healthy, natural population

DOI ignored a thoughtful, caring letter sent to them June 2010 by a local first nations person.

"The underlying factor is how to exist with the abundance of wildlife we are blessed with,. That recognition is paramount when developing short and long term wildlife management strategies that will sustain coexistence. From my perspective that is the real issue that people conveniently avoid and dance around."

More than 3 years of pain, expense and conflict caused by thoughtless council decisions

Culling is In-Humane

Deer are baited, trapped and struggle for hours, until the contractor arrives. Then the trap is collapsed on top of them and as the deer struggles, a captive bolt gun is applied to their skull and a metal bolt is propelled into their head. The gun is intended for use only on captive, domestic animals in slaughterhouses with the head immobilized.

"Because placement and positioning of the projectile is critical, some degree of restraint is required for proper use of this device. While the destruction of brain tissue with the penetrating captive bolt may be sufficient to result in death, operators are strongly advised to ensure death by exsanguination. "

US Humane Slaughter Act of 1958

- A deer was trapped during the day, accidentally, in Invermere and most likely died of the severe injuries it sustained before a caring neighbour released it.
- A deer was trapped during the day in a Cranbrook city counselor's yard and was severely injured. The contractor arrived, killed the deer and berated neighbours as they watched with disgust.

*"if the opinion
poll fails..."*

Mayor Taft

*NO
to killing is
a fail?!*

Better Late than Never (but your kind-hearted opinion is a "fail"!)

Ray Brydon, former DOI Councilor (before first committee is formed) *"there are five steps involved to come up with a decision about how we will go about culling deer".*

Columbia Valley Pioneer, January 28, 2011

In the second meeting of the Urban Deer Advisory Committee (months before final report written or approved) *"Cull the first year, though there still is problem with what to do with the disposal of meat."*

Minutes, UDAC, May 13th, 2011

"There was a lot of strong feeling that culling is going to be the really only truly effective way..."

Penticton Mayor Litke, UBCM 2013

".... it would be really helpful for the district to find out where public opinion on the deer cull really lies."
(17 months after 19 deer killed)

Mayor Taft, Columbia Valley Pioneer, September 20, 2013

"...if the opinion poll fails and the majority of people think they don't, as a value judgment, they don't agree with deer culls then in my mind it's out of the tool box..."

Mayor Taft, CBC Daybreak, September 11, 2013
(the Mayor says a NO vote is a fail....)



Invermere Deer Protection Society

1017 13th Avenue Invermere BC V0A 1K4 (250) 341-7312
www.invermeredeer.com info@invermeredeer.com

How to live with wildlife—humanely

- **Protect property**—fence your yard, fence your vegetables, provide barriers for your shrubs and young trees, plant less desirable species, leash your dog, look ahead, give wide berth
- **Protect wildlife**—discourage with repellants, scare tactics, deterrents and smart planting, build safe structures
- **Educate**—yourselves, your children, learn about deer—their habitat, movements, life cycle, appreciate all wildlife, learn how to protect and accommodate wildlife and increase and improve their habitat
- **Tolerate**—love and respect wildlife, deer are neither “Bambi” or “threatening” killers
- **Participate**—don’t let intolerance and hatred change your positive attitude and behavior toward wildlife

Final Thoughts

It seems that the best way to stabilize urban wildlife populations might be to allow them to find a natural balance based on what the city environment will support and learn how to adapt ourselves to changing ecological realities.

Stephen Hume, Vancouver Sun, June 11, 2013

The City must aim to address the cause of the deer habituation, rather than opt for a convenient, short-term action.”

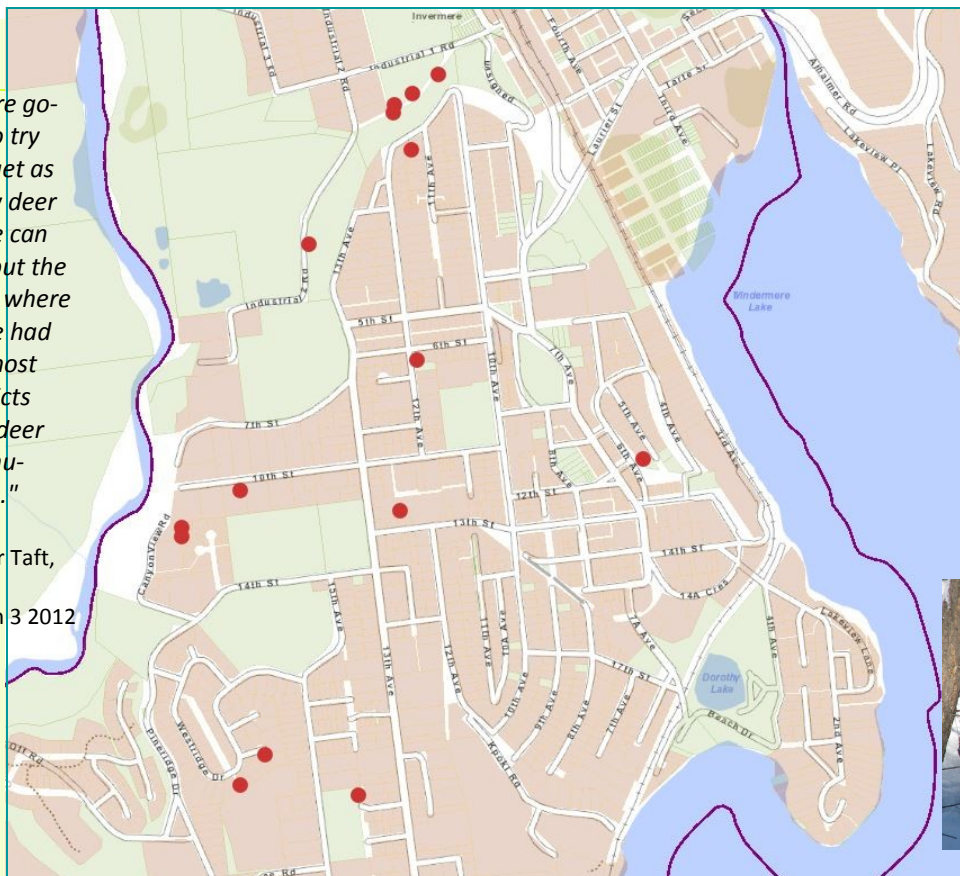
BC SPCA, Letter February 25, 2013

‘The BC SPCA strongly opposes a proposal made by the District of Oak Bay, B.C. to use lethal measures to control deer, as this is not a sustainable or evidence-based option, in particular for this type of urban area.’

BC SPCA, Letter June 28, 2013

"We're going to try and get as many deer as we can and put the traps where we've had the most conflicts with deer and humans."

Mayor Taft,
CBC
March 3 2012



Known Trap Locations — February 2012 Culling

Killing Next Door?

“Mr. Taft responded that initially the job of notification was up to the landowner where the trap is located, but added that district administration will be assisting in letting surrounding property owners know in the future.”

Neighbours were not notified



Clover Trap in DOI works yard