

The BC SPCA's mission is to enhance the quality of life for domestic, farm and wild animals in British Columbia.

Have questions about how you can improve animal welfare in your community?

Contact us at: 1-855-622-7722 animalbylaws@spca.bc.ca



The BC SPCA respectfully acknowledges that we live, work and play on the unceded traditional territories of the numerous and diverse First Nations within British Columbia.

We express our gratitude to all Indigenous communities - First Nations, Métis and Inuit - for stewarding and sharing this land.

# BCSPCA SPEAKING FOR ANIMALS spca.bc.ca

# YOU CAN REDUCE CONFLICTS BETWEEN PEOPLE & WILDLIFE

The most effective way to solve wildlife conflicts is to prevent them before they happen. Feeding wild animals is harmful and dangerous for us and them.

# **?** WHY IS THIS AN ISSUE?

When wild animals eat human food instead of their natural diet, their health suffers. If they come to rely on us for food, it can disrupt their natural movement and migration patterns and lead to the spread of disease. Wild animals who regularly interact with humans lose their healthy sense of fear and can become a nuisance and a public safety concern.

Even if feeding isn't intentional, wildlife can be attracted to our neighbourhoods by improperly stored garbage, compost, bird feeders, dirty barbecues, pet food, and fruit in trees or on the ground. Get more information about the dangers of feeding wildlife <a href="here">here</a>.

The B.C. <u>Wildlife Act</u> only prohibits the feeding of dangerous wildlife such as bears, cougars, coyotes or wolves, leaving local governments to regulate the feeding and management of attractants for other wildlife species.



### WHAT CAN WE DO?

You can personally refrain from feeding wild animals, make sure you properly manage your garbage, compost, gardens and barbecues and encourage your friends and neighbours to do the same.

As a local government, you can adopt bylaws that prohibit intentional feeding and require proper storage and management of attractants.



## WHO ELSE HAS TAKEN ACTION?

District of Tumbler Ridge: City of Vancouver: City of Coquitlam:

Bylaw No. <u>692</u>

Bylaw No. <u>13321</u>

Bylaw No. <u>4284</u>

Find more BC SPCA-recommended progressive bylaws <u>here</u>.