

For immediate release
June 16, 2025

**SLRD continues to collaborate with WildSafeBC on outreach and education initiatives
*WildSafeBC coordinator to lead awareness and education efforts to help reduce conflicts
with wildlife in the region***

Pemberton, BC - For the sixth season, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) is working with [WildSafeBC](#) to raise awareness in regional communities about wildlife and reducing human-wildlife conflicts.

Building on the success of past years, WildSafeBC Coordinator, Niall Bell, will deliver outreach and education programs to guide the prevention of conflicts with wildlife and provide residents with information to keep themselves and wildlife safe. Bell holds an MSc in Environmental Management and has a background in wildlife conservation, ecosystem science, climate change, and anthropogenic biodiversity loss.

"I'm looking forward to sharing WildSafeBC messaging and raising awareness to help reduce human-wildlife conflict within local SLRD communities this year, said Bell. "As a wildlife photographer and scientist who has spent time in communities living with wildlife, I have gained firsthand experience of the risks concerning human-wildlife encounters and why it's crucial to be proactive and share knowledge."

From spring through to November, Bell will deliver WildSafeBC program initiatives, including Bear Spray workshops, wildlife awareness, WildSafeBC Ranger presentations for children and community presentations while sharing information through social media, door-to-door outreach, and display booths at local events.

"We are pleased to once again partner with WildSafeBC on this very important programming throughout the region," said SLRD Board Chair, Jen Ford. "We look forward to building on the momentum of previous years and continuing to educate and inform communities, with the goal of reducing human-wildlife conflict throughout the region."

To prevent bears from accessing residential waste, residents are reminded to:

- Store waste in a wildlife-resistant container or enclosure suitable for the amount of refuse generated and always kept clean, secure and in good condition;
- Only place wildlife-resistant containers at the curb on the morning of collection and during collection hours;
- To note that bear-resistant totes are not bear-proof;
- Ensure that totes are secured indoors or, if an indoor location isn't available, should be secured to a solid post or object with a chain to prevent them from being dragged away; and
- Keep totes closed and secure using both clips.

The SLRD's [Wildlife Attractant bylaw](#) regulates the proper management of wildlife attractants.

WildSafeBC and the SLRD will continue to provide wildlife activity updates, news, and tips through social media during the season. Follow [@WildSafeBCSquamishLillooetRD](#) on Facebook.

Report wildlife in conflict to the Conservation Officer Service 24/7 at 1-877-952-7277. Residents should also report sightings of bears, cougars, coyotes, or wolves in urban areas.

Residents wanting more information about the WildSafeBC SLRD program can contact:

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WildSafeBC SLRD Coordinator
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Email: slrd@wildsafebc.com

WildSafeBC is grateful for the generous support from its funders, including the SLRD, the British Columbia Conservation Foundation and the Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship.

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About the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District

Located in southwestern BC, the Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) is a local government federation consisting of four member municipalities (the District of Lillooet, the District of Squamish, the Village of Pemberton and the Resort Municipality of Whistler) and four unincorporated, rural electoral areas (A, B, C, and D). Headquartered in Pemberton, which is the approximate geographic centre of the region, the SLRD delivers a wide range of local, regional and sub-regional services to approximately 50,496 residents (2021 Census as certified by the Minister of Municipal Affairs).

The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District is found within the traditional territories of several First Nations, including the Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish), St'át'imc and Líl'wat. Small parts of the SLRD also overlap with the traditional territories of the Stó:lō, Tsleil-Waututh, Nlaka'pamux, Tsilhqot'in, and Secwepemc Nations. While the SLRD does not provide direct services to the residents of the First Nations communities located within the region, the organization is committed to enhancing relations with the Indigenous communities and First Nations within whose territories the SLRD operates.

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