

**For immediate release
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Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) Enacts a Wildlife Attractant Bylaw in all Electoral Areas

Pemberton, BC – The Squamish-Lillooet Regional District (SLRD) Board has adopted an expanded wildlife attractant bylaw that aims to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in the region.

At the July 25, 2018 Board meeting, Electoral Area A was added to the scope of Squamish-Lillooet Regional District Wildlife Attractant Bylaw No. 1551-2018, which now applies to all four SLRD Electoral Areas.

“Living so close to nature, as we do throughout the SLRD, is a great privilege,” said Board Chair Jack Crompton. “We also have a responsibility – as residents and stewards of the area – to ensure we do our part to live in harmony with the wildlife that also call the region home. This bylaw helps us all honour that responsibility to ensure that our impact on wildlife is reduced.”

The Bylaw addresses an array of issues related to managing attractants, including, but not limited to:

- Ensuring adequate storage of solid waste (including recycling) in wildlife resistant containers and a wildlife resistant enclosure; and
- Proper management of fruit trees, hens, beehives, birdfeeders, barbeques, compost and other possible sources/products (i.e antifreeze) that may attract wildlife.

Residents found to be in violation of the bylaw could face fines of up to \$500 for each incident, however, the intent is to start with improving education and awareness.

“Our first goal is always to work with residents to keep them informed but now we have a bylaw that also allows us to enforce these rules,” Crompton said. “Along with the educational components, having this Bylaw in place is important to help our communities stay safe for people and to keep wildlife wild.”

One of the first exercises will be to inform residents in Furry Creek and Britannia about the rules around curbside collection. Curbside waste and recycling containers left outside beyond collection day are easy targets for wildlife. To help residents understand that these containers are wildlife attractants, during the week of September 10, the SLRD will be placing stickers on curbside containers in Furry Creek and Britannia Beach. The stickers also remind residents that waste collection containers must only be placed at the curb between 6 a.m. – 7 p.m. on collection day and must be stored in a wildlife resistant enclosure. The SLRD will also create information tools for bylaw officers to use to help educate residents.

To learn more about the Wildlife Attractant Bylaw in the SLRD as well as the ***Top 10 Ways to Keep Wildlife Wild***, please visit www.slrd.bc.ca/keepwildlifewild.

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