

**Subject:** [Fwd: DNV Bear Hazard Assessment Report and Resident Survey]  
**From:** Brian Platts <bplatts@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Sun, 21 May 2006 19:38:18 -0700  
**To:** Corrie@kost.ca

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**Subject:** DNV Bear Hazard Assessment Report and Resident Survey  
**From:** Barbara Murray <murrllaw@shaw.ca>  
**Date:** Sun, 21 May 2006 18:28:56 -0700  
**To:** fonvca@fonvca.org

Dear Fonvca,

As you know I am very involved in bear matters hence the name of my new organization and website. I have long awaited a survey that would gage the public's interest in pursuing 'proactive' bear management ie: garbage by-laws and more bear proof bins-both commercial and residential made available. Friday's posting on the DNV website was a great disappointment to me. I had not been involved in survey's creation but feel it very confusing and can only imagine a resident's response without any background.

**Go to:** <http://www.dnv.org/UltimateSurvey/takeSurvey.asp?surveyID=33>

I would like to request that FONCA consider circulating this survey or hopefully a corrected survey(below) to their association's directors to circulate to their members via e-mail? I don't know if this has been done before or it is something you can do before the cut off date of June 9<sup>th</sup> but I think this would bring in the much needed number of responses to a very important question.

Resources and budgets have been dedicated to bears in DNV since 1999 with no apparent success of lowering 'bear culls' every 3-4yrs or bear-human conflicts in a proactive way. Perhaps DNV should leave all responsibility for bears to the Prov authorities as was the case in 1999 or do they expend resources and monies toward more proactive measures to decrease attracting bears to neighbourhoods to start with? This survey could help Council make these kind of decisions.

Wayne McCrory, author of the BHA Report is reviewing the survey(s) and will be responding soon. Please advise if this is an issue that your organization can help bring clarity to and participation in from the general public. The Report and Survey will be available at an Open House at DNV on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm to 9pm. Previous Open House May18 at Parkgate with 50 people responding. After June 9<sup>th</sup> the staff at DNV will go to Council with survey results and recommendations re: bear management. This year's budget for bears is \$40,000 plus \$20,000 for bear proofing bins.

Look forward to your response.

Barbara Murray  
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**Proposed Corrected Survey by B.Murray of Bear Matters BC:**

**Residential Bear Management Survey for DNV to be completed by June 9<sup>th</sup> 2006**

Circle Yes or No or Appropriate Number.

1. Do you feel DNV and Provincial Authorities are currently meeting the needs of the community regarding bear issues which arise during the year and there should be no changes at this time? Yes or No? (see comment section below to express suggestions or comments)

**2. Should DNV implement a comprehensive Municipal Waste Management By-law that includes addressing attractant issues(residential garbage storage, properly kept composts, inaccessible birdfeeders, maintain fruit trees by minimizing fallen fruit, manage berry plants etc...) Yes or No?**

2A. If Yes is answered to 2 then how much should the fine be for first offence: 1.\$25, 2.\$50 3.\$75 4. \$100

3. If a single family homeowner, would you be willing to give up weekly curbside garbage pick-up in favor of a centralized community drop-off or bear proof dumpster program? Yes or No?

4. If No is answered to 3 would you want curbside garbage pick-up complimented with community bear proof dumpsters at an additional cost to your sanitation tax? Yes or No?

4a If Yes is answered to 4 then how much would you be willing to pay yearly for an additional service for community dumpsters? 1.\$25 2.\$50 3.\$75 4. more?

5. If No is answered to 4 would you be willing to purchase a bear proof type schaeffer bin (like current green large bin) for a cost of approx \$100-\$150 or so? Yes or No

**Below are some recommendations taken from the Bear Hazard Assessment Report by Wayne McCrory's Report (to view full report go to [www.dnv.org](http://www.dnv.org) and click on Bear Hazard Assessment Report).**

**Please circle the number which represents what priority they should be given: #1 being highest priority and #5 being lowest priority.**

**Non-circled questions will assume reader does not have enough information to give an informed opinion.**

1. Implement a comprehensive municipal waste management by-law..... (see question 2 above) How important: 1,2,3,4,5

2. Require that residential backyards be fenced, especially in identified bear/wildlife areas(bears can climb fences but more likely detour if no attractants in yard): 1,2,3,4,5

3. Require that residents remove or are prohibited to plant plants that attract bears like berry bushes and mountain ash: 1,2,3,4,5

4. Require that residents manage fruit trees to reduce attracting bears (pick ripe and fallen fruit A.S. A. P); 1,2,3,4,5

5. Municipality encourage bear smart education of students, parents, schools and businesses (ways to bear safe their premises): 1,2,3,4,5

6. Fence school yards where they border upon bear habitat and travel corridors: 1,2,3,4,5

7. Maintain natural areas bordering on trails,schools and residential areas for better visibility by regular brush removal

and install warning signs: 1,2,3,4,5

8. Continue the program of monitoring bear activities in identified bear areas, posting bear warning signs, bear-proofing waste containers and ensuring play equipment is installed in bear safer locations; 1.2. 3. 4. 5.

9. Avoid planting landscaped plants that are bear attractants on district land: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,

10. On hiking and biking trails continue monitoring of bear sightings by present DNV staff and others(volunteers and Conservation Officer Service ) and be prepared to implement closures when a bear or other 'dangerous' wildlife is identified 1,2,3,4,5

11. Educate recreational users to carry bear spray as first line of defense in event of an aggressive bear or other predator encounter: 1,2,3,4,5

12. Avoid bear habitats or wildlife corridors when designing new biking and hiking trails and leave ample secure habitats and travel routes for black bears and other wildlife when proposing parks in DNV: 1,2,3,4,5,

13 Continue and expand program of properly brushing out trails to improve visibility: 1,2,3,4,5

14. Post bear signs along trails: 1,2,3,4,5

Comments Here:

**DNV Bear Hazard Assessment Report and Resident Survey**

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