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**From:** Tanya Shannon <tshannon@acrd.bc.ca>  
**Sent:** May 11, 2021 3:09 PM  
**To:** Wendy Thomson <wthomson@acrd.bc.ca>  
**Cc:** Douglas Holmes <dholmes@acrd.bc.ca>  
**Subject:** FW: Mutiple Vancouver Island councils endorse proposal to pause wolf-hunting

Hi Wendy,

I have received this correspondence today. Is there time to include this as a late item for our COW tomorrow, and could you please pass on to the rest of the board?

Thanks,

Tanya

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**From:** Valerius Geist <[kendulf@shaw.ca](mailto:kendulf@shaw.ca)>  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 2:47 PM  
**To:** Nikki Levasseur <[nikkilevasseur@gmail.com](mailto:nikkilevasseur@gmail.com)>, Tanya Shannon <[tshannon@acrd.bc.ca](mailto:tshannon@acrd.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Re: Fwd: Mutiple Vancouver Island councils endorse proposal to pause wolf-hunting

Nikki, I found the following in one of my reports. Cheers, Val Geist

However, **the worst incident happened about 350 yards from our house when the second misbehaving pack formed. On March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007**, our neighbors went in the morning to inspect their dairy cattle and pastures. Their old dog ran ahead of them. Just as they entered the forest five wolves attacked the dog. My neighbor grabbed a cedar branch and advanced on the wolves, which turned towards him snarling. His wife jumped into the caboose of their excavator that happened to be nearby. My neighbor's energetic counter attack freed the dog, and intimidated all but one wolf that advanced on him snarling. However, he too withdrew, even if reluctantly. While my neighbor ran home to get a gun, his wife ran to us, shouting for me to get a rifle. We did not see the wolves, though they were sighted briefly in the evening, and a neighbor walking his dog had an encounter with two wolves about a mile away. He was able to chase them away. The following morning our neighbours took a rifle along during their inspection trip of their property. **The wolf pack promptly went for them again and my**

**neighbor shot the most aggressive one**, a male weighing 74 lbs. I saw the neighbors' cattle, spooked by a wolf, crash through fences while fleeing for the security of their barn. I found two of the three cattle killed and eaten by wolves; the third was severely injured about the genitals, udder and haunches and had to be put down. I saw the docked tails, slit ears and wounded hocks on the dairy cows. Our neighbor's hired man saw from a barn a wolf attacking a heifer with a newborn calf. He raced out and put the calf on his quad. As he ran to the barn the wolf ran alongside, **lunging at the calf – and right into the barn!** A predator control officer was called and **13 wolves were removed within a mile of our house from the first, and four from the second misbehaving pack (17 wolves!).**

**That “tameness,” that “hanging around,” that increasing boldness and inquisitiveness, is the wolf’s way of exploring its potential prey, and the strength of its potential enemies.** Coyotes targeting children in urban parks act in virtually the same manner. Two wolves in June 2000 severely injured a camper on Vargas Island just off the coast of Vancouver Island. These wolves became even tamer before the attack, as they nipped at the clothing of campers, licked their exposed skin and ate hotdogs from their hands. Our observations here suggested that wolves, attracted to habitations by the scarcity of prey, shift to dogs and livestock, but also increasingly, though cautiously, explore humans, before mounting a first, clumsy attack.

On 5/11/2021 2:03 PM, Nikki Levasseur wrote:

Hi Tanya

Please see below

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Valerius Geist** <[kendulf@shaw.ca](mailto:kendulf@shaw.ca)>

Date: Tue, May 11, 2021 at 1:55 PM

Subject: Re: Mutiple Vancouver Island councils endorse proposal to pause wolf-hunting

To: Nikki Levasseur <[nikkilevasseur@gmail.com](mailto:nikkilevasseur@gmail.com)>

Yes, Nikki, please do show my email to the counselors. I see that I will have to write Premier Horgan a letter, as I do have something to say about bad legislation historically. I was one of three scientists asked to by the Carnegie family to investigate Kenton Carnegie's death by wolves in Saskatchewan. I normally open presentations with the statement that had Kenton Carnegie landed in BC instead of Saskatchewan, he would be alive and well today. Saskatchewan essentially prohibited wolf killing which led to wolves feeding on garbage and first becoming tolerant of humans, and then starting to go after them. Kenton Carnegie was killed by 4 such garbage habituated wolves. Also, do not forget that John and Anita Oesterom were attacked by 5 wolves about 350 yds from their house. Anita came running to my house shouting about John and wolves and I ran out rifle in hand, but arrived too late. John who - fortunately - had found a branch on the road had succeeded in beating back the wolves. Don't forget: the 5 wolves attacked him and Anita the following morning again, but John was armed and shot one. It weighed 75 pounds. I weighed it.- The laws in BC, as they stand, insure the quick removal of sick wolves, tame wolves and such feeding on garbage. There are far too many wolves as is in BC, but at least we can remove those that become

dangerous to humans. Wolves are very difficult to hunt, and the least opposition keeps healthy wolves out of sight and alive. My council is not to tinker with good legislation.

Sincerely,

Val Geist

Professor Emeritus of Environmental Science

On 5/11/2021 1:00 PM, Nikki Levasseur wrote:

Val do you mind if I forward your email to our local Beaufort director Tanya Shannon? The ACRD is having a meeting tomorrow regarding the moratorium.

Nikki

On Tue, May 11, 2021 at 12:48 PM Valerius Geist <[kendulf@shaw.ca](mailto:kendulf@shaw.ca)> wrote:

Nikki, thank you very, very much for this news. I am currently convalescing and have little connection to news. The proposed moratorium is based on the emotional appeal for wolves as generated by our current environmentalism, and fueled by opportunistic journalism. Wolves and cougars have created a wildlife desert across the island, where, before wolves crossed to the island to the mainland, deer hunters too about 25,000 deer annually. The wolves here were largely mongrels, at least by skull characteristics. To speak of a separate subspecies is to indulge in ignorance. The abundance of predators is such that deer are absent in our forests, but very prevalent in cities and suburbs where deer seek respite from predation. Our wildlife organizations better deal with this issue. Thanks again for sending this to me.

Sincerely, Val Geist

On 5/11/2021 12:31 PM, Nikki Levasseur wrote:

Hi Val,

It is your neighbour Nikki - Brad Oosterom's partner. How are you making out? I am wondering if you are aware of the wolf hunting moratorium on Vancouver Island. I am compelled to reach out to share what is going on.

[Mutiple Vancouver Island councils endorse proposal to pause wolf-hunting – Vancouver Island Free Daily](#)

[AVICC Resolution.pdf \(civieweb.net\)](#)

Take care,

Nikki Levasseur