

**City of Rossland  
Bear Aware Program**

**Year End Report 2007**

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**City of Rossland Bear Aware Program  
2007 Year End Report**

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**Program Start Date:** June 6 2007

**Program End Date (Latest):** December 31 2007

**Area of Program Delivery:** City of Rossland and immediate  
area including Red Mountain.

**Introduction**

After almost a decade of operating, Bear Aware is a well established community program in Rossland and has clearly made an impression on this town. The Bear Aware 'Brand' is well recognized and it's services are known, well supported and used. Most residents clearly understand the role that this program plays and behaviours have changed noticeably since it's inception. Repetition is the key to learning however and some residents grow complacent with regard to managing attractants. Also, there is a definite transient nature to the city of Rossland and new residents definitely need and value this education. The Bear Aware program is succeeding but with continuing development at Red Resort, Redstone Golf Course, Granite Ridge Development etc. it definitely needs a place in this community for the future. The program can act as steward of the local environment and wildlife, watchdog for development and facilitator for community discussion.

**Community Profile****Historic**

An alpine city in the Selkirk Mountains of almost 4000 people, Rossland is located at a high elevation (about 3800 feet) in close proximity to both Black and Grizzly Bear habitat. Bears den in the winter close by and use the alpine meadows and sub-montane ecosystems to feed. It is likely that some bears reside within city limits all year long. Travel corridors for these large mammals go through town and over the course of the season Bears move all the way down to

the valley bottoms through Warfield and into Trail. Sub-Alpine forests and meadows surround this community and in their travels bears often find themselves surrounded by residential development. Although our community can be somewhat porous to bear travel, there are reports of highly habituated bears in city limits every year. So far there have been no serious encounters with bears in Rossland although this season there have been more reports of bears exhibiting aggressive signs. With continued development, the risk of conflict increases. Numbers of complaints about bears also relates to availability of natural food. An early thaw provided little food and many bear complaints were received in the spring. With another huckleberry crop failing this fall and drought conditions through the summer, high volumes of bear complaints carried into the summer and through to the end of the season.

When bears pose a threat to human safety, conservation officers sometimes have to destroy bears. These animals are always human food conditioned and highly habituated. While bears seem to move throughout all areas of the town, there are some high traffic areas where more complaints and sightings are reported. Trail-heads near the town perimeter, ravines and green corridors are obvious examples of these areas however there were bears in the downtown corridor this season. While most of these sightings are just bears passing through town, many are seeking the popular attractants of garbage and fruit trees.

In Rossland most residents are responsible with their garbage. Rossland uses mainly curbside pick-up but a central honour-pay transfer station for household waste is available. There are many fruit trees in this town and a lot of people use this produce but much of it falls to the ground unused and provides a free lunch to bears travelling through. Residents are still hesitant to remove these unused trees. Many residents enjoy watching bears eating their fruit and have trouble associating this as an unnatural attractant. Many 'rogue' fruit trees are scattered throughout town as a result of bear droppings. Other bear food in city limits includes mountain ash, blue elderberry, rosehips and Oregon grape. Many feel that removal of this food source would be like 'sterilizing' the community. The solution is not an easy one.

There are no large commercial bear-proof dumpsters in Rossland but those that are used here keep bears out as long as they are locked. Several of these bins are damaged and will not close and there were a couple of cases in which

businesses were not keeping these bins locked and thus, bears were attracted. This occurred in the downtown core with K2 contracting and the courthouse construction.

### **Current**

2007 has been a much higher than average year for bear activity in Rossland. In the fall, a bear's favourite local food is the huckleberry. An adult bear can gain up to 5KG per week eating only huckleberries. Likely a poor crop in the fall of 2006 contributed to less 'cubs of the year' although many yearlings still with sows were seen throughout town. With an early heat wave and snow-pack thaw in spring of 2007 bears awoke to find very little food and as a result juvenile bears on their own were searching farther for food resulting in high numbers of bear complaints. Bears have the ability to delay implantation of fertilized eggs until a desired body weight is met. As previously stated, drought conditions were the contributing factor for many bear complaints mid-summer when bear activity typically subsides. This will likely result in less cubs born next spring and fewer problem bears although this depends on available food sources, continuing development and weather patterns. An important tool in dealing with problem bears in our community is to encourage residents to phone bear sightings in to the RAPP (Report a Poacher or Polluter). Although not aptly named this is the call centre for Conservation Officers and this information helps them keep track of bear activity and allows Bear Aware to try and educate residents before these bears become a nuisance. Over 120 calls to the RAPP line were made this season, double the amount from the last. Of these calls, Conservation Officers responded to 13 of these and 7 bears were destroyed (5.8% of all calls received).

### **Interesting Statistics**

- \$ Total number of calls to the RAPP line in BC - 16970  
(black bears) 527 (grizzlies)
- \$ Total number of calls in the southern interior - 1992
- \$ highest call volume in the southern interior -  
Kamloops, 459

\$ total number of calls in the Castlegar management area  
- 828 (black), 42 (grizzlies)

\$ total number of bears destroyed in the Castlegar  
management area - 64

figure 1 **Total Calls to the RAPP line (Conservation Officer Service) - Last five years**

Attractant	Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Garbage		39	7	2	12	30
Furit		11	10	0	3	17
Compost		12	1	0		9
Bird Feeders		8	2	1		
Garden		3	0	0		
BBQ		0	1	0		3
Freezer		7	2	1	3	
Pond Fish		0	0	0		
Rabbits		1	2	0		
Pet Food		1	0	0	1	6
Nut Trees		0	0	0		3
Crops		0	0	0		
Cooking Greese		0	0	0		
Pets		0	0	0		
Hand Feeding		0	1	1		
Livestock		0	0	0		
Vineyards		0	0	0		
Sighting Only					42	52
<b>total calls</b>		<b>92</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>120</b>

figure 2 **Total Numbers of Bears Destroyed vs. Call Volume (All Black Bears)**

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
<b>total calls</b>						94	42	14	55	120
<b>bears destroyed(by CO's)</b>	6	2	6	14	5	14	5	4	2	7

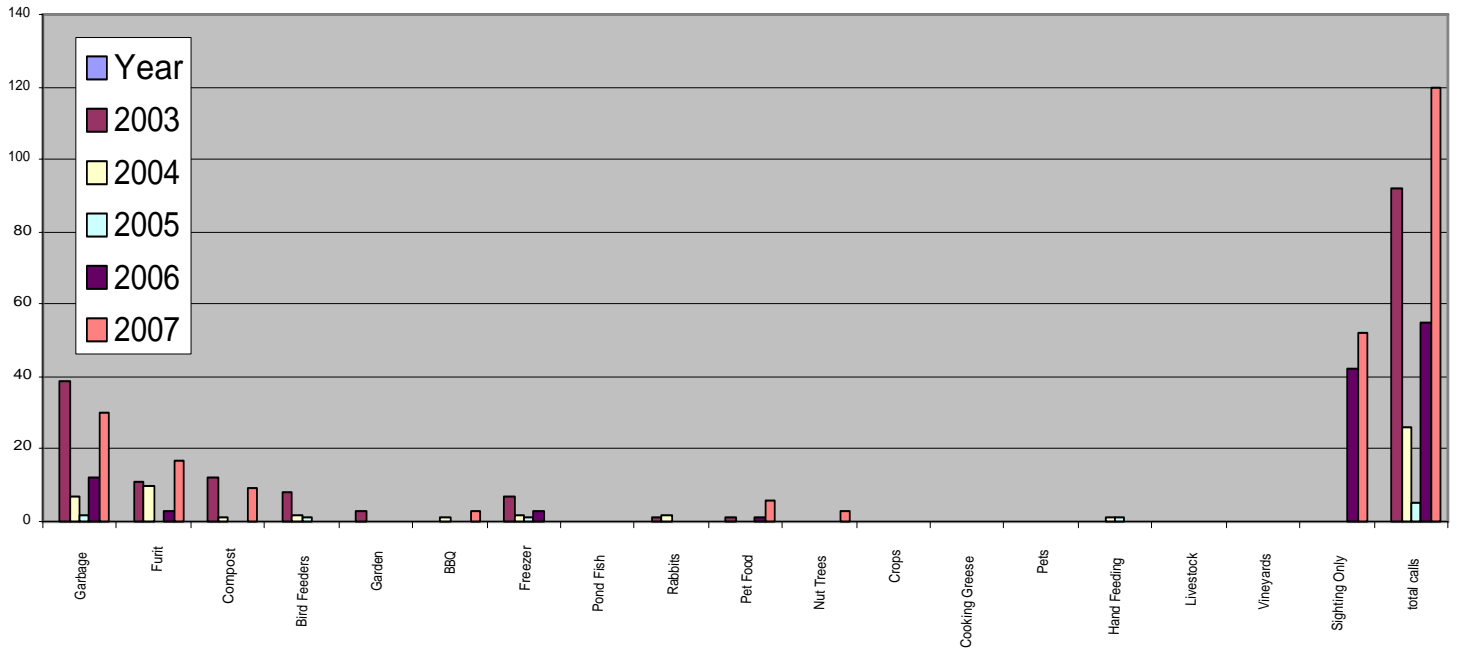
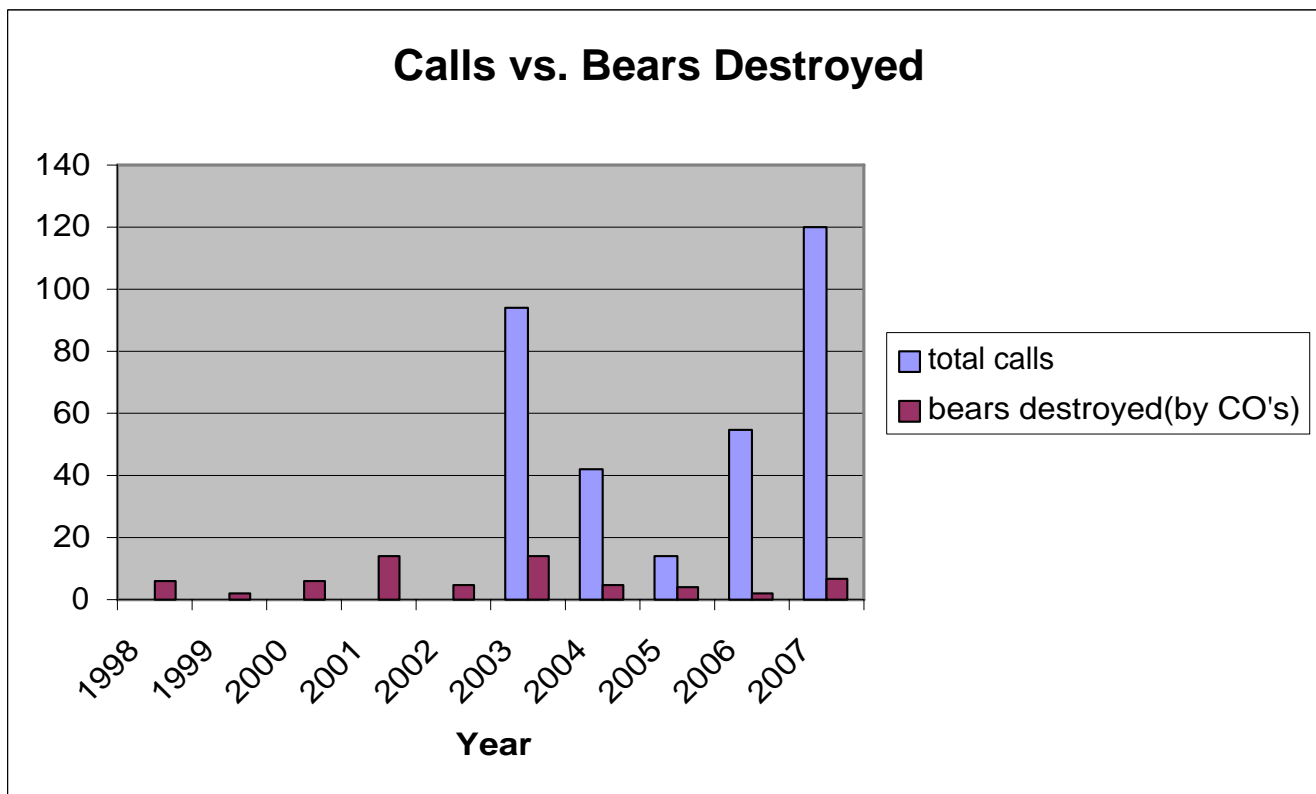


Figure 3&4 **Total Calls to the RAPP Line by Attractant, Total Calls vs. Bears Destroyed**



## **Program Delivery**

A variety of methods were used this season to deliver the Bear Aware Program in Rossland. Adding some new and different approaches helped to reach different groups of people in the community and kept the message fresh in the minds of residents. Early in the season all programmers met in Nelson with local Conservation Officers, supervisors and government biologists to discuss new approaches to grizzly bear calls and address general concerns etc. Mid-season, most of the program delivery specialists in the region got together at Pilot Bay to discuss ideas, share stories and bond as a team. It was an excellent opportunity to relax with co-workers and exchange information. Methods for delivering the program are either preventative or reactive.

### **Preventative methods included:**

- \$ upgrading and showing our display at community events.
- \$ Education presentations at schools
- \$ Monthly presentation series with guest speakers.
- \$ Working with media to give up-to-date reports of bear activity and Encouraging listeners / readers to properly manage attractants
- \$ Circumpolar Bear Cult Newspaper Column
- \$ Circumpolar Bear Cult Radio Program
- \$ Fruit tree stripping and management program
- \$ Installation of Bear-Proof waste receptacles
- \$ bulk mail-out of Bear Aware literature

### **Reactive methods included:**

- \$ Posting of signs where bears were seen- specifically on trails and trail heads
- \$ Door to door campaigning
- \$ Dangerous Wildlife Protection Orders by Conservation Officers

### **Displays at community events**

Bear Aware set up displays to educate, distribute literature, update bear sightings and collect bear stories at several events

in the course of the season. Many people pass by and view the display and estimates of those numbers are given. Often there are surveys and activities for kids.

<b>These included:</b>	<b># of viewers</b>
\$ Spring Wing Ding Sidewalk Sales in Rossland	150
\$ Canada Day celebrations in Jubilee Park, 80	
\$ BC Rivers Day in Trail	200
\$ Community group displays at the Waneta Mall 100	
\$ Rossland Fall Fair	75
<b>totals</b>	<b>605</b>

#### **Door to Door Campaigns**

This method of program delivery was used in Rossland in a reactive way. Almost all of the residents of this town have heard of the Bear Aware Program and understand that many bears travel through their neighbourhoods. Bear sightings and encounters are compiled by Kamloops dispatchers (RAPP line) and sent regularly. Alan Davies, the waste management person in Rossland stays in touch and relates areas or households that are having problems managing their attractants to Bear Aware. Also, residents who were hesitant about calling the RAPP line contacted Bear Aware directly and passed on complaints. Using this information, door-to-door work was carried out in these spots and numbers of residents that were spoken to are included.

<b>Door to Door campaigns included:</b>	<b># of people reached</b>
\$ <b>May:</b> Flying Steamshovel Inn re: grease barrels and unlocked storage area 4	
\$ <b>June:</b> Nevada St., Blackbear and Georgia St. Areas.	12

\$	<b>July:</b>	Davis St., 1 <sup>st</sup> and Butte areas (courthouse)	
		9	
\$	<b>August:</b>	Nevada St. areas in lower Rossland	15
\$	<b>September:</b>	Monte Cristo and Fifth Victoria and Leroi area	12
\$	<b>October:</b>	Rossland Public Library and courthouse area.	
		8	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>

### **Posting of Bear Warning Signs**

Since bear activity in city limits is so common in Rossland and these animals travel throughout the entire town, the posting of 'Bear in Area' signs would be a busy and futile job. Also, Instead, door-to-door work was used in town and some signs were posted on outlying trails. Signs have been posted on the seven summits trail and in Squaw Basin warning hikers of recent Grizzly bear sightings. A more proactive approach was taken by posting bear safety signs on all the trailheads in the area educating users about the differences between black and grizzly bears and how to react in an encounter.

### **Fruit Tree Management Program**

The fruit tree stripping program has been strong for almost six years now. Volunteers receive calls and fully pick fruit trees that residents are unable to pick for whatever reason. Excess fruit is taken to BEAKS (bird rehabilitation) in Blueberry or to the Trail landfill. Advertisements were placed in the newspapers/periodicals in the area and calls were received from Rossland, Warfield, Trail, Fruitvale and Montrose. In all cases residents were encouraged to heavily prune or remove these trees. This year there were two dates in the fall for a 'fruit exchange' where residents had the opportunity to bring fruit to volunteers and take this fruit if they wanted some. In turn Bear Aware would dispose of the unwanted fruit. In progress is a pamphlet about

'Managing Fruit Trees in Bear Country' with a directory of local pruners and arborists that will be ready for mail-out in the early spring.

### **Waste Management**

Residents are diligent about putting garbage out only on the morning of collection day but there were still some reports of bears getting into household garbage left outside overnight. Rossland also has a central transfer station that people can bring their garbage to. This spot is located on the outside of town in high bear traffic areas and has always been a concern. These containers are open so they can be accessed by the public but this creates a safety issue as it is a constant bear attractant as well. This year the Nelson and District Credit Union awarded the Bear Aware Program \$3000.00 for the purchase of three new single bag stand-alone garbage bins from BNW waste in Canmore. These bins have been placed by City of Rossland staff at the high school soccer field and Centennial park (next to the Lions' Campground). Also, Teck Cominco sponsored the purchase of one of these waste receptacles and is located at the Centennial Trail-head. Dave Hughes, the developer of 'Granite Ridge' has agreed to purchase one of these and Red Mountain Resort is considering placing several in the upcoming season.

### **Public Presentations**

Several different groups requested Bear Aware presentations throughout the season. These were tailored to the age groups and venue in each case. Early in the fall a presentation was delivered to the entire student body and staff at MacLean Elementary. Children are very receptive to the Bear Aware message and feedback from teachers and parents was all positive. 'Bear Sign' hikes were conducted with Rossland Recreation day camps during the course of the summer. In each case numbers of people attending is provided.

### **Presentations included:**

#### **May:**

\$ Presentation to ESL students at RSS

**5  
people**

\$ Two visits to the Bear Aware office with a presentation to Ilo's Playschool. **35 people**

**June:**

\$ Open house at the Bear Aware office **50 people**

\$ Introduction to the Bear Aware program and movie presentation of 'Over the Hedge' held at the Rossland Catholic Church parish hall. **25 people**

**July:**

\$ Bear safety presentation to the 'Green Lady Spirit Gathering' at Camp Tweedsmuir in Fruitvale. **18 people**

\$ Presentation: Impacts of development on wildlife. At the Rossland Arena lounge, this was an informal, round-table type discussion which helped to create the Natural Areas and Wildlife Advisory Group (NAWAG) **16 people**

\$ Guided a group of day camp kids with Rossland Recreation where we hiked a short local trail and discussed bear safety, bear 'sign' and the importance of bears in our food web. **12 people**

**August:**

\$ Story-telling at the Rossland Library with a display that remained set up for one week. **25 people**

\$ Composting workshop at the Arena Lounge with guest speakers Tim Dueck from the RDKB and Colleen Matte from Earth Matters in Nelson. **30 people**

**September:**

\$ Bears vs. Humans: Sharing our Local Berry Crops. With the help of the Columbia Power Corporation, guest speaker Michael Keefer gave a presentation on local berry crops and their ecology and relevance to the bear population here.

50 people

\$ Presentation to MacLean Elementary School

**190  
people**

**total number of people attending public presentations**

**406**

### **Working With Local Government**

Since Bear Aware has been in Rossland, the city council here has usually supported the program either financially, in-kind or both. This season, due to budget constraints, monetary funding from the City of Rossland was cut but in-kind funding continued with contributions of venue space for presentations and installation of bear-proof bins. An outcome from one of the presentations this season was the formation of the Natural Areas and Wildlife Advisory Group (NAWAG) that may be working with the City of Rossland in the upcoming years. I participated in the Rossland Visions to Action design charette by giving a brief speech on local ecology and sat with one of the design groups. With the help of the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rossland, the Bear Aware banner hung at the the corner of Columbia and Highway 3 for two weeks in September. City councils of Rossland, Warfield and Trail were approached for financial support to continue the program in these areas in the upcoming season. The Regional District of Kootenay Boundary has also been similarly approached. So far, the City of Rossland has agreed to fund the program for three years. The City of Trail may support, the village of Warfield voted not to support the program and the RDKB may be supporting.

### **Media Relations**

Getting the Bear Aware message to the people through the local media is a key element in this position. Several interviews were conducted with KBS, Mountain FM and Shaw TV. Articles about bears were a regular occurrence in the local newspapers. A public service loop was seen on Shaw cable and an interview mid-season

was widely viewed. Bear Aware has partnerships with the Rossland Radio Co-op and gains much exposure there. A bi-weekly newspaper column in the Trail-Rossland News called 'The Circumpolar Bear Cult' was completed all season.

**'Circumpolar Bear Cult' Newspaper Column (Bi-Weekly): Trail-Rossland News**

This was a fun new way to get the message to the public not only to the Rossland area but to other surrounding communities. New ideas and messages about bear conservation not only in the immediate area but all over Canada and the world were included. This paper had a **distribution of more than 6000 papers per week** and excellent feedback was heard.

**Article titles included:**

- "The Circumpolar Bear Cult and You "
- "The Ecological Footprint of a Garbage Bear "
- "Mythology and Bear Aware "
- "RAPP with the Ministry About Grizzly Bears "
- "The Early Return of Bears "
- "We Are All Species At Risk "
- "Bears vs. Humans: Sharing Our Local Berry Crops "
- "Education Not Relocation "
- "Diversionary Feeding: The Debate Continues "
- "Polar Bear Aware "

**'Circumpolar Bear Cult' Radio Series, Wednesdays 2-3pm: Rossland Radio Cooperative (rosslandradio.com).**

The Bear Aware program shares office space with the Rossland Radio Cooperative. Regular programs were produced at least bi-

weekly and played Wednesdays from 2-3pm. Programs consisted of news articles about bears from local sources and around the world, bear sightings and interviews with many people involved in Bear Conservation and management. Although it is difficult to determine listener ship, statistics for the month of October showed over 4000 hits to the website and there were confirmed listeners from Ontario to Northern BC.

**Circumpolar Bear Cult Guests included:**

- \$ Ken Macquisten: He's the vet that takes care of Coola and Grinder at Grouse Mountain and involved in developing the potential black bear provincial rehabilitation centre.
- \$ Simon Jackson: Founder of the Spirit Bear Youth Coalition.
- \$ Charlie Russel: World renowned for his work with grizzly bears in Russia and his movies 'The Bear Man of Kamchatka' and 'Edge of Eden.'
- \$ Chrissy McIntyre: Program Delivery Specialist in Castlegar.
- \$ Michael Keefer: Ethnobotanist and wildberry expert. He was a guest speaker at one of the monthly presentations at the Rossland Arena lounge.
- \$ Dean Wyatt: Owner operator of the Knight Inlet Lodge and their grizzly bear viewing program.
- \$ Carrie Hunt: Kirelean Bear Dog breeder and developer of bear spray.
- \$ Kathy Murray: Program Delivery Specialist in Fernie BC
- \$ Gillian Sanders: Programmer in Kaslo and Malaysian Sun Bear researcher.
- \$ Colleen Matte: She works with biologist Michael Proctor in the East Kootenays

## Volunteers

Volunteers were very helpful this season to carry out tasks such as the fruit tree picking program, stamping numerous brochures for mail-out, updating and managing our website, cleaning up 'staging areas', posting trail-head signs and compiling map data for our display. Volunteers also set up info tables at the Rossland Fall Fair and the Rock Creek Fall Fair. It is difficult to gauge the dollar value for volunteering, however a rough estimate of \$10/hour has been used to give a general impression of the worth of this resource.

### Hourly Breakdown for Key Volunteers

Volunteer name	Activities	Value (based on \$10/hour)
Les Carter	fall fair display	\$40.00
Woniya Cancilla	Fruit tree management	\$400.00
Christy Fischer	fruit exchange	\$30.00
Hanna Heintz	waste management committee	\$20.00
Darcy O'Hearn	display booth, events	\$100.00
Sue Wrigley	web site management	\$250.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$840.00</b>

## Funding

This season there were several sources for funding of the Rossland Bear Aware Program. The Nelson and District Credit Union contributed money for bear-proof garbage receptacles. Columbia Power Corporation sponsored a guest-speaker Michael Keefer and helped with in-kind promotion of the event. The City of Rossland has agreed to support the program financially at \$2500 per year for three years. Dave Hughes from the Granite Ridge development has agreed to purchase a bear proof bin this season. City of Rossland helped with in-kind support to install bear-proof bins and install our banner on the main street. A donation was received from volunteer Sue Wrigley and an anonymous donation was received after volunteers cleaned up a vacant house in Happy Valley that bears had broken into.

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Nelson and District Credit Union	\$3000	
		purchase
		of bins
Columbia Power Corporation	\$500	guest
		speaker
Sue Wrigley	\$500	donation
anonymous	\$160	donation
City of Rossland	\$1000 (in-kind estimate)	
Columbia Power Corporation	\$250 (in-kind estimate)	
<b>total</b>	<b>\$4160</b>	<b>\$1250 (in-kind)</b>

#### **Working with Conservation Officers**

RAPP line sightings were made available and the lines of communication and support between the Conservation Officers in Castlegar and Rossland Bear Aware are symbiotic. In June CO's set up a bear trap at two locations in town which was monitored daily by PDS Marty Cancilla and volunteers. In the entire management area out of Castlegar there are only two CO's to respond and deal with wildlife calls. It is sometimes difficult to work as closely as desired with them. When Bear Aware approached the City of Trail, their council moved to look into increasing Conservation Officer numbers in the area.

#### **Constraints To The Program**

Since there was little financial funding this season, a lot of time was spent searching for sponsors where it could have been spent delivering the program to more people and fulfilling plans from the previous season. Often there is complacent attitudes to managing fruit trees in Rossland. Bears do not recognize municipal boundaries and there are many calls from other areas. Fruit trees and attractant problems are also a concern in the other towns in the area. It is difficult to work as closely as desired with local Conservation Officers. They are very busy and under-staffed. It is difficult for them to come to Rossland as often as they would like to.

### **The Future of Rossland Bear Aware**

Even with limited funding the program was effective in its delivery with good media relations and help from keen volunteers.

\$ With support from the RDKB and the city of Trail there will be a chance to delivery the Bear Aware program in the communities of Fruitvale, Montrose and Trail.

\$ Continue to update bear Hazard Assessment and sightings map and have a smaller version printed for public.

\$ **Promote Bear Smart in Rossland.** Like Whistler, Revelstoke and North Vancouver, Rossland has the potential to be seen as a bear tolerant community. With the right attitudes we can co-exist with these intelligent large mammals and promote this to tourists from areas where the bear is extirpated.

\$ An ongoing bear sightings posting in the downtown area.

\$ **Improvement of the Fruit Program** including: Fruit drives to help with the removal of this attractant. Fruit exchanges, and a public canning area like the one in Summerland to use rather than dump this food. Partnerships with local pruners and greenhouses to replace or better utilize this resource. Already in the works is a brochure about managing fruit trees in bear countries with a directory of local pruners and arborists. This will be ready for mail-out in the spring of 2008.

\$ **Arts and Culture:** Continue research into the anthropological side of this iconic animal and pursue publishing a book of local bear stories and bear lore with local artists contributing. Work with Renate Flemming to find funding for artwork in the downtown area.

\$ **By-Laws:** Begin working with city administrators and council to rethink the existing waste management and proposed bear attractant bylaws in all municipalities involved.

- \$ Continue education and public information displays. With additional funding from other political units this will mean reaching many more people.
- \$ **Downtown Bear Walk:** organize volunteers and local shop owners with the cooperation of the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rossland to paint a trail of bear paw prints on the city sidewalks. If businesses want to contribute the prints could go to their door.
- \$ **Grizzly Bears:** There **are** Brown Bears in this area. Areas include the southern end of Nancy Green Lake, Red Mountain, Violin Lakes, Squaw Basin and Seven Summits trail. It is difficult to predict how many bears there are but they are still considered threatened in this region and small isolated populations such as this warrant more attention. I would like to see the mapping of grizzly territory and look into the potential for increased research here. I hope to work with groups like the Friends of the Rossland Range and the Rossland Trails Society to help increase reporting of grizzly sightings.

#### Appendix A- Circumpolar Bear Cult Newspaper Column

A bi-weekly column was published in the Trail Rossland Newspaper with a circulation of over 10 000 papers each issue. This was an excellent way to reach people and help get the Bear Aware program recognized and known.

# The Circumpolar Bear Cult and you

Historically, bears have sometimes been thought of as lord of the animals throughout the northern hemisphere. They have human-like characteristics, including their size, skeletal structure, footprint, ability to stand, diet and parenting style. Other large mammals in the north possess some of these features but their perfect combination materializes in the bear.

It is no surprise that first nations and ancient civilizations developed the idea that the bear is actually a human clad in bearskin. While the skin and meat of the bear can be used for practical purposes, other parts have been considered to have magical properties.

Folklore has been passed through generations and the mythological role of the bear manifests itself in the complex beliefs and practices known as the Circumpolar Bear Cult.

Ancient peoples used the cluster of stars known as the Big Dipper to tell their bear tales. Greek and Roman cultures tell of the maiden hunter that is seduced by the king of the gods and turned into a bear by his jealous wife. They are thrown into the heavens by her suitor to spend eternity among the stars (Ursa Major and Minor). The Micmac of Nova Scotia and the Iroquois of the St. Lawrence share one story.



MARTY  
CANCELLA  
THE  
CIRCUMPOLAR  
BEAR CULT

The dipper represents a bear pursued by seven hunters (the handle). As autumn approaches it is wounded and its blood colours the leaves of the forest red. The bear is then eaten and its skeleton travels through the sky on its back during winter.

The American tradition of Groundhog Day was once bear's day among Pagan beliefs (Candlemas). In Celtic legend the bear is associated with King Arthur and Uther Pendragon. The Korean legend tells of the bear that spends 100 days in a cave so he can become human.

From the Great Lakes tribes of North America to the Ainu of northern Japan, through Siberia, to the Finns and Lapps of Scandinavia, kinship of bears and humans is a com-

mon theme.

There are ancient beliefs that the bear is in communication with the lord of the mountains and sky, and has from time immemorial been surrounded by an aura which deserves caution and respect. What does the Circumpolar Bear Cult mean to you?

Respect these large, beautiful and intelligent mammals. Be 'Bear Aware' this season by managing your bear attractants responsibly. Don't hesitate to give Rossland Bear Aware program a call at 362-0080 or check out our website at rosslandbearaware.org.

**Bear  
Aware** 

BRITISH COLUMBIA CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

**Marty Cancilla** is a program delivery specialist for the Rossland Bear Aware Program. Marty will be writing a bi-weekly column for the Trail/Rossland News called "The Circumpolar Bear Cult." Send Marty your comments at [marty.bearaware@hotmail.com](mailto:marty.bearaware@hotmail.com)



**Acknowledgements**

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