



January 23, 2012

## City Council Committee Report

**To: Mayor & Council**  
**From: Heather Kasprick, Deputy Clerk**  
**Re: Deer Hunting Survey Results**

### Recommendation:

That Council receive the results from the deer hunt survey for the amendment to the discharge of firearms by-law trial deer hunt period from October 1<sup>st</sup> to November 15<sup>th</sup> 2011.

- There were 15 Survey responses returned
- There were 26 hunting packages picked up at City hall (including the maps)
- Survey results are as follows:

Question	Yes	No
Did you hunt on crown land?	3	11
Did you hunt on private land?	13	2
Did you see wolves during the hunt?	3	11
Did you encounter other hunters?	3	12
How many additional hunters seen during your hunt?	3, 1, 1	

Did you harvest a deer?	15	0
Did you harvest more than one deer?	7	8
If yes to the above question, please tell us how many and what they were		
	Antlered	Anterless
Number of Additional Deer	10	9

Approximately how many deer did you see during your hunt?	15-20, 23,8,20,9,50,20,6+20,8,18,10,4,86,20,50	Approximate total deer seen during hunt = 372
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How many days did you hunt in the period?	3, 3, 14, 7, 4, 5, 2, 2, 2, 2, 5, 9, 29, 12
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Additional Comments:

- This should be an annual event – could shorten the period to 21 days
- Would like to see more tags available for bow hunters only inside effected area
- Would like to see hunt go to December 15<sup>th</sup>
- It allowed me to hunt on my own property & I appreciate that! May help the “in-town” deer situation
- I would like to see the hunt begin in September to coordinate with the regular bow season for area 7b and then end by November 10<sup>th</sup> or so
- Open up certain City owned parcels of land for hunting that are not directly that are not directly connected to private land in downtown area – property by Ski club or Homestake Rd area
- Overall, I think it was a positive thing for our community. I would suggest that maybe next year you could ask landowners who want the deer gone and own 5 ha of land to come forward and make it known who they are and that they are willing to accommodate the hunt (there are many parcels of land that qualify in size but I have no idea who owns the properties....it was a bit frustrating tracking people down).
- Also maybe include mandatory reporting on all deer taken in City limits.
- The maps were helpful and detailed (good job!)
- I would be all for another hunt next year – thanks!
- Would be nice to go little longer of a season – December 1<sup>st</sup>
- Right length of time, keep only to residents, need to have the 12 acres for buffer zone away from people, lots of people that have dogs run free on private property
- Our party took 8 deer from this parcel & you can’t even tell there are still so many (top of Cambrian Drive)
- It’s a good start – needs to continue and expand
- Didn’t see wolves, but scat and heard howling
- Did not see wolves but saw several droppings
- The deer are so tame & there are so many. Please continue the hunt until balance is restored
- Keep it going – one year hardly makes a dent in the population
- It was good for me. I guess one less deer is one less wolf feast
- The deer hunt in City limits with bow will be very effective in controlling deep population & City Council should be commended for their decision. Costs for deer related accidents is extreme
- Overall I expected to see more hunters. Personally I think this is a start to reducing the deer population in town which in turn is bringing in the wolves
- The local deer hunt was a great opportunity for resident archers and I do hope the hunt will be in place for next season. As a father of two busy children it was brilliant to be able to get out in the stand in a matter of minutes, to be able to hunt and still be able to be around each day to take part in the regular family routines.
- I had planned to take one doe as well during the hunt but ran out of time to get out again prior to November 15<sup>th</sup>. The local hunt is a great idea for local persons who hunt with a bow and I truly hope it will be extended to next year’s season
- Hunted behind Valley View School – lots of deer, I chose not to harvest any deer (too easy). Saw bear & wolf scat.

The committee has met to discuss the results as well as the direction for a possible exemption to the by-law in 2012. The City will continue to receive comments and feedback from the public and another report to Council will come forward in late spring/early summer to discuss the possible amendment again.

Emphasis continues on public education to keep educating the public that feeding wildlife is prohibited within City limits, and doing so is in contravention of by-law number 139-2008.

**Budget: N/A**

**Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:**

A copy of the survey results will be provided to the media.