



Pacific Wild Alliance  
P.O. Box 26  
Denny Island, BC  
V0T 1B0

Dear Mayor and Council,

Pacific Wild is a non-profit located in the heart of the Great Bear Rainforest on Denny Island. We are committed to defending wildlife and their habitat on Canada's Pacific coast by developing and implementing conservation solutions in collaboration with First Nations communities, scientists, other organizations and individuals.

There are few experiences more awe-inspiring than the sight of a grizzly bear in its natural environment. The opportunity to see bears in the wild draws thousands of international tourists to Canada each year. Yet despite evidence that bear populations are shrinking, the government of B.C. continues to allow this iconic animal to be recklessly hunted and killed for sport.

As per the enclosed documents, Coastal First Nations and B.C. residents have made their opinions clear – they would rather see bear populations thrive, and have people shoot them with cameras rather than guns. The case against trophy hunting is strong and the movement is growing – we encourage you to join the effort by supporting the motion before you today.

Sincerely,

Ian McAllister  
Director  
Pacific Wild

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# British Columbians Denounce Trophy Hunting, Furring

November 26th, 2013

*More than two thirds of residents have no problem with hunting animals for meat.*

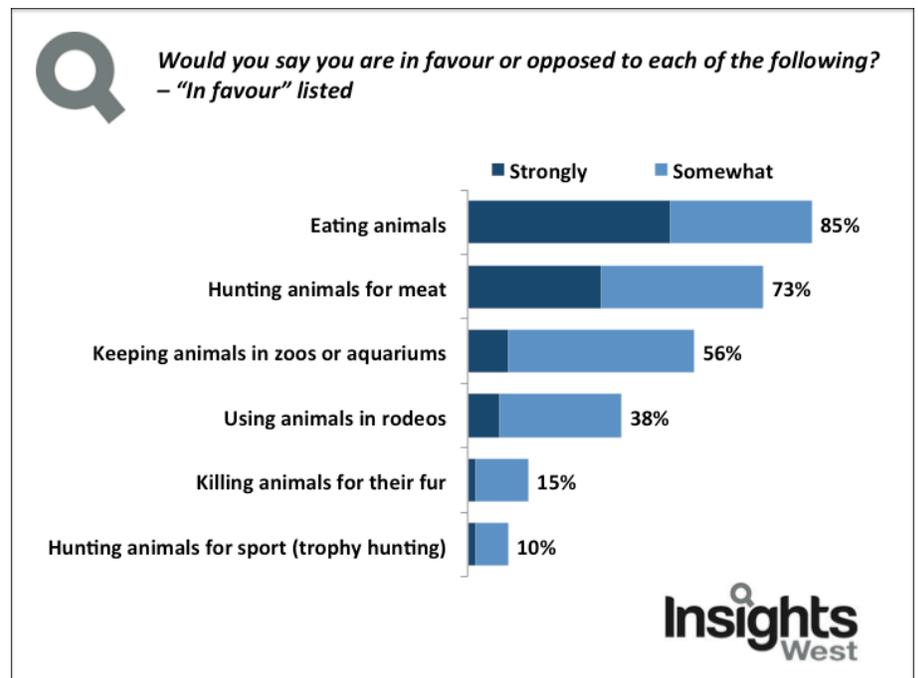
**Vancouver, BC** – British Columbians draw a very clear line when they look at their relationship with animals, a new Insights West poll has found.

The online survey of a representative provincial sample shows that support for trophy hunting and furring is exceptionally low, while large majorities of residents endorse eating animals and hunting for meat.

The topic of trophy hunting gained prominence earlier this fall, when NHL player Clayton Stoner shot a grizzly bear while hunting with a license issued by the provincial government as part of an annual lottery.

Across British Columbia, only one-in-ten residents (10%) are in favour of hunting animals for sport, while 88% are opposed to the practice. Killing animals for their fur is endorsed by just 15% of British Columbians, and rejected by 81%.

“It is abundantly clear that few British Columbians are in favour of trophy hunting and furring,” said Mario Canseco, Vice President, Public Affairs at Insights West. “At least four-in-five residents voice opposition to both of these practices.”

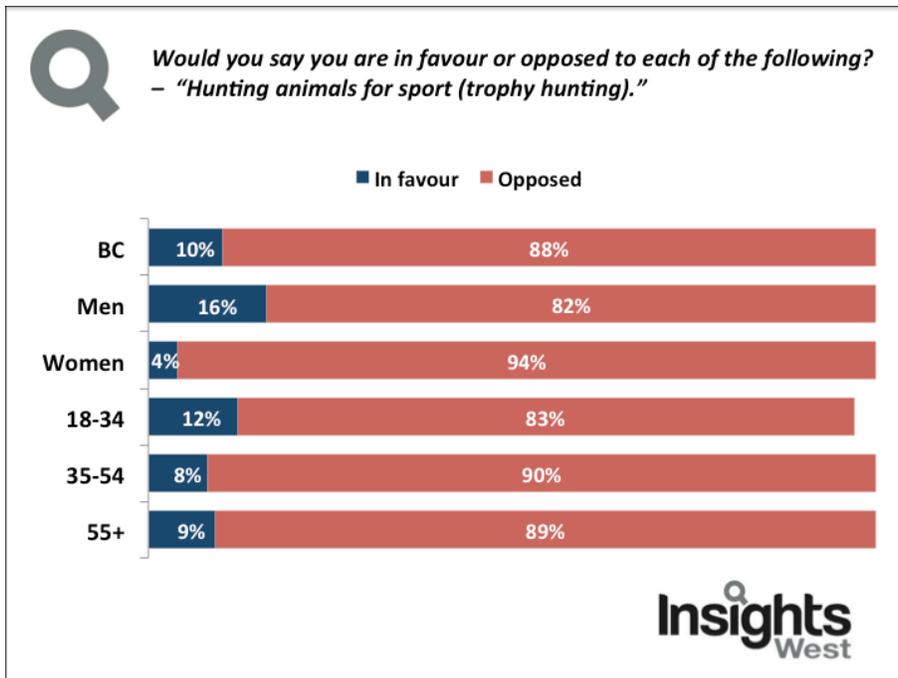
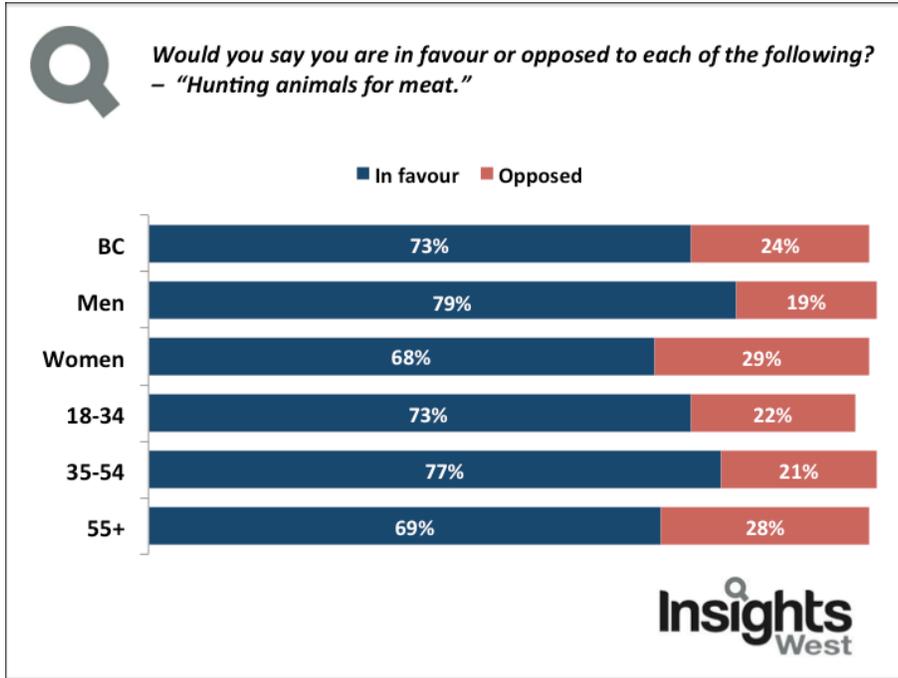


Most British Columbians (56%) are in favour of keeping animals in zoos or aquariums, but only 38% support using animals in rodeos. Large majorities of residents are in favour of eating animals (85%) and hunting animals for meat (73%).

*See next page for additional tables.*

Available online at:

<http://www.insightswest.com/news/british-columbians-denounce-trophy-hunting-furring/>



## **About Insights West**

Insights West is a progressive, Western-based, full-service marketing research company. It exists to serve the market with insights-driven research solutions and interpretive analysis through leading-edge tools, normative databases, and senior-level expertise across a broad range of public and private sector organizations. Insights West is based in Vancouver and Calgary and has ten full-time and five part-time employees.

## **About this Release**

Results are based on an online study conducted from September 26 to October 2, 2013, among 704 British Columbians who are aged 18+ and are Your Insights panel members. YourInsights.ca is Insights West's in-house access panel offering on-demand samples for both clients and research suppliers looking for Western Canadian populations. The data has been statistically weighted according to Canadian census figures for age and gender. While statistical margins of error are arguably not applicable to online panels/online studies of this nature, we have assumed that the same margins of error apply as if it were a true unweighted random probability sample with a margin of error of +/- 3.7 percentage points, nineteen times out of twenty. To view the detailed data tabulations, [click here](#).

## **For further information, please contact:**

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Available online at:

<http://www.insightswest.com/news/british-columbians-denounce-trophy-hunting-furring/>



**Coastal First Nations**  
G R E A T B E A R I N I T I A T I V E

## **Coastal First Nations declare ban on trophy hunting in Central and North Coast**

**Klemtu, BC, September 12, 2012** – First Nations on BC's North and Central Coast have declared a ban on the trophy bear hunt in their traditional territories. "We will protect bears from cruel and unsustainable trophy hunts by any and all means," said Kitasoo/Xaixais First Nation Chief Doug Neasloss.

The trophy bear hunt is an issue that has been brewing in First Nations communities for several years, said Neasloss. "Despite years of effort by the Coastal First Nations to find a resolution to this issue with the Province this senseless and brutal trophy hunt continues."

It's not unreasonable to expect that in the Great Bear Rainforest all bears would flourish, he said. "Unfortunately, trophy hunting continues to be permitted in the majority of Great Bear Rainforest, including its protected areas and conservancies."

Jessie Housty, a councillor with the Heiltsuk Nation, said bears are often gunned down by trophy hunters near shorelines as they forage for food. "It's not a part of our culture to kill an animal for sport and hang them on a wall. When we go hunting it's for sustenance purposes not trophy hunting."

Only a total ban on trophy hunting will ensure that bear populations can support the tourism opportunities that add valuable income to our communities, said Housty. "Trophy hunting is a threat to the lucrative ecotourism industry that we are creating. Tourists often come back year after year to watch the same bears and their young grow."

Because the Province is negligent in their responsibility to monitor the trophy hunt the Coastal First Nations will now assume responsibility for bear management on the Coast, Neasloss said. "We will now assume the authority to monitor and enforce a closure of this senseless trophy hunt."

The Coastal First Nations are an alliance of First Nations that includes the Wuikinuxv Nation, Heiltsuk, Kitasoo/Xaixais, Nuxalk, Gitga'at, Haisla, Metlakatla, Old Massett, Skidegate, and Council of the Haida Nation working together to create a sustainable economy on British Columbia's North and Central Coast and Haida Gwaii.

### **For more information contact:**

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Jessie Housty, (250) 957-8175  
Councillor, Heiltsuk Nation

September 16, 2015

City of Victoria  
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Victoria, BC  
V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor and Council,

The BC SPCA supports the Council Member Motion to advocate for an end to trophy hunting in British Columbia, specifically the grizzly bear hunt. The majority of British Columbians have also called for an end to this practice, concerned that is not only unsustainable and inhumane, but does not reflect the current values of our society. Despite claims that the hunting industry is essential to the provincial economy, established studies have proven that benefits from wildlife tourism far outweigh trophy hunting.

The BC SPCA is not opposed to traditional sustenance hunting as outlined in our position statement. However, the BC SPCA supports and works with wildlife conservationists, biologists, environmental groups, First Nations, and animal welfare organizations to share the message to the Province that trophy hunting is not compassionate conservation. The voice of local government is equally important and we appreciate your consideration of advocating for this issue.

Sincere regards,



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