

Deborah Liske

Subject: FW: Anticoagulant Rodenticides
Attachments: 374436 - Esquimalt - INCOMING.pdf

From: "Minister, ENV ENV:EX" <ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca>
Date: March 29, 2021 at 1:10:11 PM PDT
To: Barb Desjardins <Barbara.Desjardins@esquimalt.ca>
Subject: Anticoagulant Rodenticides

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT RECEIVED: <u>March 30, 2021</u> For Information <input type="checkbox"/> CAO <input type="checkbox"/> Mayor/Council Other _____ Referred to: <u>Rachel</u> For <input type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Response <input type="checkbox"/> Report For Agenda <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> COTW <input type="checkbox"/> IC
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Reference: 374436i

March 29, 2021

Her Worship Mayor Barbara Desjardins
and Councillors
Township of Esquimalt
Email: Barbara.desjardins@esquimalt.ca

Dear Mayor Desjardins and Council:

Thank you for your letter of March 19, 2021, regarding the use of anticoagulant rodenticides and requesting a ban on their use in British Columbia. I share your concerns regarding the protection of wildlife in our province and I appreciate that you requested action on this important topic.

I am aware that anticoagulant rodenticides pose unintended risks to wildlife in B.C. through primary and secondary poisoning. I am also aware of reports in 2020 regarding owl deaths as a result of their use. My ministry maintains a commitment to protect wildlife from adverse impacts resulting from pesticide use. Ministry staff are taking action to address risks associated with the use of these products, including increasing compliance verification of current Integrated Pest Management Regulation requirements; raising awareness with rodenticide users on the impacts of misusing rodenticides; coordinating with provincial wildlife experts and Canadian Wildlife Service staff; and developing education materials for the public and pest control operators to better manage rodents within an integrated pest management system.

I have asked ministry staff to develop options for improvements to how rodenticides are regulated in B.C., including consideration of bans, and I will write back to you with details on our next steps once they have been determined.

Thank you again for taking the time to write and participating in our efforts to protect wildlife.

Sincerely,
George Heyman
Minister



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

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March 19th, 2021

via email: ENV.Minister@gov.bc.ca

File No. 0550-01

The Honorable George Heyman, M.L.A.
Minister of Environment & Climate Change Strategy
PO Box 9047 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Heyman:

Re: Anticoagulant Rodenticides

At its meeting held on March 15th, 2021, the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt approved the following resolution:

"That Council endorse the following resolution as submitted by Rodenticide Free BC and further supported by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee:

- 1) eliminate the use of anticoagulant rodenticides on all Township of Esquimalt owned properties with immediate effect;*
- 2) direct staff to communicate to residents and businesses including information on the harmful impacts of anticoagulant rodenticides and the availability of ecologically sustainable alternatives;*
- 3) request the Mayor write, on behalf of Council, to the Provincial Minister of Environment requesting that the Province of British Columbia introduce a Province wide ban of the use of anticoagulant rodenticides, to increase protection for wildlife species and to actively develop and promote ecologically sustainable alternative for rodent control as recommended by the Township Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee; and*
- 4) to incorporate humane practices regarding pest control in all Township of Esquimalt properties."*

Further to the above, we are asking the Province to ban anticoagulant rodenticides while finding new ways to deal with the rodent population that doesn't threaten the wellbeing of other wildlife species.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at 250-414-7101 or via email at Barbara.desjardins@esquimalt.ca.

Yours truly,

Barbara Desjardins
Mayor, Township of Esquimalt