

District of Ucluelet
 PO Box 999
 Ucluelet, B.C. V0R 3A0



February 19, 2016

**RE: Connecting Wildlife Camera Data with Sustainable Land-use Planning on the West Coast-
 Grant Application**

Dear Mayor and Councilors of the District of Ucluelet,

I am writing to request your support for a grant application we are submitting on February 24th for the Real Estate Foundation on connecting wild life camera data analysis with sustainable land use planning practices. Currently, there are three wildlife cameras positioned in residential areas within Ucluelet, all in close proximity to the Ucluelet Elementary and Ucluelet Secondary Schools. Local wildlife biologist Bob Hansen has been working with teachers and students to analyze the wild life camera data as a means to teach wild life safety skills. Throughout this learning process, we (a collaboration between the CBT, Wild Safe BC, SD 70 schools and the Raincoast Education Society) have discovered the wildlife camera data may also be a useful tool for understanding wildlife ecology and how to reduce harmful wild life encounters. Therefore, we are currently fundraising to support more data analysis, knowledge sharing and dialogue between local wild life ecologists, high school students who are learning to analyze this data and local municipal planners.

We expect the outcomes of this project will be useful for the District of Ucluelet planning process in the following ways:

- Engage biologists, students and municipal planning staff in an informed dialogue on best practices for reducing harmful human-wildlife encounters;
- Create new partnerships between the federal government and local municipalities to develop improved green space corridors that support local wildlife habitat;
- Implement best practices in sustainable land-use planning and policies that will result in fewer animals being destroyed, fewer harmful incidents of human-wildlife encounters and improve the flow of information between local biologists, community residents and municipal planning staff; and
- Foster a sense of wildlife stewardship and leadership in local high school students (and improved sense of wildlife safety).

Thank you for considering this request. If you approve of this project application we ask that you submit a letter of support for our application on February 24th.

Sincerely,

Laura Loucks, PhD.
 CBT Research Coordinator