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November 13, 2013



Township of Fort Frances  
Mr. Mark McCaig, CAO  
320 Portage Avenue  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Dear Mr. Mark McCaig:

**Re: Spring Bear Hunt**

Please be advised that the following resolution was adopted by Committee of the Whole at its meeting held on October 28, 2013, and subsequently ratified by City Council the same evening, on October 28, 2013.

“With respect to the reintroduction of the spring bear hunt we recommend that City Council express its support for MPP Bill Mauro’s Private Member’s Bill, Bill 114, the purpose of which is to bring about the return of Ontario’s Spring Bear Hunt;

AND THAT this support be communicated to the Minister of Natural Resources, members of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, the Thunder Bay District Municipal League, the leaders of the Provincial Political Parties and the Northwestern Ontario Associated Chambers of Commerce.”

Should you have any further questions relative to the above, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours very truly,

*John Hannam*  
For:

Mr. John Hannam  
City Clerk

JH/GS



## Memorandum

*Office of the City Clerk*  
*Fax: 623-5468*  
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**TO:** John Hannam, City Clerk  
**FROM:** Councillor Joe Virdiramo  
**DATE:** October 28, 2013  
**SUBJECT:** Spring Bear Hunt

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On October 8, 2013 Bill Mauro MPP, Thunder Bay – Atikokan, introduced a Private Member's Bill, Bill 114, the purpose of which is to bring about the return of the spring bear hunt.

Since the Spring Bear Hunt was eliminated in 1999 the number of black bears harvested each year has been reduced by an average of approximately 1,400 bears. Over the course of 14 years, that has likely resulted in a substantial rise in the bear population.

The growth of the bear population seems to be resulting in more human-bear encounters and an increased risk that aggressive bear activity could result in people's physical harm or death. The growing bear population also negatively impacts livestock, bees and moose calves.

The return of Ontario's Spring Bear Hunt could help address these issues—as well as increasing tourism in Northern Ontario, which could provide a boost to the region's economy.

*Given this information I request that the following motion be introduced to Committee of the Whole on October 28, 2013.*

With respect to the reintroduction of the spring bear hunt we recommend that City Council express its support for MPP Bill Mauro's Private Member's Bill, Bill 114, the purpose of which is to bring about the return of Ontario's Spring Bear Hunt;

AND THAT this support be communicated to the Minister of Natural Resources, and members of the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association and the Thunder Bay District Municipal League.

/SH