

Dear (Premier _____ / Minister _____ / MLA _____)

Dogs descend from the wolf, tamed by man and inherit the traits humans admire most - loyalty, bravery, intelligence, an affectionate nature. Yet the wolf, ironically, is one of the most persecuted animals in Alberta's history. I am writing you today to express some profound concerns I have regarding killing snares that are abundantly used to torture, maim and kill some of Albertas most loved and iconic animals, namely the wolf, coyote and fox.

I have come across an abundant amount of information and evidence indicating that snares cause a considerable amount of cruelty to wolves and other animal when caught. Snares often capture non target animals (sometimes threatened or endangered) species, as well as domestic animals and pets in Alberta and have been banned in numerous places around the world because of their indiscriminate nature AND the unspeakable cruelty they inflict upon any animal when caught.

Numerous peer reviewed studies regarding the cruelty of neck snares can be found in this book titled Intolerable Cruelty - The Truth Behind Killing Neck Snares and Strychnine by wildlife biologist Dr. Dr. Gilbert Proulx. Dr. Proulx is one of many scientists/biologists/veterinarians who have studied snares and concluded in their utmost cruel and inhumane nature. Dr. J. Diaz, a professor in the Department of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Calgary has also researched the time it takes for canids to die from strangulation. His conclusion is that: "Death can take hours through an extremely painful and slow process." Dr Diaz notes that he cannot comprehend the decision of government "to elicit this kind of suffering and pain to a living being." Despite the nearly universal agreement by the trapping/

fur industry that killing neck snares are lethal, and humane, numerous photos, and videos and trappers' own testimonials on hunting/trapping sites attest to the fact that killing snares aren't the lethal devices that they are portrayed to be.

Please see some of the attached links that support my concerns in this letter:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/328825194_Intolerable_Cruelty_-_The_truth_behind_killing_neck_snares_and_strychninehttps://onekindplanet.org/uploads/publications/onekind_report_on_snaring_chapter_1.pdf

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/trapping-regulations-put-public-at-risk-says-former-predator-control-officer-1.3460593>

<https://calgary.ctvnews.ca/dog-owners-sound-alarm-after-pet-caught-in-fur-trapper-s-snare-in-kananaskis-1.4268391>

<https://youtu.be/QIwOGT7Vjf8> (live wolf in snare caught by foot)

https://youtu.be/h6Ef_zAV-Ak (live wolf in a snare)

<https://youtu.be/HkWWId6JkA> (wolf leg in a snare)

<https://youtu.be/ABPOIjku5-s> (struggling coyote in snare)

<https://youtu.be/404UrDhaphk> (trapper admits to Jelly Head wolf caught in snare. "Jelly head" occurs when the snare constricts the jugular vein on the outside of the neck, cutting off blood returning to the heart; meanwhile, the carotid artery continues to pump blood into the brain, causing brain swelling and eventually rupture.)

I am hoping Alberta can become a leader in Canada and ban these outdated, cruel devices that have no place in 2019. You have the power to help end this cruel practice. I look forward to your well thought out reply along with your plan to take action with regards to these cruel methods used to torture Alberta's wildlife. I would suggest collaborating with

some of the biologists and researchers that have studied and proven that neck snares are inhumane in formulating a plan of action. I am also asking that you please not send me a generic pre-written response letter that states wolf/coyote/fox numbers are stable and that trapping does not effect the population. I am completely aware of the wolf and coyote population in the province and when this is stated, it detracts from the real issues at hand that I am worried about. My concerns are not about numbers, but about being humane and ethical and taking the lead in Canada to ban such barbaric practices. Please also spare writing a response about the platitudes of the fur industry. I have received the same letters about this barbaric and outdated industry in the past and have all of the information that I need to know. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,