

To the "PIQUE"  
Whistler  
Paper

July 107

after  
Juniper's  
daughter  
Shot

We Owe It to the Bears

We humans have taken bears' natural habitat to use for profit and enjoyment. The very least we can do for them is to establish effective systems for the collection and disposal of the garbage which is leading to their deaths.

Since the most advanced, amazing technology is used to provide the Whistler experience to the world, why cannot garbage be controlled? Residents and visitors, please demand a system all can use.

The seven month old cub who was shot recently, and many others, could have been rehabilitated in a place similar to the Leona Green Hillspring Wildlife Rehab. Facility in Dawson Creek, where grizzly and black bear orphans have been kept, not habituated to humans, and released successfully (Vancouver Sun, Aug. 9/06).

For many years bear researcher and writer Michael Allen has been educating school children about bears, and he urges people to eliminate the things which attract them such as bird feeding stations and, of course, garbage. Bears love bird seeds and kitchen waste. But these things lead ultimately to their death.

Please demand an effective garbage system now, and trade feeding the birds (who don't need it) for protecting both the bears and yourselves.

Gloria Masse

Gambier Island