Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

As my elected official for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, I am writing to you as a concerned citizen, constituent and resident hunter.

In recent years, we have seen the loss of the grizzly bear hunt, due to social pressure, instead of scientific reasons. “It is no longer socially acceptable to the vast majority of British Columbians to hunt grizzly bears.”
-Minister Doug Donaldson.

It has come to my attention that there is yet another illogical attack on sound wildlife management by well-funded organizations and government, whose only concern is ending hunts for emotional and financial reasoning.

The NDP government, led by Honourable John Horgan, has announced that they are intending to do what is called prey management, by increase hunting tags and LEH’s for moose cows and calves in two areas of the province, to protect the caribou populations in Parsnips, north of Prince George, and the populations in the Revelstoke area.

Prey management, instead of direct predator management, which is by far more effective. Predator management is based and proven by science, and has had an immediate positive effect on the moose and caribou populations. This excerpt below comes from an article wrote in 2018, that states how effective it has been.

“Since the launch of the wolf cull, caribou deaths have slowed. A herd south of Chetwynd, in northeastern B.C., was down to about 100 animals before the cull and is now increasing annually by nine per cent.

Another herd near MacKenzie in the same region was at 50 animals, but has increased by seven to 14 per cent annually. The Klinse-Za herd (formerly known as the Moberly herd) west of Hudson's Hope is up about 15 per cent annually and now has over 60 animals.

University of Alberta biologist Stan Boutin has studied caribou herds and predator management, including a 10-year wolf cull around Alberta's Little Smoky herd of 80 animals west of Edmonton.

He believes B.C.'s numbers are encouraging, but can only continue if the wolf cull continues.

"The sad part of it all is that if we're going to do a wolf cull to keep caribou populations around, we're in this for the long haul," said Boutin. "As soon as you stop the cull, wolf numbers come right back up to what they were before, and caribou populations decline again."”

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/caribou-wolf-cull-1.4915683>

Due to a complete lack of sound management of wildlife and habitat in BC, ungulate populations have dropped to abnormally low levels in part of the province while predator populations of wolf and grizzly bear have exploded. The government has taken proactive action to prevent further loss, and once again, this is being interfered with.

As my elected official, I am writing to you to let you know that I am vehemently against any social management of wildlife in British Columbia. I do not want to hear the phrase that it is, “not socially acceptable to hunt and manage predators,” to protect our ungulate populations.

I am incredibly concerned about the NDP government making these decisions despite the opposition government’s sound protests and showing proof of facts backed by science. I am concerned this will lead to the decimation of the moose populations, as well as that of the caribou. This will also impact traditional indigenous, and non-indigenous hunting, as well as be an economic blow to small communities, guides and practices that sustain themselves by doing both practical hunting, and predator management. If this is to be ignored, and the government eventually closes all hunting, angling and trapping in British Columbia, what is to happen then?

I look forwards to your response, and support for my concerns.

In Conservation,