

Bear Spray use in the City of Burnaby - Looking at the Issues



Burnaby RCMP
Cst. Dwight Martin

Objective

Bring about awareness of how bear spray is being utilized in the City of Burnaby



Bear Spray vs. Pepper Spray

Bear spray and pepper spray are essentially the same thing, but bear spray is designed to project the chemical up to 10 meters so that the person does not have to get in close proximity to the bear

Pepper spray is a prohibited weapon in Canada and cannot be purchased at retail stores as it is illegal to purchase and possess pepper spray



Legal Use and Purchasing of Bear Spray

Bear spray is legal in Canada for use only against attacking bears and is regulated by Health Canada and the Pest Control Products Act

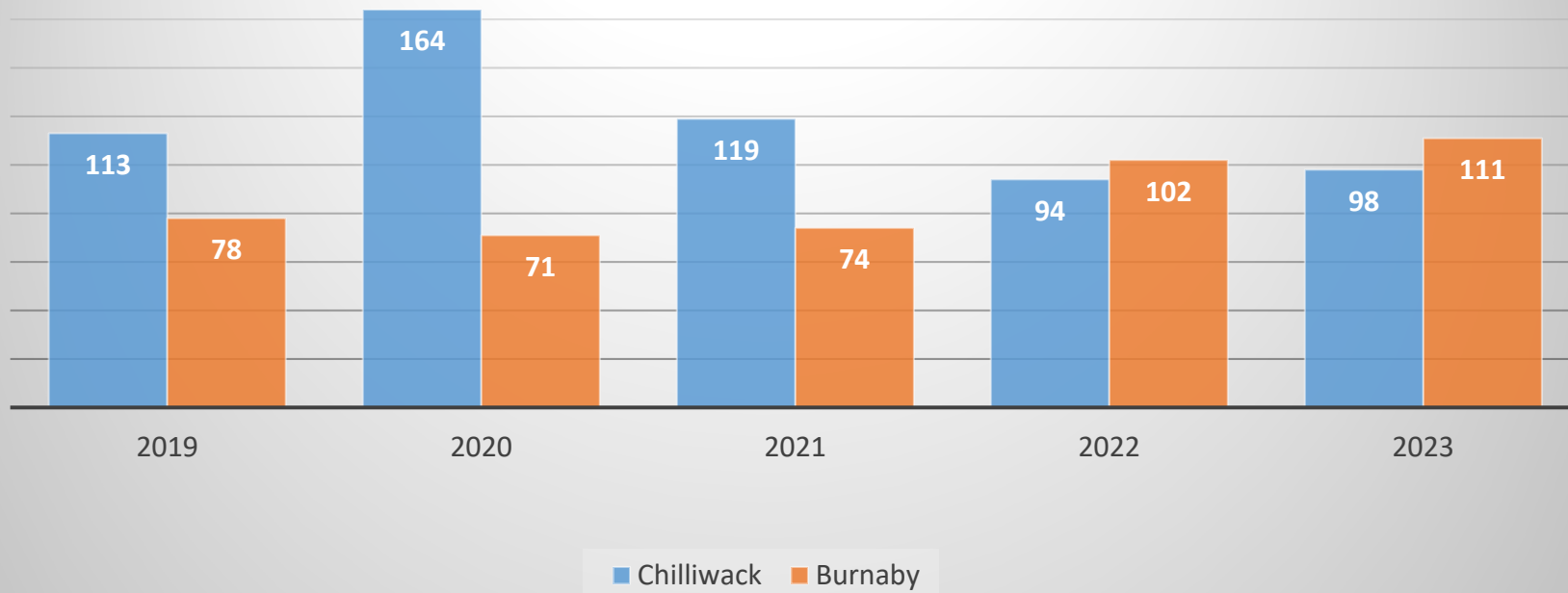
Under the Pest Controls Products Act, bear spray may only be sold in Canada by authorized vendors who maintain proper sales records

It is currently legal to sell bear spray to anyone over the age of 18. This individual must also sign the Notice to Purchaser Agreement to complete the sale



By the Numbers

Number of Bear Spray related Calls for Service



Bylaws in other municipalities

- Must be 19 years of age to purchase bear spray
- Must sign purchaser and declaration form
- Merchant selling product to sign waiver and add government identification number
- Merchant must not display and must store bear spray as outlined in the bylaw
- Merchant must keep a record of the sales and purchasers declaration form
- Must have 2 valid pieces of government identification that has not expired



Vancouver's Bylaw

Chief Licence Inspector or Police Officer	Sell bear spray to a person under 19 years of age.	Section 23.4(1)(a)	\$1,000.00
	Sell bear spray to a person who does not provide authorized identification. Burnaby suggests that 2 pieces of authorized identification be provided	Section 23.4(1)(b)	\$1,000.00
	Fail to keep bear spray in locked area or area otherwise inaccessible to public	Section 23.4(2)(a)	\$1,000.00
	Fail to make required record of each sale of bear spray	Section 23.4(2)(b)	\$1,000.00
	Fail to keep record of sale of bear spray for 12 months	Section 23.4(2)(c)	\$1,000.00
	Fail to provide record of sale of bear spray upon request	Section 23.4(2)(d)	\$1,000.00



Other considerations

Removing the Label or Concealing a Bear Spray Canister

If a person is found to be in possession of bear spray and has removed the label or concealed the label on the canister by covering the item with any other material is said to be in contravention of section 3 of the Integrated Pest Management Act. This person can be subject to a fine of \$575.00

Online Purchase of Bear Spray

Bear spray can also be purchased via online sites such as Amazon, Home Depot, eBay, Facebook Marketplace and Craigslist





QUESTIONS?
COMMENTS?
CONCERNS?