2002:05 RELOCATION OF WILD ANIMALS

Whereas: relocation of wild animals is occurring between Canadian provinces and between Canada and the United States, often without extensive consultation with local residents; and

Whereas: moving animals from their existing habitat to one in which they were not indigenous creates problems for the wildlife in the new area as well as impacting on the local environment; and

Whereas: relocation can cause many thousands of dollars of damage to property, both personal and commercial, and may prove dangerous to human beings, domestic dogs and other pets; and

Whereas: animals relocated to an area with no natural predators will increase in numbers, often driving indigenous animals, in search of food, from their native habitat; therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the National Council of Women of Canada adopt as policy that the relocation of animals from one area to another not occur unless:

- 1. the ramifications to the environment, the residents and businesses in the proposed area are fully investigated;
- 2. widespread consultation takes place resulting in agreement for the relocation; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with the relevant provinces and territories to ensure that any relocation of wildlife occur only after a full investigation has taken place on the impact on the environment, other wildlife and the local population with widespread consultation with all concerned, including wildlife and environmental professionals; and be it further

RESOLVED: that the National Council of Women of Canada urge the Government of Canada to work with the relevant provinces and territories and with local citizens, including wildlife and environmental professionals, to rectify any situation where problems have arisen resulting from the relocation of wildlife to an area outside of their natural habitat.