

NEWS RELEASE

March 4, 2016

For Immediate Release

Tories will end spotlight hunting

Conservation and public safety at stake: Pallister

A Progressive Conservative government will work in partnership with indigenous people, non-indigenous people and other stakeholders to put an end to spotlight hunting for all Manitobans.

“This is a conservation issue. It’s about respecting our relationship with nature and protecting it for future generations,” said PC Leader Brian Pallister. “It’s time this practice stopped.”

Animals are mesmerized by the lights and will stand for extended periods of time – much longer than during the day. They are transfixed by the light and have nothing even resembling a fair chance.

“Spotlighting is a public safety issue as well. It’s dangerous to people, property and livestock,” Pallister added.

Field officers in Manitoba believe spotlight hunting occurrences are increasing. A PC government will consider increasing resources (whether equipment or staff) so they can effectively perform their duties.

-30-

For more information, please contact:

Howard May, Director of Communications
Manitoba Progressive Conservative Caucus
Tel: (204) 945-1188 Cell: (204) 232-7853
Email: howard.may@leg.gov.mb.ca



Backgrounder

Third Party Quotes

Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM) Resolution #16-2015 (Night Hunting Ban)

WHEREAS the practice of Spot Lighting (night hunting) is extremely dangerous and has the potential to negatively impact all Manitobans, livestock and property; AND

WHEREAS the Manitoba Wildlife Federation is lobbying for the Province to ban all night hunting in Manitoba;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the AMM support the Manitoba Wildlife Federation in their effort to have the Province amend the Wildlife Act to have a ban on night hunting for ALL residents of Manitoba.

“We have cattle producers, outfitters, and farmers in our MWF network telling us that spotlighting is rampant and is a huge safety issue. The MWF is concerned about safety, especially for those that live, work, hunt, fish, camp or hike in areas where spotlighters may be operating. We recommend all hunters use a flashing headlamp or other lighted device when walking to and from their hunting spot in low light conditions. A non-white light is ideal because it does not look like the shining eyes of a deer, moose or elk. We urge all hunters – licensed, First Nation and Metis – to be sure they are as visible as possible at all times. Deer and moose don’t wear strobes.”

The Manitoba Wildlife Federation (MWF) Press Release, February 16, 2016

“The MWF is taking the lead in calling for an outright ban on spotlighting in the populated portions of Manitoba to protect people, pets, farm animals and private property. At a news conference today, the MWF used a dramatic re-enactment to illustrate the dangers of spotlighting by demonstrating how hunters are unable to see what’s behind their target – or exactly what their target really is. Along with the risk to people, numerous livestock have been killed or maimed by hunters using spotlights at night.”