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## **Burnaby organization gives big bucks to save rabbits at UVic**

**Clock is ticking on the rampant bunny population**

Renee Bernard 2010/07/12

BURNABY (NEWS1130) - A Burnaby organization is pitching in to help save the thousands of rabbits that are running wild on UVic's campus. The university wants to start a cull of the rampant population at the end of the month.

Fur-Bearer Defenders is donating \$50,000 to the Earth Animal Humane Education and Rescue Society (EARS), a Vancouver Island-based humane society, in an effort to save as many of the rabbits as possible.

Fur-Bearer's Adrian Nelson says UVic is requiring that the animals get fixed before they're taken away, making the rescue plan an expensive one.

"They'd be looking at moving about a thousand of them right now, and with spaying and neutering costs between \$40 to \$60 an animal, if you do the math on that, it eats up \$50,000 pretty quick," he says.

Estimates have the entire bunny population at 1,600. Nelson says the rabbits deserve to be rescued, since they were once pets, and didn't ask to be abandoned by their owners on the university's grounds.

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