

February 1st, 2010

The campus police have recently received reports of the sighting of wild animals on and near the Scarborough Campus, including coyotes and foxes.

These animals are now commonly found in urban areas. Although they co-exist well within these areas, community members are reminded that they are in fact wild animals, and should be treated as such. The Ministry of Natural Resources has published a fact sheet regarding coyotes in the community that has been attached to this notice.

Coyotes and foxes are usually wary of humans and avoid people whenever possible. Aggressive behaviour toward people is unusual, and is most often a result of habituation due to feeding by humans. If you encounter one, remember the following:

- . Never attempt to "tame" a wild animal.
- . Never feed a wild animal.
- . Do not turn your back on or run from a coyote.
- . Back away from the coyote while remaining calm.
- . Use whistles and personal alarm devices to frighten an approaching or threatening animal.

Do not approach or feed wild animals

- . Coyotes are wild animals, but can become less fearful of humans if they associate us and our surroundings with food sources.
- . Teach children not to approach or harass wild animals.

Should you wish any further information regarding coyotes, you may access the Ministry of Natural Resources web page at

<http://www.mnr.gov.on.ca/en/Business/FW/2ColumnSubPage/271326.html>

or the Campus Police at 416-287-7398.