Herd Reduction Option: Managed Urban Bow Hunt

Process:

Controlled hunting is the application of legal deer hunting methods that are closely regulated and controlled by the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables. This may include the issuance of special licenses to hunters or hunting by authorized municipal staff. Trained licensed bow hunters, usually trained contractors, carry out the hunt under strict control measures with public safety taken into account.

Anticipated Result:

- An immediate reduction of the general population of deer within the Town limits.

PROS

- Archery hunting for deer has the advantage of being a relatively discreet and silent activity. The short shooting range makes archery hunting a safe and non-disruptive removal technique.
- Likely make the deer nervous about being near human habitats and they retreat away from the Town.
- Harvested meat could be donated to area food banks. Normally the Yarmouth Food bank offers only non-perishable foods.
- Less costly than other options

CONS

- May result in negative feedback from the community and animal welfare groups as well as potentially damaging the community's image on a broader scale.
- Less efficient at reducing deer density than firearm hunting. Bad weather can influence the success of the hunt.
- If deer population surrounding the town is dense, over time deer would likely migrate into town to fill the void following the managed hunt
- Wounded animals could escape from the hunt area.

