

# Geese again targeted at Pier 4 beach

The Canada goose will be public enemy No. 1 at the beach again this summer. City staff plan to install a buoy line and short fence at Pier 4 beach to discourage the plentiful birds from polluting the water.

The city began a successful experiment last year with barriers to scare the birds off or limit their travels. A buoy line was installed, which prevents the birds from floating into the swimming area. A short fence was also erected to stop the birds from walking in.

Before the buoy was installed, the water was safe for swimming only 31 per cent of the time. Afterwards it was safe 83 per cent of the time. If needed, the city also plans to install overhead wires this year to stop the geese from flying into the water.

It cost the city about \$7,000 to buy and install the buoy line and temporary fencing. The program, to continue again next year, is expected to cost \$25,000 for the three years.