



UVIC COMMUNICATIONS

## EDGEwise

Conflict between cougars and humans is very rare. In the past 100 years, a total of five people have been killed by cougars in BC. All but one of these fatal attacks occurred on Vancouver Island.

**How to avoid cougars:** Hike in a group of two or more, and make enough noise that cougars will hear you coming. Keep children close and do not let them run ahead or linger behind.

**What to do if you meet a cougar:** Always leave the animal an avenue of escape, stay calm and don't run away or turn your back. Do everything you can to look big and dangerous.

**If a cougar behaves aggressively:** Speak loudly and firmly—convince the cougar that you are a threat, not prey. If a cougar attacks, don't cover your head and lie still. Fight back with anything you can reach, including rocks, backpacks, sticks and your bare hands.

UVic researchers were awarded more than \$104 million in outside research grants and contracts