

## A) Company or Organization Information

Company/Organization: Grow Wild! Native Plant Nursery

Address: 3784 Highway 7

City/Town: Omemee Province: Ontario

Postal Code: K0L 2W0 Phone Number: 416-735-7490

Number of Employees: 1-4, depending on the season

Check one:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Micro Business (1 to 5 full time employees)</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Small Business (6 to 50 full time employees)</b>	\$300
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Medium Business (51 – 100 Full time Employee)</b>	\$400
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Large Business (+100 employees)</b>	Please contact us

A fee for participation in the Bee City Canada Partner program will be charged annually.

Fees can be paid through:

1. Our website [www.beecitycanada.org/donate](http://www.beecitycanada.org/donate), or
2. By cheque. Please mail to Bee City Canada, 17-1875 Leslie St., Toronto, ON, M3B 2M5.

Tax receipts will be provided for all payments. Bee City Canada is a federally-recognized charity (number 74576 1692 RR001) and relies on financial assistance from business partners to support programming.

Tell us about your company/organization:

Since 2001, Grow Wild! Native Plant Nursery has specialized in growing native trees, shrubs, wildflowers and grasses for contract growing and various sized plant restoration projects. We also provide stock for public and private native plant gardens.

Name of Applicant & Title \_\_\_\_\_ Paul Heydon, Owner \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Bee City Liaison & Title (if not Applicant) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## **B) Commitments and Actions for the Coming Year**

1. **Creating Healthy Pollinator Habitat:** Describe your plans to create, improve and maintain pollinator habitat. (add or remove lines as needed)

At Grow Wild!, we grow approximately 180 different species of native plants, shrubs and trees. We provide this stock to various clients who are looking not only to maintain their own private gardens, but also to restore ecosystems.

We have many different gardens here on our own property, all of which are native species. These gardens are constantly maintained, and many of them are designed specifically to be full of host plants for butterfly and moth species.

- 2. Educating Employees, Customers and the Community:** Describe your plans to educate employees, customers and/or community members about the importance of pollinators and healthy habitats. (add or remove lines as needed)

Grow Wild! is dedicated to increasing the public's awareness of the importance of preserving and restoring our native trees, shrubs, forbs and natural ecosystems. We are strong advocates of natural biodiversity and environmental protection.

Paul frequently speaks to both large and small groups about the benefits of native plants and pollinators including gardening clubs and environmental conferences, and school groups. Our employees all have an interest in the outdoors and learn on a daily basis about the different species of plants and pollinators that visit us. We frequently document them through photos and videos which we post to our Facebook page. Last year, a video we posted of a bee squeezing its way into a bottle gentian had over 30,000 views!

We have a few bee houses on site, don't deadhead our gardens until after pollinator emergence in the spring and leave the leaves. Leaves that we do move around provide winter shelter for our plants so they are kept on site.

Grow Wild! has previously and will continue to donate native plants to community groups/schools in order to promote pollinator gardens. We also donate to the Long Point Basin Land Trust and other environmental groups.

Our website lists many resources where more information can be found, and we will be putting on a link to Bee City on our page.

3. **Celebrating Pollinators:** Describe your plans to celebrate pollinators during International Pollinator Week (third week of June) or at other times. (add or remove lines as needed)

We plan on participating in local activities put on through the Kawartha Lakes Bee City chapter. We will be promoting and posting about pollinators on our website and through social media.

## **C) Other Requirements**

1. Publicly acknowledge your Bee City Canada Partner designation through your website, signage, social media and other means.
2. Annually renew for Bee City Canada Partner designation. A renewal application will be sent to you.

## **D) Requested Attachments**

With your completed application, please provide:

1. Your business logo (jpeg or png format) with any usage guidelines.
2. Submit a short 50-100 word write-up of why it is important to be a Bee Partner. Include photos if possible. This will help us share the exciting news through our Social Media outlets.

### **Why is it important for us to be a Bee Partner?**

Now, more than ever before, it is important to not only preserve and protect our natural ecosystems, but to help restore them to their previous levels of biodiversity. Native plants improve the overall health of pollinating insect populations, including supporting many species of bees and butterflies. Grow Wild! is proud to not only provide habitat for those pollinators on our own property, but also to help others preserve and restore their own pollinator spaces.

## E) Declaration and Signatures

I/we, the undersigned, understand that the Bee City Canada Partner program consists of three commitments and that our company/organization is taking actions to support these commitments:

**We acknowledge** the goal of Bee City Canada is to promote healthy, biodiverse, resilient pollinator habitats in communities across Canada.

**We acknowledge** that partners have an opportunity to support bees and other pollinators through the Bee City program.

**We acknowledge** that supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and increases interactions and engagements among employees and their customers and reminds us of our responsibility to protect the planet for future generations.

Grow Wild! commits to carry out the actions outlined in this application.

### Applicant



Paul Heydon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature [CEO, Director, Owner]

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_Owner\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_Feb 19/2020\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## Bee City Canada Liaison (if not Applicant)

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Signature

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Print Name

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Title

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Date

### F) Next Steps

1. (Applicant) Email completed application (in PDF format) with requested attachments to [applications@beecitycanada.org](mailto:applications@beecitycanada.org) with "APPLICATION" in the subject line.
2. Submit a short 50-100 word write-up of why it is important to be a Bee Partner. Include a photo if possible. This will help us share the exciting news through our social media outlets.
3. (Bee City Canada) Your application will be reviewed within three business days. Bee City Canada will notify you of your application's approval or request clarification, if necessary. Bee City Canada reserves the right to withhold participation in this program without cause.

## **G) Bee City Canada's Commitment**

Bee City Canada will publicize your organization's designation as a Bee City Partner through its website, social media and other channels. In addition, you will receive Bee City's "Welcome Package", which will include:

1. An official declaration, recognizing your Bee City Partner.
2. Bee City Canada's creatives and brand guidelines.
3. Educational materials online and through the Bee City "Buzz" webinar series.

We are grateful for your commitment in protecting pollinators and we look forward to having you as a member of the Bee City family!

## **H) Ideas to help you fulfill your commitments**

### **Creating Habitat for Pollinators**

- Plant for pollinators! Be creative – replace your lawn (or a portion of it) with plants, shrubs and trees that attract bees, butterflies and other pollinator. Use planters, living walls and rooftop spaces when ground plantings are not possible. Or, find space in an allotment garden.



- Use region-specific, native perennials that are rich in pollen and nectar.
  - Select plants that will bloom from spring to fall and provide a continuous food source. You can also grow vegetable and herb plants, which pollinators love!
  - Give pollinators a place to call home. Leave some garden areas with bare soil, which solitary bees will use to nest.
  - Provide a shallow dish with water for thirsty bees and butterflies. Place some marbles or stones in the dish to give visitors a spot to land.
  - Install a Bee City Canada garden sign so that neighbours know that you're feeding the pollinators!
- Start or support an established garden at a local school, community centre, park, place of worship or other neighbourhood hubs. Look for underused or neglected spaces and turn them into healthy and beautiful pollinator habitats. Your community and the pollinators will fall in love with you!
  - Encourage others to get growing by giving away seeds for pollinator-friendly plants.
    - Choose non-treated, region-specific varieties from local sources.
  - Organize a native plant sale to get the neighbours involved in greening your community!

### **Educating Employees, Customers and the Community**

There is much that we can learn about pollinators and their importance to us.

- Use your website, intranet, newsletter, marketing materials, signage and social networks to share information about:
  - Native bees.
  - Butterflies and other pollinators.
  - Native plants and gardening for pollinators.
  - Our food and its dependence on pollinators.
  - Pollinator-friendly farming and why it is important.

- Host a screening of Bee Movie, a light-hearted comedy about a bee that decides to sue humans. Or, check out these documentaries and TED talks:
  - The Hidden Beauty of Pollination by Louie Schwartzberg
  - A Ghost in the Making: Searching for the Rusty Patched Bumble Bee by Clay Bolt
  - Plants, Pollinators and People: A Love Story by Kyra Krakos
  - Why Bees are Disappearing by Marla Spivak
- Invite a native bee expert, landscape designer, bee keeper or farmer who follows pollinator-friendly practices to be a guest speaker at a “Lunch and Learn” event.
- Take your employees on a field trip to a pollinator-friendly farm or native plant nursery.
- Promote citizen science initiatives, like [Bumble Bee Watch](#) and [Journey North’s monarch butterfly migration tracker](#).
- Offer pollinator-inspired menu options at your dining establishment.

## **Celebrating Pollinators**

International Pollinator Week (third week of June) provides a great opportunity to celebrate pollinators. But, good fun can be had at any time!

- Organize a company picnic featuring delicious foods that rely on pollination.
- Collaborate with a nearby school, community group and other organizations to plan a celebration in your neighbourhood, like a pollinator-themed costume event or a “Pollinator Parade!”
- Team-up with your municipal government to plan or participate in local Bee City events.
- Invite a local bee keeper to host a honey tasting event on your premises or take your staff to a honey bee farm.
- Go on a garden tour or visit a local park to observe pollinators. How many pollinator species will you spot?