

Resolution –October 16, 2017

Re: RESOLUTION DESIGNATING TOWNSHIP OF KING A BEE CITY

Bill Cober made a motion, seconded by Linda Pabst that Council approves the following Resolution:

WHEREAS the goal of Bee City designation is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for bees and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced declines due to a combination of environmental factors that have serious implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

WHEREAS cities, communities and their residents have the opportunity to support bees and other pollinators on both public and private land; and

WHEREAS by becoming a BEE CITY, King Township can highlight initiatives already in place and further engage local communities in an environment of creativity and innovation that will promote a healthier life for our community; and

WHEREAS supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions and engagement among community stewards; and

WHEREAS becoming a BEE CITY means creating and protecting pollinator habitats which align with the goals of the Township of King's Integrated Community Sustainability Plan (April, 2012); and

WHEREAS one characteristic of a sustainable future is access to a secure food supply system; and

WHEREAS because bees play a critical function as a pollinator for many fruits and vegetables, a threat to bees is a threat to the food supply for all; and

WHEREAS, The Township of King in the Province of Ontario should be certified as a BEE CITY community because King is currently undertaking a number of programs and initiatives supporting pollinator biodiversity including:

- Enhancing and establishing new pollinator friendly habitats throughout the Township.
- Providing annual environmental educational opportunities through a variety of activities which include community plantings, educational workshops and walks. Examples include ongoing community wildflower and fruit tree plantings at Cold Creek Conservation Area, Tasca Park naturalization project, guided themed nature hike in partnership with the Toronto Region Conservation Authority.

- Offering nature based recreation programming at Cold Creek Conservation Area that educates and engages youth through nature based learning.
- Public education and promotion of native plantings on Township property and privately owned land.
- Increasing the preservation of naturalized areas and identifying areas where invasive plants are growing.
- King Loves Spring activities: native wildflower seed giveaway, partnership workshops and native seed ball making with local public schools.
- Creation of the King City Community Garden, Cold Creek Organic Vegetable Garden and Schomberg Community Farm.

NOW THEREFORE be it resolved that Council of the Township of King direct that;

THE TOWNSHIP OF KING accepts the designation and commits to the standards of the BEE CITY Program.

WHEREAS, in order to enhance understanding among municipal staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, The Township of King agrees to meet the following commitments required of all BEE CITY communities:

- THAT** the Township of King adopts the BEE CITY Resolution (which articulates these commitments)
- THAT** the Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) be designated and appointed as the BEE CITY Program Sponsor and the staff liaison of the SAC as the Bee City Program Liaison. This body will serve as the intermediary between the citizenry and the municipality on matters of enhancing pollinator awareness, conservation and habitat, fulfilling the following commitments.
- THAT** King Township commits to annually celebrate National Pollinator Week (third full week in June) by offering a community environmental stewardship activity that showcases King's commitment to enhancing pollinator habitat.
- THAT** King Township staff annually apply for renewal of King's BEE CITY designation and submit a report of the previous year's activities.
- THAT** the Township of King agrees to display Bee City signage in a prominent location, and maintaining information available to the public on this initiative.
- THAT** the Staff Liason be authorized to submit the Bee City Canada Application to designate the Township of King as a Bee City.



 Mayor or Designate (signature)