



Connecting People,
Pollinators and Places

Bee City School/Campus Application Form

John Barsby Community School
(School/College/University/Educational Institution)

British Columbia
(Province/Territory)

A) School Information:

School/College/University/Educational Institution: John Barsby Community School

Address: 550 Seventh Street

City/First Nation: Nanaimo Province/Territory: British Columbia

Postal Code: V9R 3Z2 Phone: 250 753-8211

B) Applicant Information:

Name: Hope Stewart & Cohen Inglis Position: Co-Chairs Bars-bee Club
Teacher Sponsor: Janet Nelson

Email: 8.bc.ca Phone:

D) Becoming a Bee School/Campus

Briefly summarize why your school/campus/educational institution should become a Bee City School/Campus (add/remove lines as needed).

At John Barsby, we have a team of 17 students, the members of our Leadership 12 class, dedicated to enhancing and maintaining the pollinator habitat on our school grounds and in the community. We are collaborating with the staff and students of Georgia Avenue Elementary School, located only one block away from us to help us achieve our goal of being a pollinator friendly community. We have groups of high school students working with elementary school classes in order to educate our future student body on how to care for their environment. With our elementary student "buddies," we will be planting native pollinator friendly plants in our school garden and theirs. John Barsby's school grounds are an excellent habitat for all of the many pollinator species native to Vancouver Island, from ground nesting bees to hummingbirds. We have a small river (the Chase River) bordering our school, which flows from a richly forested park (Colliery Dam Park) only a few hundred meters away. There are also many pollinator friendly gardens scattered throughout the neighbourhood. Pollinators in the area are provided with all the essentials to thrive in our community, making John Barsby an ideal Bee School candidate.

E) Commitments and Actions

In order to enhance the understanding of the students and staff about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the applicant agrees to meet the following commitments required of all Bee City Schools/Campuses:

1. **Adopt this Bee City Canada Resolution.**
2. **Create a Bee City Working Group**, the team which will be responsible for the Bee City program at your school/campus. We recommend a committee of at least two teachers/instructors, two students and caretaking/facilities staff, where possible (expand/reduce table as needed).

Name	Role	Email address
Hope Stewart	Co-Chair Bars-Bee Club	
Cohen Inglis	Co-Chair Bars-Bee Club	gmail.com
Anya Mikes	Co-Chair Bars-Bee Club (jr. grades representative)	loud.com
Janet Nelson	Sponsor Teacher	.bc.ca
Christopher Brown	Farmer & steward of the John Barsby Garden	ail.com
Basia Henoach	Community School Coordinator	.bc.ca

Develop a Pollinator Habitat Action Plan: Outline any initiatives which aim to improve, maintain or create new habitat for pollinators. Examples could include planting a locally native pollinator garden at your school or in the local community. Describe your plans for habitat and include a plant list, if possible.

John Barsby’s vision as a Bee School member is to create a local garden program run by John Barsby’s “Bars-Bee Garden Club” with help from elementary students in our community. John Barsby already has an established garden area. The garden has 10, 4’x8’ raised beds. A composting area, a round herb garden and two perennial borders. One side of the garden backs on to a riparian area home to native berries and tree species and the Chase River. Despite the extensive space, this garden area had fallen into disrepair until recently. Last year was the first year the garden area was put back into use. We plan to continue the expansion and enhancement of the garden with the help of the garden facilitator into 2018.

We plan to renovate shrub borders that contain:

Ribes sanguinem (red-flowering current)	Mahonia sp. (Oregon Grape)
Ceanothus sp. (California lilac)	Heather sp.
Comfrey	Wild Cherry Trees
Helleborus spp.	Autumn Olive
Rosa nutkana (nootka rose)	Sea Buckthorn
Sedum var. Autumn Joy	Elderflower
Blueberries	Goumi Berry
Naturalized Hawthorne trees	

We want to establish plants that will allow continuous food sources for both humans and pollinators alike over all the seasons.

We also plan to renovate an herb garden that contains:

Chives	Lemon Balm
Rosemary	Fennel
Borage	Cilantro
Calendula	Anise hyssop
Mint	Thyme
Monarda sp. (Bee Balm)	

We want to continue to rebuild this space with an emphasis on selecting plants beneficial to native pollinator species. We will also take care to select plants that will help bees throughout the year. Plants like our native Oregon grape species are in bloom when other plants are not. In selecting more species we will make sure that there is diversity in terms of both plant species and bloom time.

We are also cultivating an annual food garden. Many of the plants are dependent upon pollinators: zucchini, tomato, beans, peas, peppers, pumpkin, watermelon, cucumber and raspberries.

3. Promote Education about Pollinators: Outline any initiatives aimed at educating students, staff, volunteers, parents and/or the local community about pollinators.

We would like to create signage in the garden to educate visitors about our garden space. We hope to create signs that identify the plants and explain their uses, and their importance to bees and other pollinators. We also want to include information about how local aboriginal peoples use the plants and the names of the plants in Hul'qumi'num. In addition, we will be working with individuals from our parent advisory committee to help us learn about Mason Bee habitats with the hope of building a few nooks for our garden. We will then pass what we have learned about Mason Bees along to our elementary school "buddies." Community members

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Savva - nick@beecitycanada.org or 416-388-8856.

from the Bee club have offered to speak and present to our club as well so that we can learn more and pass this knowledge on.

A crucial part of our program is collaborating with our catchment elementary schools in order to educate young children about the importance of pollination and the significant roles that bees play in our lives. We are currently volunteering in elementary classrooms once a week. We are planning on working more with these students by engaging in classroom lessons surrounding the importance of bees, and by working together in the development, planting, and maintenance of bee friendly gardens. Georgia Elementary employs a garden facilitator who is supportive of bee preservation and our initiatives.

We have been saving seeds and will do seed collection from plants in the garden with students from Georgia Elementary. This offers valuable lessons on the process of pollination and seed saving.

4. Celebrate Pollinators: Tell us about how your school/campus will celebrate International Pollinator Week and/or participate in other pollinator-themed events.

In the spirit of showcasing John Barsby's commitment to enhancing native pollinator health through biodiversity and habitat restoration, John Barsby will be hosting many events that promote an appreciation towards bees, pollination, and the environment. Some of these events include:

- A leaf drive in order to improve soil quality in our garden by adding much needed organic matter. (Was already done this past November and is planned again for next November.)
- Planting seeds in early spring for new pollinator friendly plants to add to our garden and for students to plant in their gardens at home.
- We will host an Earth Day garden cleanup/planting event in the Barsby garden inviting all classes at Barsby and Georgia Avenue to participate at different times throughout the day.
- Work party to establish more garden space
- Work party to plant cover crops such as buckwheat and clover that will provide a bounty of food and improve the soil.

During pollinator week we will:

- Host a movie night for the local community (movie: 'Queen of the Sun')
- A mason bee seminar (The grandmother of one of our students is a local expert and is often hired by local garden clubs to provide seminars, but she is willing to donate her time to us.)
- Work with our elementary class buddies to construct mason bee habitats for installation the following spring.
- Host a planting day for both Barsby and Georgia Avenue students.

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F) Other Requirements

1. Publicly acknowledge receiving your Bee City designation through your website, social media and by displaying Bee City Canada signage in a prominent location.
2. Annually apply to renew your Bee City designation. A renewal application will be sent to you.

G) Resolution and Signature

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

THAT bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to land fragmentation, habitat loss, use of pesticides, industrialized agriculture, climate change and the spread of pests and diseases, with serious implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

THAT schools, colleges, universities and learning institutions have the opportunity to take actions to support pollinators by creating healthy habitats within their grounds and the broader community; and

THAT supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions and engagement among school/campus community stewards; and

THAT staff be authorized to submit the Bee City Canada Application to designate (school/college/university/learning institution) as a Bee City School/Campus; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT (school/college/university/learning institution) accepts the designation and commits to the standards of the Bee City Canada Program.

Read, approved and adopted this

22 day of December, 2017.

Signature of Principal/President/Official: _____

Please print Principal/President/Official's name: _____

Submitted by: Janet Nelson

Date: Dec 22, 2017

H) Requested Attachments

With your completed application, please provide:

1. Your school/college/university/institution logo (png format) with any usage guidelines.
2. (optional) One or more photos representing your school/college/university/institution for use on the Bee City Canada website and social media platforms.

Send your completed application to: applications@beecitycanada.org.