



**Bee City**  
CANADA 

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Connecting People,  
Pollinators and Places

## **Bee City School/Campus Application Form**

**Polaris Montessori**

**Prince George, B.C.**

## **A) School Information:**

School/College/University/Educational Institution: Polaris Montessori

Address: 7005 Gladstone Dr.

City/First Nation: Prince George Province/Territory: B.C.

Postal Code: V2N 2G2 Phone: 250-964-7743

## **B) Applicant Information:**

Name: Jody Hoffman Position: Intermediate Teacher

Email: 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).

Polaris Montessori has a focus on students understanding the natural world, and the human place within this world. We teach students about the interconnectedness of life on the planet, from a large scale-level of the universe to the smaller scale of local ecosystems. We have five new garden beds at our school, and would like to make these gardens part of providing habitat for pollinators. Botany and Zoology are part of our Montessori curriculum. Students study the parts of plants, and the biology of pollinators from a young age in our school. Becoming a Bee City school will be a natural extension of this learning as students will be able to connect their knowledge to daily care and observations in the garden.

## **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.**

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Savva - [nick@beecitycanada.org](mailto:nick@beecitycanada.org) or 416-388-8856.

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
Jody Hoffman	Teacher, plant coordinator, spokesperson, leader for intermediate students interested in pollinators and gardening.	7.bc.ca
Janice Butchart	Teacher, plant coordinator, leader of student "green team" club	.bc.ca
Nancie Miners	Teacher, beekeeping resource	.bc.ca
Dani Paivarinta	Intermediate student	
Mia Thakkar	Intermediate student	
Ty Hamilton	Intermediate student	
Shea Bredin	Intermediate student	

3. **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.

Our short term plans will be to start our school garden beds in the spring of 2018. Each class will be involved in planting the gardens, and learning about the plants we are adding to the garden space. For this year, we will focus on plants that can grow successfully in raised beds as follows: bee balm, golden rod, lavender, sage, thyme, sunflowers, cosmos, zinnia, verbena. These plants will be combined with other garden plants that can provide food such as potatoes, carrots, cabbage.

Over the longer term, our parent group and school has a vision to create a natural playscape and garden area around the school. This is a five year plan, which is in the beginning stages of planning and development. The intention of this project is to add native trees and shrubs to the school ground. As this project progresses, we will research

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native species that can be incorporated into our school grounds to expand our habitat for pollinators.

**4. Promote Education about Pollinators:** Outline any initiatives aimed at educating students, staff, volunteers, parents and/or the local community about pollinators. Our intermediate students are developing a presentation to the school to share plans for creating pollinator habitat in our school gardens this year. The presentation will include the importance of pollinators to the environment, the decline of pollinators world-wide, and the role of our garden in the local pollinator ecosystem. Polaris staff is united in supporting our garden and becoming a bee-city school. We will work together to present information to parents through the school website such as photos of students in the garden, bee habitat links, and descriptions of the pollinator garden. Students will also be involved in creating a newsletter to go home to families describing our garden, and the role we are playing in pollinator habitat.

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

International Pollinator Week is June 18-24, 2018. This will be about a month after we are able to work the soil and begin our garden plantings at Polaris. Intermediate students will plan a special school-wide assembly for pollinator week, and this will also be a great time for us to connect parents to what we are doing at the school. Parents will be invited to the assembly, and for a tour of the gardens. Garden tours will be hosted by students from each class at Polaris. Topics for the assembly will include: role of pollinators in maintaining our food supply, and in the health of our local ecosystems, an update on the plants growing in our garden, reminders on how to care for the garden plants, and sharing of student art work and writing about the garden and pollinators.

## 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

10 day of April, 2018.

Signature of Principal/President/Official: 

Please print Principal/President/Official's name: Tom Xule

Submitted by: Jody Hoffman Date: April 12, 2018

## **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](mailto:applications@beecitycanada.org).**