



Connecting People,
Pollinators and Places

Bee City Canada Application

A) City or Community Information

Municipality/First Nation City of Mississauga

Province/Territory Ontario

Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission

Name & Title Bonnie Crombie, Mayor of Mississauga

Name of Applicant & Title Sarah Piett, Supervisor, Woodlands and Natural Areas

Organization or Department City of Mississauga, Community Services, Parks, Forestry and Environment Division

Address 300 City Centre Drive

City/First Nation Mississauga Province/Territory Ontario

Postal Code L5C 3C1

Email sarah.piett@mississauga.ca Phone 905-615-3200 ext. 3379

Bee City Liaison & Title (if not Applicant) _____

Organization or Department _____

Address _____

City/First Nation _____ Province/Territory _____

Postal Code _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Please list the members of your community's **Bee City Working Group**. This group will oversee the Bee City program. (expand or reduce table as required)

Name	Affiliation	Email
Sarah Piett	City of Mississauga	sarah.piett@mississauga.ca
Katherine Culbert	City of Mississauga	katherine.culbert@mississauga.ca

Media Contact (if not Applicant)

Name & Title _____

Department _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Tell us about any initiatives currently taking place in your city, community or region which aim to help pollinators. These may include existing pollinator gardens, habitat restoration projects, efforts to reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides and public education activities to raise awareness about pollinators.

The City of Mississauga is engaged in numerous activities that support our diverse pollinator populations. Through One Million Trees Mississauga, as well as our Natural Heritage and Urban Forest Strategy, and Urban Forest Management Plan, the City has committed to protecting and expanding our natural areas. Established in 2013, the One Million Trees program has allowed the City of Mississauga, partner agencies and the public to plant over 330,000 native trees and shrubs, enhancing green space and pollinator habitat in Mississauga. Trees and shrubs planted through this program have been sourced from local seed, for the benefit of native pollinators and other wildlife. As most of the plantings are carried out with local residents and community groups, education and community stewardship are core components of the program. In addition to the community planting events, the One Million Trees staff also delivers classroom presentations and educational workshops for school groups as well as the general public. Through this program, the City of Mississauga has been successful in fostering public awareness about environmental sustainability topics that relate to pollinators such as habitat enhancement and the importance of planting native trees and shrubs.

In addition to One Million Trees, the City of Mississauga has numerous environmental projects and priorities. The City of Mississauga has been working towards the protection of pollinator populations and habitat through pollinator-specific initiatives. These initiatives include the installation of pollinator gardens comprised of pollinator-friendly herbaceous and shrub species, and pollinator education programming.

The City of Mississauga has thirteen existing pollinator gardens throughout the city. Most of these gardens are planted within community gardens which were created in partnership with Ecosource which is an environmental non-profit organization in Mississauga. The community and pollinator gardens are located at City community centres, which provide an excellent opportunity for community engagement. There are also dedicated pollinator gardens at the Lake Wabukayne and at Jack Darling Memorial Park. In 2018 there were three new pollinator gardens were in-

stalled, funded through a grant. They are located at Streetsville's Old Village Hall, Port Credit Library and Dr. Martin L. Dobkin Park. In addition to pollinator gardens, the City maintains efforts to restore and enhance a rare tallgrass prairie habitat at Jack Darling Memorial Park and Lorne Park Prairie, which both provide numerous sources of food for pollinators. All of these gardens have significant educational components with community partners including Ecosource, Eco Schools, and local libraries.

The City installed a honey bee hive on the roof of Mississauga's City Hall in June 2018. The focus of this project is to support urban agriculture, increase pollination in the downtown core area, and to provide an opportunity to educate the public regarding pollinators and their roles in an urban environment.

Solitary bee hotels have been installed at Brueckner Rhododendron Gardens, one of the City's garden parks on Lake Ontario. A high school volunteer installed 4 bee hotels amongst the gardens and naturalized areas.

A project is underway for 2019 from the City's Culture and Parks & Forestry Divisions to commission a local artist to create a bee hotel that will function as both habitat for native bees and as a piece of public art. There will be an educational component to the bee hotel art piece that will help educate the public on the importance of native bees.

A pollinator education campaign was initiated through the City's social media channels including Facebook, Twitter and the City's website. This campaign focused on the threats to pollinators, their ecological importance, and their importance to humans. The campaign was also used to spread awareness about the City's pollinator-friendly initiatives. A central goal of this campaign is to inspire residents to improve and maintain pollinator habitat on private property which accounts for more than 50% of Mississauga's land base.

B) Commitments and Actions

I/we, the undersigned, understand that the Bee City Canada program consists of three commitments, and that we will take the indicated actions to support those commitments:

1. Creating Healthy Pollinator Habitat: Describe your plans to create, improve and maintain pollinator habitat, while reducing or eliminating pesticide use.

Mississauga plans to expand its pollinator initiatives by establishing additional pollinator gardens throughout the City. In addition, more pollinator centred content will be integrated into the City's public education programs, encouraging residents to create and maintain pollinator habitat on their properties. Since April 22, 2009, there has been a ban on cosmetic pesticides in Ontario.

Under the regulation in the Pesticides Act, over 95 pesticide ingredients and 250 pesticide products can no longer be sold by retailers or used by homeowners in Ontario. As such, the use of pesticides in Mississauga is limited through this regulation.

2. Education about Pollinators: Describe how you plan to educate community members about the importance of pollinators.

One Million Trees Mississauga is an excellent education platform with the potential for integrating pollinator-centered content into our community stewardship programming. To educate community members about the importance of pollinators, the City will hold pollinator themed planting events with schools or community groups. At these events, the species selected would be particularly pollinator friendly, and as with all of Forestry's community tree planting events, plant material is sourced from local, native seeds. Such an event would create the opportunity to educate community members about characteristics of ideal pollinator habitat.

To further enhance community pollinator awareness, pollinator workshops will be delivered by City staff at local events. For example, City Forestry staff are qualified to deliver a pollinator habitat workshop for residents to learn about establishing pollinator gardens and the construction of pollinator habitat boxes.

3. Celebrating Pollinators: Describe how you plan to celebrate pollinators during International Pollinator Week (third week of June) or at other times.

To celebrate pollinators during International Pollinator Week, the City of Mississauga would hold pollinator nature walks. These walks would serve to celebrate pollinators and educate the public about the importance of pollinators to Mississauga's ecosystems. Tours would take place in existing pollinator gardens and natural areas abundant in pollinator-friendly trees, shrubs or wildflowers. Once established, the solitary bee house sites could also be featured on these nature walks.

C) Other Requirements

I/we, the undersigned agree to:

1. Publicly acknowledge Bee City Canada designation through the city/region/community website, signage and other means.
2. Annually re-apply for Bee City Canada designation. A renewal application will be sent to you.


D) Requested Attachments

With your completed application, please provide:

1. One or more photos representing your city/region/community for use on the Bee City website and social media platforms. These could showcase pollinator initiatives or the members of your Bee City Working Group.
2. Your city, region or First Nation logo (png format) and any usage guidelines.

F) Signatures

Applicant



Signature

Sarah Piett

Print Name

Supervisor, Woodlands and Natural Areas

Title

June 6, 2019

Date

Bee City Canada Liaison (if not Applicant)

Signature

Print Name

Title

Date

G) Next Steps

1. (Applicant) Email completed application and resolution (in PDF format) with requested attachments to applications@beecitycanada.org with "APPLICATION" in the subject line.

2. (Bee City Canada) Your application will be reviewed within three business days. We will notify you as soon as your application has been approved or promptly request any clarification, if necessary.

H) Bee City Canada's Commitment

Bee City Canada is committed to publicizing your designation as a Bee City through our website, social media and other channels. In addition, our "Bee City Welcome Package" will be sent to you and will include:

1. An official declaration, recognizing your city or First Nation as a Bee City.
2. An aid with helpful ideas for communities joining the Bee City Canada program.
3. Our media kit to use for making Bee City Canada signs and other artwork.

Bee City Canada is grateful for your commitment to take positive actions to help pollinators and for being a role model to other communities across Canada.