



Connecting People,
Pollinators and Places

Bee City School Application Form

Mulberry Waldorf School

Ontario

A) School Information:

School: Mulberry Waldorf School

Address: 25 Markland Street

City: Kingston Province/Territory: Ontario

Postal Code: K7K 1S2 Phone: 613-542-0669

B) Applicant Information:

Name: Peelu Hira Position: Administrative Head

Email:

Phone:

C) Becoming a Bee City School

Mulberry, as a Waldorf school, strives to support ecologically-green playgrounds, school yards, and school gardens with an aim to:

- raise awareness of the plight of the honeybee and all pollinators
- protect and preserve the honeybee and all pollinators
- create a more sustainable future for our planet

Focusing on bees and other pollinators is a focus of Waldorf 100, the international effort to celebrate the centennial of Waldorf Education. Waldorf schools around North America are working on projects to help support and rebuild the pollinator population.

We have been planting gardens at 25 Markland Street since 1999 and have three plant gardens and two vegetable gardens in our urban schoolyard. Each of these gardens has plants that attract pollinators. We have had two depaving projects to increase play space, help water infiltration, and plant pollinator gardens. Our most recent depave project was this summer on a piece of land adjacent to our schoolyard and we planted a substantial rain garden with the support of Red Squirrel Conservation Services. Our students, teachers, staff, parents, and community members support ongoing and new greening efforts.

If you have any questions, please contact Shelly Candel - shelly@beecitycanada.org or 647-402-0133

D) 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:

1. **Adopt this Bee City Canada Resolution. (see Section F)**
2. **Create a Bee City Pollinator Team.**

Name	Role	Email address
Holly Blommers	-Head of the Eco Group -Grade 1 Teacher	
Mhairi Gray	-Grade 2/3 Teacher -Class is responsible for the vegetable and fruit garden	
Heather Wark	-Grade 4/5 Teacher -Class will mentor Grade 2/3s in gardening	
Peelu Hira	-Administrative Head	

3. **Develop a Pollinator Habitat Action Plan:**

We are continuously planting more native plants that attract pollinators, and maintaining our two depaved areas as well as the new rain garden. Several classes have taken on the responsibility of caring for our gardens to ensure pollinators can thrive. For example, our Nursery class will plant and tend their pollinator/vegetable garden, while our Kindergarten class will plant and tend their pollinator/herb garden. Our Grade School students will tend to the rain garden.

In addition to student support, our Property Committee will look at ways to further enhance water infiltration in the two depaved areas. We will also receive a consultation from local not-for-profit Wintergreen Studios in spring 2020, on how to enhance our schoolyard with native plantings.

We are also seeking hands-on educational opportunities for our students to highlight the need to protect and preserve bees and other pollinators, as detailed below.

4. Promote Education about Pollinators:

In spring 2020, our school will receive a presentation by Bee City Canada to raise awareness of the importance of pollinators. As part of our ongoing educational programming, the Grade 4/5 class will mentor the Grade 2/3 class on how to care for and plant our raised bed gardens. Lastly, we have had visits by the Society of Conservation Biology at Queen's University this past fall and hope to have more visits in the spring to focus on environmental sustainability.

5. Celebrate Pollinators:

To celebrate pollinators, we will continue planting native, pollinator-friendly species in May and June 2020. In addition, we will start exploring citizen science opportunities such as Bumble Bee Watch to raise more awareness of the species we have visiting our gardens and to celebrate the bees who are sharing our schoolyard. We will also participate in Wintergreen Studios' hive naming contest in spring 2020, as part of their pollinator week celebration activities. Finally, respecting and caring for our natural world as well as hands-on practical activities are key principles in the Waldorf curriculum and, as such, we will be celebrating pollinators all year round in addition to the spring activities listed above.

E) Other Requirements

1. Publicly acknowledge receiving your Bee City School 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 School designation. A renewal application will be sent to you.

F) Resolution and Signature

WHEREAS the goal of Bee City Canada is to promote healthy, biodiverse habitats in communities across Canada.

THAT bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to habitat loss, use of pesticides, industrialized agriculture, climate change and the spread of pests and diseases, with serious implications for the future health of plants, reptiles, birds, insects,

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mammals and humans; and

THAT schools 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, increases interactions and engagement in the school and reminds of our responsibilities to take care of mother earth for future generations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

THAT (name of school) accepts the designation and commits to the 3 pillars of the Bee City Canada Program; creating healthy biodiverse pollinator habitat, educating whenever possible and celebrating.

Approved and adopted this

17 day of December, 2019.

Signature of Principal/Official: *Peelu Hira*, Administrative Head

Please print Principal/Official's name: Peelu Hira

Submitted by: Peelu Hira Date: Dec. 17/19

G) Requested Attachments

With your completed application, please provide:

1. Your school logo (in png format) and usage guidelines.
2. A short 50-100 word write-up of why it's important to become a Bee City School. Include photos if possible and ensure there is parental permission. This will help us share the exciting news through our social media outlets.

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