

Bee City Application - Entry #29

Municipality/FirstNation Town of Whitby
Province Ontario
Name of Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission Don Mitchell
Job Title Mayor
Name of Applicant Jade Schofield
Applicant's Job Title Project Manager- Sustainability & Climate Change
Organization or Department Town of Whitby
Address 575 Rossland Rd E Whitby, Ontario L1N2M8
Applicant's Email
Applicant's Phone
Are you the primary contact person? Yes
Pollinator Team Members Aimee Pugao Jennifer Smith Jill Stanton Wojtek Kowalewski

Mike Niesar
Mike Kuchera
Patricia Lowe

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.

Whitby hosts several initiatives undertaken to support native pollinator populations. This includes being a member of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, naturalization of a number of green spaces, native plant giveaways (milkweed and bee balm) at community events, and the maintenance of Whitby's pollinator gardens located at Town Hall and the waterfront.

As a Bee City of Canada, the Town of Whitby is committed to increasing natural meadow habitat to support the survival of native pollinators. In 2019 this included:

- 1,355 square meters of meadow as a part of the Thickson Road Parking Project,
- 2800 square meters of meadow at Jeffery Park,
- A newly created pond and wetland in Rosedale Park.

In June 2019, The Town of Whitby installed an urban beehive on the rooftop of Town Hall as part of its commitment to being a "Bee City" and protecting local pollinators. The hive was installed during Pollinator Week (June 17 to 23), making Whitby one of the first municipalities in Canada to own a beehive.

In support of the installation of the beehive, the Town hosted a "Powerful Pollinators" workshop during Culture in the Square in August 2019. This workshop increased awareness of the importance of pollinators and the positive effect they have on the environment.

Honey Extraction Workshop

On November 21, the Town hosted a honey extraction workshop at the Station Art Gallery. This workshop led by Alvéole demonstrated the process for extracting honey from the hive, and each participant was even able to take a jar home! This session was funded generously by TD Friends of the Environment.

1. Creating Healthy Pollinator Habitat:

Whitby will once again be installing an urban beehive on the rooftop of Town Hall as part of its commitment to being a "Bee City" and protecting local pollinators

Whitby intends to create a new pollinator garden along the Lake Ontario Waterfront in partnership with Golder Associates.

The Town of Whitby's parks department is also seeking ways to expand naturalized green space through the reduction of grass cutting in order to provide a better habitat for pollinators.

2. Educating the public about the importance of pollinators:

In January 2020 The Town will be hosting "How To" sessions to encourage the startup of community gardens within Whitby. The session will also include a discussion on the benefits of pollinators and pollinator gardens for the

purpose of growing food.

In addition, the Town will be delivering two community-based workshops throughout the year with the theme focuses on pollinators

The Town is exploring the opportunity of installing a beehive at the public library that allows members of the public to see the activities of the bee through a glass panel.

In 2020, the Town of Whitby will be offering subsidized Backyard Tree Planting to property owners of Whitby. This program, delivered by the not for profit organization LEAF. This program will be delivered in partnership with the Region of Durham.

3. A yearly commitment to celebrate:

The Town of Whitby will be celebrating pollinator week by:

Inviting Council to endorse a proclamation in recognition of pollinator week

Installing a beehive on the roof of Town Hall during pollinator week

Delivering a public information campaign

I/we, the undersigned agree to:

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

Bee City Renewal Fees

100,001 – 250,000 population - \$500

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[Whitby-Logo.jpg](#)

Name

Jade Schofield

Title

Project Manager- Sustainability & Climate Change

Date

01/31/2020