



# Bee City Renewal 2020

**Name of City, Town, Municipality or First Nation**

The City of Timmins

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**Province**

Ontario

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**Applicant's Name**

Christina Beaton

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**Applicant's Job Title**

Environmental Coordinator

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**Organization or Department**

The Corporation of the City of Timmins

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**Address**

220 Algonquin Blvd. East  
Timmins, ON  
P4N 1B3

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**Applicant's Phone**

+17053602600

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**Applicant's Email**

[christina.beaton@timmins.ca](mailto:christina.beaton@timmins.ca)

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**Are you the primary contact person?**

Yes

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**Pollinator Team Members**

Christina Beaton, City of Timmins Environmental Coordinator  
Heather Duhn, City of Timmins Communications Coordinator  
Jen Nobel, Northbound Bloom  
Crystal Percival, Mattagami Region Conservation Authority  
Corey McLister, Glencore/Kidd  
Billie Rheault, Porcupine Horticultural Society  
Rob Arnup, Timmins Horticultural Society  
Mark Joron, Winter Green Fund  
Catharine Cribbs, Master Gardeners of Ontario  
Desmond O'Connor, Newmont Goldcorp  
Louise Gaudette, C.M. Shields Public Library  
Melissa Vieno, Timmins Public Library  
Glenn Thurston, City of Timmins Manager of Parks, Recreation and Maintenance  
Noella Rinaldo, Timmins Economic Development Corporation  
Andrea Griener, Public Member

Gloria Allen, Public Member  
Kristin Murray, City Councillor

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**Briefly summarize your Bee City experience during the past year. Please include information about challenges, feedback, and media responses.**

The COVID-19 pandemic was the biggest challenge as many of our projects that were targeted for 2020 were not able to be completed. Staff shortages and re-organization of priorities as well as the elimination of in-person meetings, events and gatherings affected municipal operations and community groups alike.

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**Please tell us about your community's efforts to reduce the use of pesticides.**

The Bee City Pollinator Team promoted the elimination or at the very least, the reduction of pesticides during the Welcome to Timmins Night Live event on September 23, 2020. We created a promotional video outlining what steps you can take to create a pollinator-friendly habitat, including reducing the use of pesticides.

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**Outline community initiatives focusing on habitat creation and restoration. If possible, include a plant list.**

The C.M. Shields Centennial Library is creating a depository of open-pollinated local heirloom seeds. Patrons "borrow" seeds and once the seeds are grown in the garden, borrowers will endeavor to allow a few of these plants to seed. These seeds will then be harvested and returned to the library to replenish the Seed Library's stock and for sharing with other members. This initiative promotes habitat creation throughout the community. For more information on the Seed Library, including what types of seeds are available, please visit <http://tpl.timmins.ca/seed-library/>

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**How did your community promote being a Bee City?**

The Bee City Pollinator Team create several Facebook posts aimed at promoting the City of Timmins' Bee City designation. We designed a bee logo to use in our promotional material. This logo has been added to our social media campaigns and was also added to the Timmins downtown social distance floor decals.

The City of Timmins' Bee City designation and educational content was shared during the Welcome to Timmins Night on September 23, 2020. The video will be available for approximately 1 year and

can be viewed on the Welcome to Timmins Live YouTube account (<https://youtu.be/-vxEuGWYUWE>) from 42:17 to 50:59.

The Timmins Public Library offers a monthly StoryWalk program and on August 6, 2020 the story was “Plant a Seed and See What Grows” by Roland Gahler. The StoryWalk was held at Porcupine Lake.

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**Please tell us about your efforts aimed at educating your community, including residents, city employees, contractors, children and other groups.**

Due to pandemic restrictions, all of the Bee City Pollinator Team’s educational content was provided virtually through social media posts. Encouraging members of our community to take the Pollinator Protection Pledge and providing tips to creating pollinator-friendly habitats.

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**Please tell us about your community’s participation in National Pollinator Week celebrations and other events.**

The Bee City Pollinator Team promoted Bee City and educational content through the City of Timmins’ Facebook page. A new topic was highlighted each day during pollinator week:

June 22, 2020: Pollinator Week Kickoff

June 23, 2020: Pollinator Scavenger Hunt

June 24, 2020: Pollinator Education – Dandelions

June 25, 2020: Pollinator Friendly Garden

June 26, 2020: Tips for Protecting Pollinators

June 27, 2020: Seed Library

June 28, 2020: Pollinator Protection Pledge

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**Describe your plans for creating, improving and maintaining pollinator habitat during the next year.**

The Bee City Pollinator Team has selected two pilot locations to transform city plots that were previously filled with one species of annuals to a pollinator-friendly habitat filled with a variety of species. We will also be including a story board at the Timmins Public Library plot to educate and promote pollinator-friendly habitats.

Pending COVID-19 restrictions, in the spring/summer of 2021, we will engage the public in a seed ball event to re-wild an un-kept area of land. This event will engage all ages, especially children, in

learning about local pollinators and how seed balls can be an effective and fun way to plant local species. This project will prioritize perennials and low-maintenance species.

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**Has your City/Town/Municipality/First Nation created a Bee City website or webpage?**

No

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**Bee City Renewal Fees**

25,001 – 50,000 population - \$300