



Bee City Application

City/Town/Municipality/First Nation

City of Belleville

Province

Ontario

Name of Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission

Mitch Panciuk

Job Title

Mayor

Name of Applicant

Amanda Azzopardi

Applicant's Job Title

Environmental Coordinator

Organization or Department

Environmental Services

Address

2 Sidney Street
Belleville, Ontario
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Applicant's Email

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Applicant's Phone

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Are you the primary contact person?

Yes

Pollinator Team Members

Amanda Azzopardi-Environmental Coordinator
Rowland Cave-Browne-Cave- Manager, Operations Planning and Development
Marie-Anne-Gardener/Horticulturalist

Tell us about any initiatives currently taking place in your city, town, municipality or First Nation 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 Belleville takes part in numerous pollinator initiatives; such include No Mow May an initiative that encourages residents and property owners to partake in relaxed maintenance efforts. We work with bylaws to encourage and educate residents to wait until their lawn is 4-6 inches long before mowing for the entire month of May. By limiting mowing, native flowering plants will have a chance to grow and attract local bee populations and other pollinators. The City of Belleville partakes in our "Let it Grow" initiative where select areas of city property is designated to provide support for pollinators and wildlife, currently we have about 8 hectares of "Let it Grow" areas. These areas encourage relaxed maintenance efforts which help keep grass long and allow native plants to grow and flower which attracts pollinators, like butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. The Green Task Force Committee, one of our active Committees of Council launches annual Seedling Giveaway Days. Seedling Giveaway

days are a collaborative with Quinte Conservation and the City of Belleville which aims to educate residents and provide resources to plant their own seedlings. Additionally, the City of Belleville has pollinator gardens in park spaces and city trails. East Zwicks Trails is a 3.25km trail alongside the Bay of Quinte and serves as a prime example of where our pollinator beds blossom. The city has planted five types of white and red clover as well as a wildflower seed mix to help provide ideal flowers to attract pollinators to the pollinator gardens. The City of Belleville also has three community garden locations which provide an opportunity for residents to enjoy the outdoors and plant organic local foods.

1. Creating Healthy Pollinator Habitat:

The City of Belleville plans to continue efforts listed above in hopes of providing a home for pollinators and improve as budget allows. The City of Belleville implemented an Urban Tree Canopy and Natural Vegetation Policy in 2019 and continues efforts to collect data and develop a tree inventory. We have completed the tree inventory on the Southeast quadrant of the city and plan to continue as resources permit. The city plants roughly 300-400 trees, 50-70mm in size annually. The City of Belleville is committed to maintaining our annual tree planting patterns, with continued efforts from our partners at the Rotary Club Belleville on their Rotary Loves Trees project with a goal to plant 50,000 trees. An exciting project for Belleville as this project will help maintain and grow Belleville's tree canopy. Combine efforts between the City of Belleville, Quinte Conservation and the Rotary Club of Belleville has set the foundation for roughly 7200 trees in parks around the city as well as 500 native plants and wildflowers on residential waterfront shorelines within the municipality of Belleville. Continued annual funding support from TD Tree Days allows city staff and volunteers to plant an additional 520 native trees and shrubs. The upcoming 2022 plans include the completion of Shirley Langer Trail to include 2.75 hectares of pollinator area. The City of Belleville commits to the continued actions under the regulations outlined in the Ontario Pesticides Act, Cosmetic Pesticide and through the City of Belleville's by law act; as such the use of pesticides in Belleville is limited through these regulations and continue to be.

2. Educating the public about the importance of pollinators:

Public education is an area of focus Belleville hopes to expand upon in the upcoming years. We plan to educate through sharing and highlighting the city's current efforts as well as things

residents can do to ensure and grow pollinator friendly gardens. We hope to increasing signage to inform and educate residents on designated pollinator spaces and their importance as resources and budget allow. Additionally, keeping residents informed through our social media platforms to share our efforts and encourage conversation among residents. Plans for improved public education include leading by example and creating more pollinator gardens where possible, as resources and budget allows. Creating a website page to pay tribute to our Bee City designation and provide a resource for residents to go to for more information on what the city is doing for pollinators, along with personal tips and tricks at home. Virtual events showcasing the city's beautiful natural infrastructure and other city run events, dependent upon budget, resources and circumstances for the upcoming year.

3. A yearly commitment to celebrate:

For Pollinator Week the City of Belleville will ensuring communications regarding the spirit of Pollination Week is shared among the public via our social media platforms. Pollinator Week communication will include educational messages to residents regarding the importance of pollinators and reminders of current City efforts. We will ensure the renewal of our commitment to Bee's City Canada is received well among staff and residents. Assuming budget and resources permit considering a Pollinator Event run by the City to celebrate the third week of June is of interest. Smaller scale events and initiatives are also being considered to honour the third week of June celebration.

I/we, the undersigned agree to:

1. Publicly acknowledge Bee City Canada designation through publicly displayed signage, City/Town/Municipality/First Nation website and other means.
2. Annually renew your Bee City Canada designation. A renewal application will be sent to you and a fee will apply.
3. Create a list of the native plants in your community to be published upon renewal.
4. Document your favourite Bee City moments of the year and submit upon renewal (video preferred).

Name

Amanda Azzopardi

Title

Environmental Coordinator

Date

12/08/2021

Website / URL

<https://www.belleville.ca/en/index.aspx>