



Bee City Canada Application

A) City or Community Information

Municipality/First Nation: City of Richmond

Province/Territory: British Columbia

Mayor: Mayor Malcolm Brodie

Name of Applicant & Title: Graham Watson, Environmental Coordinator

Department: Engineering & Public Works – Environmental Sustainability

Address: 6911 No.3 Road

City: Richmond

Province/Territory: BC

Postal Code: V6Y 2C1

Email: gwatson2@richmond.ca **Phone:** 604 276 4216

Bee City Pollinator Team		
Name	Affiliation	Email
Graham Watson	City of Richmond Environmental Coordinator	Gwatson2@richmond.ca
Alex Kurnicki	City of Richmond Manager, Parks Programs	Akurnicki@richmond.ca
Ian Lai (waiting on response for participation)		

Media Contact

Name & Title: Clay Adams, Director, Corporate Communications and Marketing

Department: Corporate Communications and Marketing

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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 Richmond has long recognized the environmental and economic benefits of a healthy ecological network, and Council has endorsed a variety of initiatives that protect and promote Richmond's biodiversity including pollinators and pollinator habitat. The City has a number of policies and initiatives that contribute to the promotion and development of pollinator habitat and safety, including:

- **Bees in the Bog** – Bees in the Bog is a school program for children in kindergarten through grade 3 that explores the behaviour, lifecycle, and some of the products of bees and pollinators in the Richmond Nature Park bog habitat. In the program, students get the opportunity to observe the inside of an active bee hive.
- **Bridgeport Industrial Park Pollinator Pasture** – Council endorsed a partnership with Border Free Bees and Emily Carr University of Art and Design in 2015 to convert a 10,500 m² area of industrial land into an artistic display of wildflowers to support local pollinator species. Border Free Bees is a long-term public art initiative with the mission to create aesthetically pleasing and scientifically viable pollinator pastures in under-utilized urban areas. An apiary was also erected to educate community members about the significance of pollinators. The Bridgeport Pollinator Pasture has received the following recognition:
 - The Pollinator Advocate Award was presented to Border Free Bees for increasing awareness of the importance of pollinators and pollination following the installation of the Pasture in 2017;
 - The City of Richmond and Border Free Bees were jointly awarded the British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association Award for Program Excellence for the Pasture in 2018; and
 - The City received a nomination for a UBCM Community Excellence Award in Sustainability in 2018.
- **Ecological Network Management Strategy** – Council adopted the Ecological Network Management Strategy in 2015 to provide a framework for managing and guiding decisions regarding the city-wide system of natural areas and the ecosystem services they provide. Richmond's Ecological Network encompasses the whole city, but emphasizes the importance of large natural areas such as provincial Wildlife Management Areas, regional parks, and private lands with significant natural areas such as large wetlands or old fields.
- **Enhanced Pesticide Management Program** – The City's Enhanced Pesticide Management Program and the Pesticide Use Control Bylaw No. 8514 were endorsed by Council in 2009 to reduce the use of traditional pesticides for cosmetic purposes. The program was a leading initiative in BC at that time, and continues to provide broad-based educational programming, support, and training to the community regarding the benefits of pesticide-free gardening techniques

- **Railway Greenway** – The Railway Greenway is an ecological corridor that provides an important link between the Middle arm and South Arm riparian areas of the Fraser River. It facilitates the movement of wildlife, water, and nutrients. Over 600 trees and 16,000 native trees and shrubs were planted along this 5km trail in 2016 and 2017. The majority of the tree and plant species that were planted produce flowers and berries that support local bird and pollinator species. Wildflower seeds are also added every year along the greenway, providing further support for pollinators.
- **Richmond Butterflyway Project** – A citizen-led movement coordinated by the David Suzuki Foundation, the Butterflyway Project is growing highways of habitat for bees and butterflies across Canada with pollinator plantings in parks, community gardens, and homeowner’s yards. Groups of “Butterflyway Rangers” are required to plant and maintain at least a dozen pollinator patches in their neighbourhood, increasing pollinator forage and habitat in the urban landscape.
- **Richmond Earth Day Youth Summit (REaDY)** - The REaDY Summit is an annual youth-led, youth-oriented event that promotes sustainability and action through inspirational speakers, interactive workshops, exhibits, and mentorship opportunities. The youth involved are also connected with many community activities throughout the year including pollinator-friendly gardening, waste diversion, and other environmental stewardship programs.
- **Richmond Nectar Trail** – The City piloted the Richmond Nectar Trail Project in 2020, and continued the program into 2021. Partnering once more with Border Free Bees, this project aims to promote community awareness and increase and connect habitats with a series of ‘stepping stone’ garden plots for insects to rest and forage while en route between isolated habitat hubs. Properties volunteering to participate along the trail including businesses, institutions and residential homes will plant and maintain a (minimum) one-square metre garden with drought-tolerant species that bloom from spring to fall and avoid the use of pesticides.
- **Riparian Response Strategy** – Council endorsed the Riparian Response Strategy in 2006 to protect local fish and fish habitat in Richmond. Riparian Management Area setbacks were assigned on minor (5m) and major (15m) designated watercourses that are wetted the majority of the time, have a source of ground and surface water, and flow into and support fish life in the Fraser River Estuary. Council endorsed additional changes to the City’s Riparian Response Strategy in 2018 to promote community stewardship of Riparian Management Areas and to enhance these areas with native riparian species.
- **Sharing Farm Apiary** – Located within Terra Nova Park, The Sharing Farm is an energetic advocate for both honey bee and native pollinator populations in Richmond. The Sharing Farm opened an apiary in 2013, with grant funding from Vancity Community Projects and TD Friends of the Environment. The apiary is a site for education and public tours, as well as a summer Bee Camp for kids. The on-site hives annually produce honey, and salves, wax cloths, and lip balms are made from the beeswax. In partnership with TD Friends of the Environment, extensive and rotating forage crops have been planted, to enhance the health and nutrition of native pollinators as well as honey bees. The Sharing Farm has also conducted a baseline population study of native pollinators within Terra Nova Park.

- **Sustainability Workshops** – The City hosts a series of workshops throughout the year to look at ways to reduce pesticide use and create a more sustainable community. Workshops cover topics such as small scale vegetable gardening, mason bee keeping, planting gardens for pollinators, and decreasing reliance on pesticides through proper lawn care and organic planting practices. They are part of the City’s enhanced pesticides management program, sustainability, waste reduction, and water conservation initiatives.
- **Terra Nova Pollinator Corridor** – The Terra Nova Pollinator Corridor is comprised of native flowering trees and shrubs and is expanded every year by 150+ volunteers as part of TD Tree Days. The corridor is almost half way complete and, upon completion, will extend approximately 525 meters in length along the entire east edge of Terra Nova Rural Park. The tree and plant species have been carefully selected to suit existing site conditions and to support and attract pollinators to the adjacent Sharing Farm agricultural fields. The corridor will provide an important wildlife connection between the Terra Nova Natural Area and the Middle Arm riparian area of the Fraser River.
- **Terra Nova Public Art Pollinator Meadow** – Council endorsed another partnership with Border Free Bees in 2018 to transform 2,200 m2 of underutilized land space at the Terra Nova Rural Park into habitat for pollinators. The project has created new opportunities for the public and students to learn about pollinators at the Terra Nova Nature School and at local events such as the Works on Wheels Tours.

B) Yearly Renewal Fees

There are no fees on the initial application. The fees below apply on the yearly renewal.

Less than 1000 population	FREE
5000 – 10,000 population	\$150
10,001 – 25,000 population	\$200
25,001 – 50,000 population	\$300
50,0001 – 100,000 population	\$400
100,001 – 250,000 population	\$500
250,001 – 500,000 population	\$750
500,001 – 1,000,000 population	\$1000
+ 1,000,000 – population	\$1500

C) 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.

- Bridgeport Industrial Park Pollinator Pasture
- Ecological Network Management Strategy
- Enhanced Pesticide Management Program
- Railway Greenway
- Richmond Butterflyway Project
- Richmond Earth Day Youth Summit
- Richmond Nectar Trail
- Richmond Sharing Farm
- Riparian Response Strategy
- Sharing Farm Apiary
- Sustainability Workshops
- Terra Nova Pollinator Corridor
- Terra Nova Public Art Pollinator Meadow

2. **Educating the public about the importance of pollinators:** Describe how you plan to educate residents, city staff and others about the importance of pollinators and what people can do to protect them.

- Bees in the Bog
- Bridgeport Industrial Park Pollinator Pasture
- Ecological Network Management Strategy
- Enhanced Pesticide Management Program
- Railway Greenway
- Richmond Butterflyway Project
- Richmond Earth Day Youth Summit
- Richmond Nectar Trail
- Richmond Sharing Farm
- Riparian Response Strategy
- Sharing Farm Apiary
- Sustainability Workshops
- Terra Nova Pollinator Corridor
- Terra Nova Public Art Pollinator Meadow

3. **A yearly commitment to celebrate:** Describe how you plan to celebrate pollinators during international Pollinator Week (third week of June) or at another more convenient time.

- Pollinator Week 2020
- Invasive Species Action Month, May 2020
- Nectar Trail Pilot Year Celebration, end of summer 2020
- REaDY Summit 2020 – Border Free Bees and the David Suzuki Foundation will host booths focusing on pollinators in the city

D) Other Requirements

I/we, the undersigned agree to:

- 1. Publicly acknowledge Bee City Canada designation through publicly displayed signage, the City of Richmond website and other means.
- 2. Annually re-apply for Bee City Canada designation.

E) Requested Attachments

With your completed application, please provide:

- 1. A short 50-100 word write-up of what it means to your city to become a Bee City. Include photos if possible. This will help us share the exciting news through our social media outlets
- 2. Your city, region or First Nation logo (png format) and any usage guidelines.

F) Signatures

Applicant



 Signature

Graham Watson

 Print Name

Environmental Coordinator

 Title

March 17 2022

 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 among other things an official Declaration, recognizing your city or First Nation as a Bee City.

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

