



## Bee City Canada Application

# A) City or Community Information

**Municipality/First Nation:** Kingsville

Province/Territory: Ontario

## Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission

Name & Title: Mayor Nelson Santos

## Name of Applicant & Title

- Karen Loney, Manager of Recreation Programs and Special Events

Organization or Department: Town of Kingsville, Parks and Recreation

Address 2021 Division Road N. Kingsville, Ontario N9Y 2Y9

Email Kloney@kingsville.ca Phone 519-733-2123\_\_\_\_\_

## Bee City Liaison & Title (if not Applicant)

Organization or Department: Communities in Bloom Committee

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/First Nation\_\_\_\_\_ Province/Territory\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_ Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the members of your **Bee City Pollinator Team**. This group will oversee the Bee City program. (Expand or reduce table as required)

Name	Affiliation	Email
Karen Loney	Town of Kingsville	
Ed Parks	Town of Kingsville	
Karin Sonnenberg	CIB Committee – Bee Friendly Lead	
Thomas Neufeld	Councillor	

Alan Batke	Chair of Kingsville Horticultural Society	
Richard Wyma	Director of Community Development Services	

**Media Contact** (if not Applicant)

Name & Title \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about any initiatives currently taking place in your city, community or region which protect 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 Town of Kingsville, in partnership with community groups like the BIA, the Horticultural Society maintains our community gardens throughout the year.
- This past year, a garden to commemorate the front line workers during the pandemic was established in our town square that had bee-friendly plantings.
- The Kingsville Horticultural Society has created a pollinator garden at Lakeside Park, using many native species of plants to promote pollination. Also in Lakeside Park, educational signage has been placed regarding the Riparian Buffer throughout the park.
- Ongoing pollinator workshops are hosted by the Kingsville Horticultural Society.
- Kingsville completes an annual tree planting programs plant 80-100 trees a year, most of them flowering. In addition, for everyone one tree taken out two are planted.
- There are re-forestation projects by our local conservation authorities and naturalized area at the entrance to Union Beach. Several community groups such as the Lion’s Club, Early On – Access Centre and the Kingsville Military Museum have expressed an interest in helping educate the public to be a Bee-Friendly Community and are creating pollinator friendly gardens.
- Council approved the Community In Blooms committee to apply to become a Bee-Friendly City <https://calendar.kingsville.ca/council/Detail/2021-10-12-1800-Regular-Council-Meeting/83bb95ad-c8ae-4478-95ed-adcd012467e6> (page 3)

## B) Yearly Renewal Fees

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

Less than 5000 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 we will take the indicated actions to support those commitments:

- 1. Creating Biodiversity in Pollinator Habitats:** Describe your plans to create, improve and maintain pollinator habitat, while reducing or eliminating pesticide use.
  - We installed a new pollinator garden at Lakeside Park in 2021 and will continue to maintain it.

- We use no insecticide in our parks and green spaces. No pesticides are used to control dandelions.
- We have two commercial apiaries in the community that we connect with for education partnerships.
- Many of our orchards are using bees to pollinate their fruit trees and berries and this is something we can celebrate as part of this program.
- As a Town we plant flowering trees to promote spring time feeding.
- Working with ERCA our greenway is naturalized.

**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.

- With Council proclaiming 2022 as the “Year of the Garden”, the Communities in Bloom Committee along with the Kingsville Horticultural Society will be planning celebrations.
- On May 1<sup>st</sup> we are planning an event to educate the community on the Year of the Garden and Bee Friendly initiatives. This will include pollinator workshops (bee and bat house building, tree identification).
- Wildflower seeds will be distributed to residents at various events
- Our annual Migration Festival highlights the importance of migratory birds and monarch butterflies.
- We are working with Public Works and the Arts Society of Kingsville to complete a Mural like the Town of Midland did. Last week we meet with the leads from Midland to learn how they have implement their initiatives.
- The Town website has just created an environmental page and included Community Betterment. Once approved will expand this site for education. <https://www.kingsville.ca/en/our-community/environmental-initiatives.aspx>
- We are discussing no mow areas in the Town of Kingsville and if we can proceed and education program would be launched.

**3. A yearly commitment to celebrate:** Describe the cities plan to celebrate pollinators during International Pollinator Week (third week of June).

- Should Kingsville be approved to be a Bee Friendly City we will build off the education event on May 1st, look to launch the first no mow area and highlight the work around the mural.

**4. Briefly discuss your cities long term pollinator strategy.** How will your cities landscape change in the next year? In the next 5 years?

Our goal of in assisting our pollinators are as follows:

Diversity: Our Bee planting and habitat shall have a diversity of plants with different flower sizes, shapes, and colours, as well as varying plant heights and growth habits, that will support the greatest numbers of diversity of pollinators, also considering distance of travel for collecting nectar and doing their pollination. Keeping in mind the earliest bees to awaken after their winter hibernation, we shall as well plant important flower dandelions that bloom in the very early spring. These flowers are a critical resource for early emerging bees such as mason bees, mining bees, and queen bumble bees.

Habitat Improvement: We shall remove invasive plants that try to outcompete our native flowers and shrubs, native plants provide the best food source for the pollinators. We shall mulch with compost instead of wood bark mulch, as it has many of the same aesthetic, weed suppression, and water retention properties as wood mulch, also allows for nesting and improves the soil for the nesting bees! Ground nesting bees need access to bare earth, around the bee habitat, we shall lighten the soil to make it easier for ground nesting bees, also better for winter survival. As well to benefit bumble bees, and other ground nesters, we would maintaining a small pile of brush such as clippings and woody plant material. Also, any leave leaf litter in our gardens, hollow stems (providing homes) we would allow them to build up over time, to suppress weeds and benefit the pollinators. In the garden area we have established bunch-forming ornamental grasses to provide additional cover for nesting bees.

Maintaining Pollinator Habitat: Our best way to encourage bees is to grow many different types of flowering plants that produce nectar and pollen. Caring for our plants also impacts whether blooms are available, care in pruning the plants as to encourage repeat bloom and slow to deadhead those that won't bloom again so bees will have a change to forage on their blossoms.

Queen bumble bees emerge from underground in spring, they hang out in leaf litter while they slowly wake up. If we clean up leaves too soon, we risk raking and destroying queen bumblebees, as well other pollinators, butterflies and moths overwinter in fallen leaf debris.

Pesticides and Pollinators. Pesticides are harmful to pollinators and beneficial insects. Instead of routinely spraying for insects, we shall spot treat only when absolutely necessary with soft solution of soap or oil. We have learned and shall use Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to control insect pests and weeds. IPM is an approach that employs monitoring of plants, pests, and weather to project ahead and plan. IPM addresses the source of pest problems, whereas hand picking simply respond to the pest. or problem. Ultimately, IPM helps in not using pesticides, which is a key component in creating pollinator-friendly habitat!

**5. Please provide a 50 to 100 word write up on what it means to be a Bee City.**

**We will share this exciting news through our social media outlets.**

Kingsville, Ontario is located along the north shore of Lake Erie. It is a community in the Essex County region. Kingsville has a unique location as the most southern town in Canada and enjoys the warmest climate of any city in Ontario. Our region is located at the same latitude as northern California. We have a thriving downtown environment surrounded by traditional agricultural farming, cottage industry with an ever-expanding greenhouse industry, and expansion

of trails that connect the region. Kingsville beauty comes from recognizing the importance of a healthy ecosystem which includes the importance of pollinators.

## D) Other Requirements

I/we, the undersigned agree to:

1. Publicly display Bee City Canada designation through signs, city/region/community website and other means.
2. To annually report to Bee City Canada. A renewal form and an invoice for applicable fees will be emailed one month prior to renewal date.

## E) Requested Attachments

With your completed application, please provide:

1. Your city, region or First Nation logo (png format) and any usage guidelines.
2. Any photos you would like us to share on social media. This could include pollinator gardens, public events, etc.

## F) Signatures

### Applicant

*Karen Loney*  
Signature

Karen Loney \_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

Manager of Recreation Program and Special Events  
Title

February 27, 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](mailto: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 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.