



# Bee Campus Renewal 2022

**Name of College/University**

Wilfrid Laurier University

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**Address**

75 University Avenue West  
Waterloo, Ontario  
N2L 3C5

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**Applicant's Name**

Dan McGregor

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**Applicant's Position/Role**

Outreach and Programs Coordinator, Sustainability Office

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**Applicant's Phone**

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+15197197174

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**Applicant's Email**

[dmcgregor@wlu.ca](mailto:dmcgregor@wlu.ca)

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**Are you the primary contact person?**

Yes

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**Contact's Position/Role**

Outreach and Programs Coordinator, Sustainability Office

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**Pollinator Team Members**

Dan McGregor - (Outreach and Programs Coordinator, Sustainability Office)

Eric Meliton - (Manager, Sustainability Office)

Katarina Milicic - (Outreach and Programs Coordinator, Sustainability Office)

James Emary - (Area Manager, Grounds Services)

Jennifer Marshman - (Instructor, Geography and Environmental Studies)

Christine McKinlay - (Associate Director Development - Special Initiatives)

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**Briefly summarize your Bee Campus experience during the past year.**

Throughout the past year, the Bee Campus experience has been very successful and rewarding. As a Bee Campus at Wilfrid Laurier University (Laurier), we have created several different activities to create awareness in our community. We are aiming to renew our engagement with students, staff, and faculty to enhance awareness of pollinator programming and installations we have on Waterloo campus. We are also exploring expanding our bee campus engagement and awareness opportunities at our Brantford campus in 2021-2022. Annually, we organize a social media campaign to celebrate International Pollinator week (in June) along with academically focused site tours of our pollinator spiral at Northdale Garden and student access to our campus food justice garden planting sites.

In summer 2021, we participated in the Waterloo Regional Museum's pollinator awareness

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campaign, which included an educational installation that was in place during a pollinator exhibit hosted by the museum curating staff.

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**Please tell us about any campus initiatives focusing on creating new, improving or maintaining existing habitat for pollinators. This could include work on campus grounds and other areas.**

Some plants found in our pollinator garden include: shooting star, golden alexander, prairie smoke, Canada columbine, wild strawberry, bluebell, mountain mint, swamp milkweed, black-eyed susan, smooth aster, New England aster, and others.

In our Sustainability Action Plan one of our goals is to support pollinating species, such as native bees and butterflies by intentionally planting pollinator friendly plants and flowers. In 2021 we also initiated the Laurier Garden Stewardship Program which includes research focused on the needs of wild bee species through projects such as the pollinator garden and the bee spiral. This program is available to any students, staff, or faculty who are interested in maintaining the pollinator garden throughout the summer. Another aspect of this program includes keeping track of pollinator habits in on-site.

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**Please tell us about any campus initiatives aimed at educating students, faculty staff or the local community about pollinators.**

As previously mentioned our campus is looking to re-establish engagement and awareness campaigns at Waterloo campus and develop a program at our Brantford campus, which aligns with Laurier's Sustainability Office's 2023-2027 Sustainability Action Plan. This will include improvements to previously established engagement and social media campaigns along with smaller event related opportunities as site visitor access improves. We are developing the establishment of a new bee apiary at our Brantford campus along with the potential to install a new pollinator spiral at our Waterloo campus and experiential pollinator installation at our Northdale Garden as part of a five-year transformation strategy still in development.

Our utilization of our social media channels (e.g., Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook) will continue to highlight pollinator capacity and good news stories that comes from our positive return to campus efforts.

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**Please tell us about your participation in International Pollinator Week celebrations (if applicable) and other pollinator-themed events. Include photos, web links, stories and any other media.**

As previously mentioned, our engagement in pollinator themed events includes educational tours of

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our pollinator sites on campus, as well as participation in the Waterloo Regional Museum's pollinator exhibition. The Garden Stewardship Program which is led by one of our committee members, who is also our in-house pollinator expert, facilitates up-to-date information to support native pollinator species. This program also trains and engages interested students, staff, and faculty to support and track pollinators and their habits. We have to-date had 15 volunteers enrolled in this program, however, there was interest in joining from 150 prospective volunteers.

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**How did your campus promote being a Bee City Campus?**

Laurier's Sustainability Office plans to do a Connect and student portal informational piece highlighting our renewal of our Bee Campus designation and will explore this designation for our Brantford campus. We plan on doing a combination of in-person engagement, social media engagement, and new signage for previously installed pollinator infrastructure and capacity, while providing new education resources as they are developed in 2021-2022.

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**How can Bee City Canada help to facilitate your vision of a campus community which supports pollinators?**

We engaged the team from Bee City Canada in December 2021 to determine how we can establish a more formal engagement and experiential learning partnership with the organization to provide turnkey opportunities for staff, student, and faculty interested in learning about on-campus and home-based pollinator capacity. This is still a pending item to be developed with our Sustainability Office upon renewal of our designation in 2022-2023.

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**Has your campus posted Bee City Canada signage?**

No

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**Has your campus created a Bee City website or webpage?**

No

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**What are your plans for the coming year?**

We plan to establish a turnkey relationship with Bee City Canada for capacity support. Plans for a new

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pollinator spiral are in development for our Waterloo campus, an experiential pollinator installation at our Waterloo campus, and a new apiary at our Brantford campus.

We also plan to re-establish our promotional capacity on social media, through strategic informational pieces in student and staff portals, and through experiential engagement with students, staff, and faculty throughout the 2022-2023 year, highlighting our previous infrastructure and campus leadership activities.

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**Bee Campus Renewal Fees**

More than 20,000 students - \$500

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**Name of Dean/President/Official**

Deborah MacLatchy

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**Submitted by**

Dan McGregor

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**Date**

04/12/2022