



# Bee Campus Renewal 2023

**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**

+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  
Eric Meliton - Manager, Sustainability Office  
Vaishali Satti - Student Representative  
Cassidy Korhonen - Agricultural Programs Assistant/student  
James Emary - Manager, Grounds  
Christine McKinlay - (Associate Director Development - Special Initiatives)

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

Over the past year, the Bee Campus experience has been positive for our students, staff, and faculty. As a Bee Campus, Wilfrid Laurier University has found a number of ways to involve our community with pollinators and increase awareness across our campuses. Our engagement opportunities span from social media to in-person engagement to maximize our reach. Through our social media, we raise awareness on the importance of pollinators, and highlight pollinator week. One of team members, Christine also has a very active social media page dedicated directly to the campus apiaries and to raising awareness about pollinators - @laurier\_apiary. We also have held tours of our community garden, pollinator garden, and pollinator spiral for Laurier's Thrive Week, focusing on how students can utilize natural spaces to improve mental wellbeing. Over the last summer we have also held workshops with students to plant another pollinator garden which includes a small patch for pollinator friendly herbs which can then be taken and used by students on campus. The workshops were facilitated by a Master Gardener from the Region of Waterloo and maintained by students throughout the summer. We have also partnered with the Laurier's Student Public Interest Research Group to have students from across our campuses visit our apiaries to interact with the bees, take part in a honey tasting, and learn about the process.

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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.**

Our campus is in the process of revamping our pollinator spiral and garden to provide more opportunities for the Laurier community to get involved on campus. We will continue to maintain the new pollinator garden in our community garden, and are working on plans to support naturalization of the Indigenous Student Centre to focus on indigenous plants to the areas including pollinators. We are also looking at increasing the number of apiaries we have and replicating where they would be feasible on in our community garden. We are also working on a plan to have an interactive apiary on the Waterloo campus where students could see inside the hive and hear the bees as they work which would be used for classes and for tours. We are also in the process of updating our pollinator signs to shift to

Bee Campus signage in the various areas around our buildings and in the larger pollinator gardens.

Our pollinator plants include:

Pasque Flower  
Butterfly Weed  
Ironweed  
Riddell's Goldenrod  
Nodding Onion  
Bushy Aster  
Anise Hyssop  
Dense Blazing Star  
Echinacea  
Swamp Milkweed  
Culver Root  
Rough Blazing Star  
Sun Drops  
Stiff Golden Rod  
Tall Coreopsis  
Turtlehead  
Spiderwort  
Great Blue Lobelia  
Monkey Flower  
Cardinal Flower

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

Our pollinator gardens/spiral and honeybee apiaries are our main source of experiential learning for the Laurier community, we take this opportunity to highlight the importance of pollinators, how they can be supported, and what they can do as individuals to support them.

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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, we posted throughout the week to promote International Pollinator Week, we also have a pollinator toolkit in our social media and we keep links posted for tips on how to support pollinators. We also had 11 students who were a part of the installation and maintenance of the new pollinator patch on campus and have had several group of students brought to view learn about our apiaries.

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

We actively promote being a Bee City Campus in our social media, our monthly newsletter, on our websites (student facing and staff facing), in our Annual Report distributed throughout the University and to our external partners and in our Strategic Action Plan. We also include our designation and our programming in strategic presentations to external partners and to classes.

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

Providing more hands on activities, these typically get more student involvement, helping with capacity to create informational pieces that can be distributed for students looking to grow pollinators in their own homes. We would also like to provide staff and faculty more opportunities to attend informational sessions or workshops and use this as a means to support their Sustainability Certificate.

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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 hope to see a greater increase in our engagement with the Laurier community and pollinators. We are aiming to have our Brantford Campus designated as a Bee Campus and create new options to have pollinator gardens/planters on the roofs to be in closer proximity to the apiaries. We would also like to add in turnkey capacity that can allow interactions with pollinators to our Green Office Program and staff Sustainability Certificate.

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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**

04/26/2023