



Connecting People,
Pollinators and Places

Bee City Canada Application

A) City or Community Information

Municipality/First Nation

City of Lethbridge

Province/Territory

Alberta

Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission

Blaine Hyggen, City of Lethbridge Mayor

Name of Applicant & Title

Blair Richter, General Manager, Parks and Cemeteries

Organization or Department

City of Lethbridge

Address

910 4 Avenue South

City/First Nation

Lethbridge

Province/Territory

Alberta

Postal Code

T1J0P6

Email

blair.richter@lethbridge.ca

Phone

403-320-4995

Bee City Liaison & Title (if not Applicant) _____

Organization or Department _____

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
Shaunna Zonta	Employee	shaunna.zonta@lethbridge.ca
Erin McIlwraith	Employee	erin.mcilwraith@lethbridge.ca
Ashley Walker	Employee	ashley.walker@lethbridge.ca
Blair Richter	Employee	blair.richter@lethbridge.ca
Jackie Cardinal	Employee	jackie.cardinal@lethbridge.ca
Coreen Putman	Employee	coreen.putman@lethbridge.ca
Jessica Deacon-Rogers	Employee	jessica.deaconrogers@lethbridge.ca

Media Contact (if not Applicant)

Name & Title

Erin McIlwraith, Pest Management Foreman

Department

Parks and Cemeteries

Email

erin.mcilwraith@lethbridge.ca

Phone

403-393-2058

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.

- Pollinator planters downtown
- Knapweed pulls and invasive species management to promote native plant biodiversity
- Not spraying on flowering target plants when pollinators are foraging
- Swarm response line
- Helen Schuler Nature Centre (HSNC) programs focus on pollinator-friendly plants/habitat
- Reducing chemical use in aquatic areas with alternative measures
- Naturalization plots and natural parks
- Working in conjunction with the horticultural society on perennial beds throughout the city

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 will continue to provide pollinator education through the programs at HSNC.
 - Take part in community engagement events to promote pollinator habitat within the urban core of the City of Lethbridge.
 - Focusing on naturalization projects and river valley health.
 - Keeping up with the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program on turf and natural areas to combat invasive weeds
 - Continue using natural and alternative methods to improve water quality in park ponds to reduce use of aquatic pesticides.
 - Continue to facilitate community gardens within the park system
 - Planting flowering trees and shrubs as early-season pollen sources
 - Apples
 - Cherries
 - Currants
 - Gooseberries
 - Plums
 - Pears
 - Guide the development of new park spaces and retroactive landscaping in existing parks to include the use of pollinator friendly, native perennial species whenever possible.
 - Continue to use target grazing with goats to improve river valley ecosystem health.

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.
- Helen Schuler Nature Centre (HSNC) programs
 - City of Lethbridge website
 - Engage existing groups (Environment Lethbridge, Bee Enthusiasts)
 - Educate volunteers through the onboarding process for our Adopt-A-Park program
 - Education can occur through 311
 - Knowledge Article about dandelions and pesticide use (early season pollen source)
 - Swarm response line
 - Pollinator planting
3. **A yearly commitment to celebrate:** Describe the cities plan to celebrate pollinators during International Pollinator Week (third week of June).
- Pollinator Feature Parks
 - Host targeted info sessions in parks that have existing pollinator friendly landscaping (Ex: Nikka Yuko Japanese Garden, Henderson Lake, Legacy Ridge, Helen Schuler Nature Centre)
 - Educate the public about the programs we have in place for the pollinators
 - Scheduled education activities at Helen Schuler Nature Centre using existing past gallery installations and materials.
 - Feature information on the City of Lethbridge website
 - Social media blitz - education week targeting plant and pollinator species identification daily.
 - Involve Tourism Lethbridge to promote the planter program
 - Encourage those who are a part of the adopt a park program to get out into the parks, specifically during this week
4. **Briefly discuss your cities long term pollinator strategy.** How will your cities landscape change in the next year? In the next 5 years?

The City of Lethbridge recently worked closely with a subdivision developer to design a naturalized park in a newly developed neighbourhood. This park was developed using native plants and grasses that will grow more effectively in our climate and require less maintenance. Evaluating the success of this park will enable the City of Lethbridge to explore future development of these types of parks.

As part of our Municipal Development Plan, the City of Lethbridge is looking to create a long-term strategy for community gardens. This strategy will aim to increase the number of community gardens with the city. Community gardens can be beneficial to a variety of pollinators.

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.

Becoming a Bee City is an excellent way to recognize and celebrate programs we have throughout the city and look into other possibilities to expand the current initiatives as we strengthen the core group. To be a Bee City means we take the time to celebrate our successes and move forward alongside other communities in the commitment to value the pollinators and nature we find in the urban setting.

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



Signature

Blair Richter

Print Name

General Manager, Parks and Cemeteries

Title

May 18, 2023

Date

Bee City Canada Liaison (if not Applicant)

Signature

Title

Print Name

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 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.