



Bee City Renewal 2024

Community Name

Kamloops

Province

British Columbia

Name of Mayor, Chief or Chair of Commission

Reid Hamer-Jackson

Job Title

Mayor

Name

Jada Glen

Applicant's Job Title

Destination Experience Coordinator

Organization or Department

Tourism Kamloops

address

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250-319-7493

Are you the Bee City Liaison?

Yes

Please add more rows as needed.

Full Name	Affiliation	Email
Kirsten Wourms	City of Kamloops	kwourms@kamloops.ca
Jesse Ritcey	Kamloops Naturalists Club	jesse@naturekamloops.ca
Deanna Hurstfield	Kamloops Farmer's Market	wed@kamloopsfarmersmarket.com
Elaine Sedgman	Thompson-Shuswap Master Gardeners	tsmastergardeners@gmail.com
Randy Sunderman	Aberdeen Neighbourhood Association	randy.sunderman@peaksolutionsconsulting.onmicrosoft.com
Duane Robinson	Kamloops Beekeepers Club	communications@kamloopsbeekeepers.com

Please tell us about your efforts during the past year to create, enhance, and manage habitat for pollinators. Examples of these actions include habitat planning and creation, habitat management, practices that minimize harm to pollinators, such as minimizing exposure to pesticides and artificial nighttime light, and efforts to empower and incentivize residents to create habitat, such as plant giveaways and modifications to property by-laws (see checklist below for more examples).

Over the past year, our comprehensive efforts to create, enhance, and manage habitat for pollinators have included a range of impactful initiatives. Habitat planning and creation have been actively pursued through the expansion of a new habitat at West Highland Park, where volunteers are dedicated to cultivating pollinator-friendly plants with the support of grants from a local youth organization. This endeavor not only contributes to habitat enhancement but also minimizes harm to pollinators.

Moreover, the community has been engaged through public education work, including public giveaways of plants and seeds, encouraging residents to actively participate in habitat creation. The establishment of a community garden at West Highland Park further promotes the planting of annuals, while the community forest serves as a protective space for bees during hibernations.

At Pacific Way Elementary, the efforts are geared towards educational enrichment and community involvement. The sixth-grade class tends to a successful bee garden, creating a tangible and educational habitat for pollinators. These collective actions reflect our commitment to fostering a sustainable and pollinator-friendly environment, emphasizing both habitat management and community engagement.

Approximately 600 m² of pollinator habitat/garden was planted at the BC Wildlife Park.

Sixty fruit bearing trees and native bushes were added to the publicly accessible Mount Paul Community Food Centre.

Habitat created or enhanced

1 Acre

Plants

260

Seed (lbs)

1

Please provide a list of plant species that were included in efforts to create or enhance pollinator habitat this year.

- Showy Milkweed (*Asclepias Speciosa*), Farewell-to-Spring (*Clarkia Amoena*), Rocky Mountain Bee Plant (*Peritoma Serrulata*), Western Goldenrod (*Euthamia Occidentals*), Hemp Dogbane (*Apocynum Cannabinum*), False Western Dragonhead (*Physostegia Parviflora*), Asters (*Symphotrichum Sp*), Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago Lepida*) and Xerophytic Species.

The City of Kamloops also has educational information available online encouraging residents to plant: Black-eyed Susan (*Rudbeckia Hirta*), California Poppy (*Eschscholzia Californica*), Cosmos (*Cosmos Bipinnatus*), Lacey Phacelia (*Phacelia Tanacetifolia*), Mexican Heather (*Cuphea Hyssopifolia*), Mexican Sunflower (*Tithonia Rotundifolia*), Salvia, blue (*Salvia Farinacea*), Sunflower (*Helianthus*), Sweet Alyssum (*Lobularia*), Aster (*Symphotrichum Spp*), Beebalm (*Monarda Spp*), Blanket Flower (*Gaillardia Grandiflora*), Bluebeard (*Caryopteris x Clandonensis*), Catmint (*Nepeta*), Chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum Weyrichii*), False Lamium (*Lamiastrum*), Hyssop (*Agastache Spp*), Joe Pye Weed (*Eupatorium Purpureum*), Lavender (*Lavandula Spp*), Oregano (*Origanum Spp*), Purple Coneflower (*Echinacea Spp*), Russian Sage (*Perovskia Atriplicifolia*), Sea Holly

(Eryngium Spp), Spearmint (contain) (Mentha Spicata), Stonecrop (Sedum Spp), Squill (bulb) (Scilla Siberica), Wild Indigo (Baptisia Australis), Yarrow (Achillea Spp).

1.1 HABITAT PLANNING AND CREATION

- 1.1.1 Create native plant pollinator gardens
- 1.1.2 Create edible gardens, orchards, and food forests
- 1.1.5 Dedicate resources to native plant propagation
- 1.1.6 Develop habitat guides and tools to streamline projects

1.2 HABITAT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

- 1.2.2 Restrict chemical applications that can negatively impact pollinators
- 1.2.3 Set habitat standards and recommendations for urban development
- 1.2.4 Promote pollinator-friendly practices in community gardens

1.3 EMPOWERING AND INCENTIVIZING RESIDENTS TO CREATE HABITAT

- 1.3.4 Offer native plant giveaways and subsidized sales
- 1.3.5 Provide pollinator-friendly garden consultations
- 1.3.7 Initiate seed libraries and encourage seed exchange
- 1.3.8 Support farmers to protect pollinators on agricultural lands

Please tell us about your efforts during the past year to provide pollinator education and engagement opportunities to members of your community, including residents, employees, contractors, children, and other groups. Examples of these actions include promotion of pollinators through media channels and signage, providing education and engagement opportunities, such as talks and planting events, developing educational resources, such as local native plant and pollinator lists, and raising awareness about pollinators at broader community events (see checklist below for more examples)

Over the past year, the Kamloops community has been actively engaged in providing diverse opportunities for pollinator education and engagement. The Kamloops Naturalist Club initiated a nature-friendly yards study group, organizing workshops and demonstrations to enhance home landscapes for pollinators. The 2nd Annual Pollinator Festival, hosted by the Kamloops Farmers' Market in collaboration with community groups, featured social media posts, community activities, and market events.

Elaine Sedgman of the Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners conducted pollinator talks and readings at TNRD Libraries, contributing to public education. The Big Little Science Centre organized a mason bee activity, while Butler Urban Farm conducted a tour stressing the importance of planting for pollinators and collaborated with the Kamloops Naturalist Club to plant an area with indigenous species.

Various community groups, including the Kamloops Naturalist Club, Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners, Kamloops Beekeepers Club, and more, were hosted at the markets by Kamloops Farmer's Market. A small parade through the market encouraged participants to dress up as their favorite pollinators.

These efforts reached a broad audience, with Saturdays during the outdoor market season drawing 4-5K people, contributing to increased awareness about pollinators among vendors, market supporters, and the general public in Kamloops.

Additionally, the annual Kamloops Seedy Saturday event, attended by 500-1000 people, featured community groups promoting pollinators, such as the Kamloops Naturalist Club, Kamloops Beekeepers Club, Kamloops Seed Library, and the Native Bee Society of BC.

The Kamloops Naturalists Club assembled a learning cohort to learn more about native plant landscaping. 102 people attended their events, and an additional 55 participated in a presentation by Eva Durance, author of "Cultivating the Wild".

Memorial Cup Sustainability Expo - Gave away native plant plugs (showy milkweed).

Grasslands Conservation Council – Hosted a seed starting workshop in Lac Du Bois grasslands.

Wetlands Institute – Hosted a seed starting workshop at Tranquille wetland.

Thompson Rivers University – Hosted a presentation by native plant landscaping author. Hosted seed starting workshop for TRU horticulture students.

Thompson-Shuswap Master Gardeners – Offered a native plant landscaping talk through City activity guide and collaborated on publishing a native plant pamphlet for Kamloops area.

Kamloops Food Policy Council – Hosts seed library, where native plant seeds were collected and freely offered to community members.

Kamloops Food Policy Council – Butler Urban Farm - Provided workshops on planting seedlings and native seed saving. Signage was created to allow visitors at the farm to take a self-guided tour to learn more about healthy ecosystems, in small urban areas.

Looking ahead, the 2024 Pollinator Festival plans to include a book club activity featuring the reading of "Revery: A Year of Bees" by Jenna Butler, emphasizing ongoing efforts to educate and engage the community. Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners (TSMG) played a pivotal role in pollinator education, engaging the public through diverse channels, including events, talks, presentations, bee survey walks, and storytelling, with 13 projects carried out in 2023.

Number of people reached through education and engagement efforts

950

2.1 MEDIA, EDUCATION, AND MATERIALS

- 2.1.1 Promote pollinator conservation through media channels
- 2.1.2 Provide education and awareness materials about pollinators
- 2.1.5 Educate youth about pollinators through schools and camps
- 2.1.6 Use bee hotels to educate about native bees

2.2 ENGAGEMENT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- 2.2.1 Feature pollinator talks and workshops
- 2.2.2 Organize pollinator exhibits and day events
- 2.2.3 Bring the community together for habitat creation and maintenance events
- 2.2.4 Invite the community to pollinator habitat tours
- 2.2.5 Encourage participation in community science
- 2.2.6 Partner with food festivals, restaurants, and bars to promote pollinators
- 2.2.7 Feature pollinators at broader community events

Please tell us about your efforts to celebrate Pollinator Week this past year. Examples of these actions include promoting Pollinator Week through a proclamation and other communications, hosting a Pollinator Week festival, unveiling pollinator-themed public art, hosting a habitat creation or maintenance event, providing Pollinator Week giveaways, and anything else that you are doing to promote pollinators during this time (see checklist below for more examples).

Last year, the Kamloops Farmers Market (KFM) actively celebrated Pollinator Week by utilizing social media to share posts and raise awareness throughout the week. Notably, KFM's commitment to pollinator advocacy extends beyond this dedicated week, as they consistently post about pollinators year-round, emphasizing their vital role in ecosystems and food production.

As the organizer of Pollinator Week, KFM orchestrated various activities, particularly on the first Saturday of the week, where the Thompson Shuswap Master Gardeners (TSMG) played a significant role. TSMG organized four volunteer tables during this time:

A children's activity table featuring bee stick puppets.

A Native bee table with posters, books, labeled bee drawers, and pamphlets.

A mason bee table providing information on care and facilitating the creation of bee condos.

A Creating habitat table with posters promoting pesticide-free gardening, seed giveaways, and pamphlets on Gardening for Pollinators.

These activities not only celebrated Pollinator Week but also served as a proactive engagement initiative, providing valuable information and resources to the community. The collaboration between KFM and TSMG showcased a holistic approach to promoting pollinator awareness, education, and habitat creation in the community.

3.1 ACTIONS TO PROMOTE POLLINATOR WEEK

- 3.1.1 Issue a Pollinator Week proclamation or press release
- 3.1.2 Put up banners, signs, and displays

- 3.1.3 Launch a social media campaign

3.2 ACTIONS TO CELEBRATE POLLINATOR WEEK

- 3.2.1 Host a pollinator festival
- 3.2.5 Launch pollinator photo contests on social media
- 3.2.7 Provide pollinator-themed giveaways
- 3.2.8 Announce future projects and recruit volunteers

Has your community posted Bee City Canada signage?

No

Has your community created a Bee City website or webpage?

No

Please share plans that you have to support pollinators this coming year. It may help to refer to the action checklists in the previous sections as you plan future initiatives.

For the upcoming year we plan to continue increasing, expanding, and enhancing pollinator habitats, with hopes to double our 2023 amount of habitat created for 2024. We also plan to increase awareness and activities surrounding pollinator week and continue education to the community. There are also plans to include Kamloops as part of a Bee-Friendly Flyway/Highway from Washington State - through Kamloops - and continuing North.

Select the appropriate fee based on your community's population.

100,001 – 250,000 population - \$500

Payment Method

stripe

Have you had any challenges with pollinator initiatives that you would like to have more support with?

We would like the pollinator festival to grow and become a broad community wide event. This will happen but both Kamloops Farmer's Market staff positions are part-time, and many of the community groups we work with are volunteer run, or are non-profits with tight budgets, so it will take time.

Applicant's Signature

Jada Glen

Date

2024-02-23