

Bee City Canada Proposal

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Proposal: For London to become a Bee City by certifying with Bee City Canada. In this way we can be recognized as a leader within Canada in the creation of bee-friendly cities. We can also participate in future activities organized by Bee City Canada.

Bee City Canada is a non-profit organization whose aim is to “**inspire cities, towns, First Nations, schools, businesses and other organizations to take action to protect pollinators**”.

There are currently 12 Bee Cities in Canada: **Toronto, Chestermere, Kamloops, Tit'q'et, Stratford, Cambellton, Kawartha Lakes, St. Catharines, Township of King, Whitby, Kitchener, and Waterloo.**

Bee City Canada is for cities, like London, who are committed to pollinator protection.

Why should London become a Bee City if we already have a good plan for pollinators?

- A Bee City is part of a North American movement to support pollinator protection. Bee City communities support collaboration and establish and maintain healthy pollinator habitat within the municipality or First Nation's boundaries.
- Becoming a Bee City will allow London to participate in programming, including the future Bee Ambassadors citizen education program that I am creating with Bee City Canada
- Certifying as a Bee City will inspire schools and businesses to also certify with Bee City Canada, allowing us to go collectively go further as a city (please see Bee City Canada's website for information about Bee Schools and Bee Businesses)
- A Bee City begins conversations about how to grow local healthy food, the importance of biodiversity, how to garden with native plants, and how to grow plants without pesticides.
- People are concerned about the plight of bees. Becoming a Bee City sets an example and inspires residents with the knowledge that they all have a role to play
- Even though London has some great policy around pollinators, as a bee researcher I know we can go further. Many native bees are in decline and are finding refuge in cities. Becoming a Bee City allows us to collaborate and share information with other Bee Cities across the country

- A Bee City enjoys the economic benefits of eco-tourism. The Bee City movement is growing across North America
- Certifying is a simple process with enormous benefits. It involves filling out an application and having a resolution supported by city council. It is a simple and yet powerful act for urban pollinators!

For more information about Bee City Canada, please visit their [website](#).

