

Report to London Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee Meeting on November 3, 2022

From Sub-Committee

Recommendation on Spending the Committee's Annual Budget

Recommendation: Use the entire amount of \$1500 to acquire bird-friendly window collision tape and distribute it to residents to increase awareness about how to prevent birds from colliding with windows and to promote London's certification by Nature Canada as a "Bird Friendly City".

Nature Canada certified London as a "Bird Friendly City" in 2021. The Animal Welfare Advisory Committee participated in the certification process. Certification means that London met or exceeded a minimum standard with regard to:

1. reducing threats to birds in our municipality,
2. protecting and restoring natural habitat and increasing climate resiliency, and
3. actively engaging the community in these actions through education and outreach.

The Animal Welfare Community Advisory Committee would like to continue our efforts to make London a bird friendly city. We believe that we can make an impact on threat reduction, education and outreach. Specifically, we want to inform property owners and tenants that they can prevent bird-window collisions by using bird-friendly window collision tape. The use of decals is not recommended because it is not effective.

To promote the use of window collision tape we propose using our Advisory Committee budget to purchase boxes of tape and distribute them to residents.

"FeatherFriendly" brand Window Collision Tape is available locally. The tape is designed to alert birds to a window without obstructing the view from inside the home and without damaging the window. It is a pattern with ¼ inch square markers pre-spaced in a 2 inch by 2 inch grid. The lifespan of the tape is more than ten years under a variety of weather conditions. Each box contains a roll of 100 feet of tape, which is enough to cover 30 inches by 80 inches of window glass. The retail price of one box is \$19.50 at Featherfields, \$24.90 at Lee Valley Hardware, and \$24.99 at Wild Birds Unlimited, although we might be able to get a better price on a large quantity.

The City maintains a dedicated webpage on "Bird-friendly skies" and has printed a pamphlet. Promoting the use of window collision tape would complement these efforts. It would also increase awareness of the City's designation as a Bird-Friendly City.

Distribution of the window collision tape would be done in partnership with London's Bird Team. As an example, boxes of the tape could be provided as door prizes at sponsored events where the City's bird-friendly designation would be noted, the problem of birds colliding with windows discussed, and the use of the tape demonstrated.

