



# Halifax as a Bee City



Bee City  
CANADA 🍀

Emily McLean  
[emily.mclean@dal.ca](mailto:emily.mclean@dal.ca)

# What is Bee City Canada?

Bee City Canada is a program of Pollinator Partnership Canada that engages and inspires municipalities, First Nations, schools, campuses and other organizations across Canada to take action to protect pollinators.

All program participants must commit to:

- 1) **Creating**, maintaining and/or improving pollinator habitat
- 2) **Educating** the community about the importance of pollinators
- 3) **Celebrating** pollinators during National Pollinator Week



# A Growing Network

Since launching in 2016, Bee City Canada has formed a passionate and engaged community of **over 170 partners** from coast to coast that are dedicated to pollinator protection.

The Bee City network currently includes:

- 67 cities
- 61 schools
- 34 businesses
- 17 campuses



The Bee City community is constantly growing, and with that growth comes more opportunities to learn and share. As a member of Bee City, Halifax will not need to re-invent the wheel on pollinator protection.









# Bee City Benefits

- Access to learnings from the many cities that work with BCC
  - Easy to find unique and practical solutions
- Access to resident pollinator experts at BCC, with many resources
  - Inspiring the Halifax community
  - Most of all...proud to be a Bee City!

# Highlighting Halifax Initiatives

## Halifax naturalization project



Photos: <https://www.halifax.ca/parks-recreation/parks-trails-gardens/naturalization>



# Nova Scotia Beekeepers' Association

**“NSBA sees bee health as the number one and most critical issue facing our industry, and is committed to an aggressive, proactive approach in the management of the pests and diseases affecting bee health in this province.**

**There is definitive overlap between the health of our industry, the environment and the health of all pollinators in general. The NSBA supports the Bee City initiative for this reason.** As all pollinators play a crucial part in every aspect of the Nova Scotia ecosystem including the growth of trees, flowers, and other plants, which in the end serve as food and shelter for all creatures large and small. Bees contribute to the complex, interconnected ecosystems that allow a diverse number of different species to co-exist and benefit from that.

While Honeybees are a managed agricultural stock, many wild bee populations are declining due to the impact of a variety of stressors that act alone or in combination, such as pesticides, invasive species, pathogens, intensive land-use, and climate change and the loss of nesting sites. **The declining native floral diversity decreases the spectrum of flowering plants that are available as food sources, and therefore restricts the nutritional landscape accessible to all species of bees.**

**The Bee City Mission works to improve and resolve some of those stressors which will help all pollinators including the Honeybee.”**

# Community Support

**“We rely on the ecosystem services of pollinating insects to manage crop pests (wasps control crop pests), grow our food (bees, flies, beetles, wasps, moths, butterflies), and provide food to other organisms (a single pair of breeding chickadees must find 6,000-9,000 caterpillars to rear one clutch of babies; most songbirds need caterpillars to feed their babies even if they are seed or fruit eaters as adults). There are easy, low-cost ways to support pollinators, let's be a model for positive change.”**

– Dr. Heather Cray, Instructor, School for Resource and Environmental Studies, Dalhousie University  
hcray@dal.ca

**“Pollinators are crucial for ecosystems and our food security, yet under severe threat. Making our cities pollinator-friendly is a win-win for both people and nature.”**

– Derek Tittensor, Associate Professor and Jarislowsky Chair, Dalhousie University,  
derek.tittensor@dal.ca

# Community Support

**“As somebody teaching Sustainability, I understand the need for pollinators and biodiversity from a holistic view. This includes the biology but also the social and economic aspects of it. Despite the knowledge of the decline of pollinators, the large-scale application of detrimental pesticides/herbicides is still permitted. We need to do everything possible to create pockets in our urban areas to become, and stay, bee/pollinator friendly spots in support of biodiversity.”**

– Dr. Georgia Klein, PhD, College of Sustainability, Dalhousie University  
georgia.klein@dal.ca

**“Pollinators are important to our society because they increase genetic diversity in plants and play an integral role in our ecosystems while being adapted to urban settings.”**

– Sydney Carroll, Dalhousie Beekeeping society  
dalbeesociety@gmail.com

# Community Support

**“I would like to offer my support in your worthwhile endeavor to designate Halifax as a 'Bee City' and protect pollinators across the municipality. Bees provide many useful functions and are especially critical for pollinating fruit crops such as apples.”**

– Debra Grantham, Senior Instructor, Dalhousie University  
grantham@dal.ca

**“The Nova Scotia Community College is very supportive of encouraging beekeeping and pollinator health in HRM. Through beekeeping pilot projects, we have successfully raised bees and produced honey. Honey that is then offered in the campus cafeteria’s and/or used in our culinary programs. Not only does this work have the ecological benefits of supporting critical pollinators in HRM, but it also teaches valuable food production and community development skills to our students.”**

– Darrell Stevens, Facilities Manager, Ivany Campus, Nova Scotia Community College  
darrell.stevens@nsc.ca

# How to Become a Bee City

- 1) Select one or more municipal employees to serve as the Bee City Liaison(s) and have them fill out a Bee City application (<https://beecitycanada.org/bee-cities/application/>).
- 2) Present the Bee City Resolution form and have it signed by the mayor.
- 3) Submit the Bee City application and signed Resolution form along with Halifax city logo, photos (if available) and a 100-word write-up for social media to [applications@beecitycanada.org](mailto:applications@beecitycanada.org).
- 4) Bee City Canada will review the application and notify you as soon as it is approved
- 5) Once approved, Bee City Canada will declare Halifax a Bee City and provide a Declaration Certificate.
- 6) As a Bee City, you are asked to **1) celebrate** being a Bee City through public awareness, **2) execute** your resolution to make an impact on your community and **3) record** your activities through a yearly renewal.



# Yearly Renewal

While there is no fee to become a Bee City (the first year is free), fees will be applied to annual renewals based on the size of the city. Fees are used to cover administrative costs, develop resources (e.g., webinars) and (hopefully in the future) organize in-person regional Bee City gatherings.

A description of Halifax's efforts to protect pollinators in the yearly renewal is to be included with the fee. This allows Bee City Canada to stay up-to-date on what Halifax is doing and offer support and resources that reflect our needs.

Less than 5000 population	FREE
5000 - 10,000 population	\$150
10,001 - 25,000 population	\$200
25,001 - 50,000 population	\$300
50,001 - 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

# Thank You!



Website: [beecitycanada.org](http://beecitycanada.org)

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