



CITY OF HAMILTON
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Environmental Services Division

TO:	Chair and Members Public Works Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	December 2, 2019
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Bee City Designation for the City of Hamilton (PW19103) (City Wide) (Outstanding Business List Item)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Andrea McDonald (905) 546-2424 Ext. 2738
SUBMITTED BY:	Craig Murdoch Director, Environmental Services Public Works Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the Environmental Services Division, Parks and Cemeteries Section staff be authorized and directed to apply for Bee City Canada Designation in collaboration with community stakeholders;
- (b) That the resolution designating the City of Hamilton as a Bee City, attached as Appendix A to Report PW19103, be adopted;
- (c) That \$1,000 for the annual cost of Bee City Canada membership renewal be accommodated within the existing Environmental Services Division, Parks and Cemeteries Section's annual operating budget and be funded from Account #55748, Dept ID 444005;
- (d) That the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to execute any required agreement(s) and ancillary documents for the Bee City Canada designation, with such terms and conditions in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,
- (e) That the Outstanding Business List item, Bee City Designation for the City of Hamilton, be identified as completed and removed from the list.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the April 29th, 2019 Public Works Committee, staff was directed to report back on actions and potential requirements to meeting the designation standards of a Bee City by Bee City Canada.

Bee City Canada is a program established to promote and inspire cities, schools, businesses, and other organizations to protect pollinators. To become a Bee City designated community, a municipality must create, maintain and/or improve pollinator habitat, educate their community/employees and celebrate pollinators.

In an effort to understand the work that the City is already doing to protect pollinators, staff across several Departments/Divisions/Sections were consulted regarding their programs. See Appendix "B" attached to Report PW19103 for a full listing of work program initiatives supporting pollinators. In review of the various work plans, it is evident that City of Hamilton staff is currently taking steps to provide opportunities within existing budgets and programs that contribute to pollinator health. In addition, staff are currently working with community partners through the Biodiversity Planning process that can support this initiative.

Collaborative work with community partners and ongoing City of Hamilton initiatives would meet the criteria for becoming a Bee City designated community.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial: The initial application is free but there is an annual renewal cost of \$1,000 that is required to maintain the designation and will be funded from Account #55748, Dept ID 444005

Staffing: N/A

Legal: N/A

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Engaged community organizations, such as the Hamilton Naturalists' Club and Environment Hamilton have been working to support pollinator health for many years and have been collaborating with the City of Hamilton to provide pollinator patch areas. The Hamilton Naturalists' Club approached the City of Hamilton in the Spring of 2019 to seek Bee City Canada designation to recognize the shared commitment towards pollinator health.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

None

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Report recommendations are the result of consultations with the following Departments and Divisions:

- Healthy and Safe Communities, Neighbourhood Action Strategy
- Planning and Economic Development, Planning
- Public Works, Hamilton Water, Water Distribution & Wastewater Collection
- Public Works, Traffic Operations & Maintenance
- Public Works, Environmental Services: Parks & Cemeteries, Forestry & Horticulture, Landscape Architectural Services, Recycling & Waste Disposal
- Hamilton Naturalists' Club
- Environment Hamilton

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

Many other municipalities across Ontario have become Bee Designated, including Toronto, Waterloo, Guelph and Niagara Falls.

The application for achieving this designation highlights three key applicant requirements:

- Creating, maintaining and/or improving pollinator habitat.
- Educating the community, employees and/or customers about the importance of pollinators.
- Celebrating pollinators during National Pollinator Week or at other times.

In addition to the ongoing City of Hamilton programmed work that supports the Bee City requirements, community stakeholders such as the Hamilton Naturalists' Club, Environment Hamilton, Hamilton Conservation Authority and the Royal Botanical Gardens also support pollinator health through a myriad of programs and action plans. These community stakeholders are part of a collaborative Biodiversity Team that meet regularly with City of Hamilton staff, and are able to coordinate efforts related to this designation.

Staff will continue to work collaboratively with these community stakeholder members through Biodiversity Team meetings to coordinate ongoing works and other initiatives that support the Bee City designation mandate.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

N/A

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Community Engagement and Participation

Hamilton has an open, transparent and accessible approach to City government that engages with and empowers all citizens to be involved in their community.

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive City where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

Clean and Green

Hamilton is environmentally sustainable with a healthy balance of natural and urban spaces.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix “A” to Report PW19103 - Bee City Canada Resolution

Appendix “B” to Report PW19103 - City of Hamilton Work Program Initiatives
Supporting Pollinators