

# Bee City School/Campus Application Form



Connecting People,  
Pollinators and Places

University of Guelph  
(School/College/University/Educational Institution)

Guelph, Ontario  
(Province/Territory)

## **A) School Information:**

School/College/University/Educational Institution: University of Guelph

Address: 50 Stone Road East

City/First Nation: Guelph

Province/Territory: Ontario

Postal Code: N1G 1B2

Phone: (519)-824-4120

## **B) Applicant Information:**

Name: Brandon Raco

Position: Brandon Raco

Email braco@pr.uoguelph.ca

Phone: (519)-824-4120 ext. 53723

## **C) Becoming a Bee School/Campus**

Briefly summarize why your school/campus/educational institution should become a Bee City School/Campus (add/remove lines as needed).

The University of Guelph, and everyone who studies here, explores here, teaches here and works here, is committed to one simple purpose: to improve life. With this mission, students, faculty and staff are engaged in research, volunteerism, and best practice to improve pollinator health and conservation.

We recognize that one of the greatest global challenges is safely feeding the world. As Canada's food university, we established Canada's first Research Chair in Pollinator Conservation to research, raise awareness and inform public policy on the importance and plight of pollinators. The Rebanks Family Chair in Pollinator Conservation, Nigel Raine, established the Nigel Raine Lab, supporting 21 graduate students engaging in pollinator research. Undergraduate students have the opportunity to participate in the Apiculture & Honey Bee Biology Course and the Introduction to Bee Keeping Course.

With a strong culture of volunteerism, students, faculty and staff spend countless hours volunteering to improve pollinator health and conservation through campus organizations such as the Honey Bee Research Centre, the Apiculture Club and the Guelph Centre for Urban Organic Agriculture.

As leaders in sustainable campus operations, the Grounds Department has demonstrated a commitment to pollinator health and conservation through initiatives such as enhancing the tree canopy with flowering tree species, integrating pollinator friendly plants into the campus landscapes, and voluntarily banning herbicides and pesticides many years before provincial bans.

Pollinators have always captured the hearts and minds of everyone who studies here, explores here, teaches here and works here. Being designated a Bee City Campus will further solidify our commitment to pollinator health and conversation both locally and beyond.

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Savva - [nick@beecitycanada.org](mailto:nick@beecitycanada.org) or 416-388-8856.

## D) Commitments and Actions

In order to enhance the understanding of the students and staff about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the applicant agrees to meet the following commitments required of all Bee City Schools/Campuses:

1. **Adopt this Bee City Canada Resolution.**
2. **Create a Bee City Working Group**, the team which will be responsible for the Bee City program at your school/campus. We recommend a committee of at least two teachers/instructors, two students and caretaking/facilities staff, where possible (expand/reduce table as needed)

Name	Role	Email address
Dr. Nigel Raine	Rebanks Family Chair in Pollinator Conservation	nraine@uoguelph.ca
Dr. Ernesto Guzman	Director, Honey Bee Research Centre	eguzman@uoguelph.ca
Dr. Shelley Hunt	Director, Arboretum	shunt@uoguelph.ca
John Reinhart	Manager, Grounds Department	johnre@pr.uoguelph.ca
Brandon Raco	Sustainability Coordinator	braco@pr.uoguelph.ca
Sam Casey	Student	scasey01@uoguelph.ca
Victoria Morrison-Rodriguez	Student	vrodri01@uoguelph.ca

3. **Develop a Pollinator Habitat Action Plan:** Outline any initiatives which aim to improve, maintain or create new habitat for pollinators. Examples could include planting a locally native pollinator garden at your school or in the local community. Describe your plans for habitat and include a plant list, if possible.

The University of Guelph, Grounds Department will develop a Pollinator Habitat Action Plan with the aim to reverse pollinator decline on campus and help restore healthy pollinator populations through habitat conservation and creation. We acknowledge that collectively, with the City of Guelph we can take steps to protect and restore vital pollinators. In developing our Pollinator Habitat Action Plan, we will aim to:

- a. Identify and protect existing areas that are good for pollinators across campus.
- b. Identify areas where it is acceptable to reduce the frequency of moving grassy areas.
- c. Increase the quantity of pollinator friendly plantings, and prioritize pollinator-friendly plantings wherever possible.
- d. Retain pollinator and wild bee habitats and install/ maintain bee hotels wherever possible.
- e. Maintain existing herbicide and pesticide ban for Grounds Department.
- f. Raise awareness by continuing campus wide communications about pollinator Conservation.
- g. Track and report on our efforts

If you have any questions, please contact Nick Savva - [nick@beecitycanada.org](mailto:nick@beecitycanada.org) or 416-388-8856.

4. **Promote Education about Pollinators:** Outline any initiatives aimed at educating students, staff, volunteers, parents and/or the local community about pollinators.

In an academic capacity, students at both the undergraduate and graduate level have access to courses with a focus on pollinator health and conservation. These courses include: Introductory to Bee Keeping and Apiculture and Honey Bee Biology. The Sustainability Office will lead in promoting the Pollinator Habitat Action Plan and pollinator education.

The University will partner with the City of Guelph and The Honey Bee Research Centre to collaborate on pollinator education and awareness events whenever possible. The Sustainability Office will liaison between the Honey Bee Research Centre and Hospitality Services to continue to sell Honey Bee Research Centre honey, and serve food that is produced with the honey as a means to raise awareness and educate on the importance of pollinators in our food system.

5. **Celebrate Pollinators:** Tell us about how your school/campus will celebrate International Pollinator Week and/or participate in other pollinator-themed events.

The University will celebrate International Pollinator Week annually. When Pollinator Habitat Action Plan initiatives are completed, we will host an event to celebrate the progress made. Students will also have the opportunity to celebrate pollinators through events like Sustainability Week. The University will collaborate with the city to celebrate pollinators whenever feasible.

## **E) Other Requirements**

1. Publicly acknowledge receiving your Bee City designation through your website, social media and by displaying Bee City Canada signage in a prominent location.
2. Annually apply to renew your Bee City designation. A renewal application will be sent to you.

## **F) Resolution and Signature**

**WHEREAS** the goal of Bee City Canada is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for pollinators;

**THAT** bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to land fragmentation, habitat loss, use of pesticides, industrialized agriculture, climate change and the spread of pests and diseases, with serious implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

**THAT** schools, colleges, universities and learning institutions have the opportunity to take actions to support pollinators by creating healthy habitats within their grounds and the broader community; and

**THAT** supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions and engagement among school/campus community stewards; and

**THAT** staff be authorized to submit the Bee City Canada Application to designate (school/college/university/learning institution) as a Bee City School/Campus; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:**

**THAT** (school/college/university/learning institution) accepts the designation and commits to the standards of the Bee City Canada Program.

Read, approved and adopted this

3<sup>RD</sup> day of JULY, 20 18.

Signature of Principal/President/Official: 

Please print Principal/President/Official's name: ED MARTIN

Submitted by: BRANDON RACO Date: 09 / 07 / 2018

## G) Requested Attachments

With your completed application, please provide:

1. Your school/college/university/institution logo (png format) with any usage guidelines.
2. (optional) One or more photos representing your school/college/university/institution for use on the Bee City Canada website and social media platforms.

Send your completed application to: [applications@beecitycanada.org](mailto:applications@beecitycanada.org).