



## Bee Campus Renewal 2020

**Name of College/University**

Western University

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**Address**

1151 Richmond St  
London, Ontario  
N6A 3K7

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**Applicant's Name**

Mary-Lee Townsend

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**Applicant's Position/Role**

Sustainability & Compliance Manager

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**Applicant's Phone**

+15196612111

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### **Applicant's Email**

[sustainability@uwo.ca](mailto:sustainability@uwo.ca)

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### **Are you the primary contact person?**

Yes

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### **Bee Campus Renewal Fees**

More than 20,000 students - \$500

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### **Pollinator Team Members**

Jessica Cordes, Sustainability Coordinator, [jcordes3@uwo.ca](mailto:jcordes3@uwo.ca)  
Zachary de Jong, Sustainability Coordinator, [zdejong@uwo.ca](mailto:zdejong@uwo.ca)  
Mary-Lee Townsend, Sustainability & Compliance Manager, [mtownse9@uwo.ca](mailto:mtownse9@uwo.ca)  
Mike Lunau, Manager of Landscape Services, [mlunau@uwo.ca](mailto:mlunau@uwo.ca)  
Michael Wu, EnviroWestern student representative, [mwu365@uwo.ca](mailto:mwu365@uwo.ca)  
Brian Yang, Western Sustainability Leaders Program student representative, [byang229@uwo.ca](mailto:byang229@uwo.ca)

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### **Briefly summarize your Bee Campus experience during the past year.**

Over the past year Western University has planted 200+ trees on campus, many of which are native and flowering species to support pollinators. A substantial amount of the invasive species, buckthorn, has been removed from the Baldwin flats area on campus. As well, Western has begun a mowing program to support enhancements to the grassland and open field area there. Plants such as milkweed are regularly left to flower, even in areas where they are not intentionally planted, as they are an important source of food for pollinators. Western also continues to care for honeybee hives on campus.

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**Please tell us about any campus initiatives focusing on creating new, improving or maintaining existing habitat for pollinators. This could include work on campus grounds and other areas.**

There are a few campus initiatives aimed towards creating new habitat for pollinators. These include planting rain gardens around the Physics and Astronomy Building, as referenced in Western's Open Space Strategy; an Indigenous Food and Medicine Garden to be planted at the new Indigenous Learning Centre set to open next year; and a long-term plan for Western to replace some turf with naturalized planting in areas where turf is not needed.

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**Please tell us about any campus initiatives aimed at educating students, faculty staff or the local community about pollinators.**

To educate the campus community about pollinators, the Sustainability Office is planning for a month-long theme focused on Gardening in March 2021. The Western Sustainability Leaders Program looks at a different sustainability theme each month of the academic year to encourage engagement with sustainability on campus, as well as incorporating sustainable actions in students' personal lives. In March, the Gardening theme will include discussion of the importance of native plants for pollinators, and we plan to organize a plant or seed giveaway, encouraging students to grow native plants in containers at home.

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**Please tell us about your participation in International Pollinator Week celebrations (if applicable) and other pollinator-themed events. Include photos, web links, stories and any other media.**

Due to COVID-19 International Pollinator Week celebrations were fully online at Western this year. With daily posts across Western Sustainability social media networks, we shared information about the benefits of pollinators, how individuals can support pollinators, local groups to get involved with, and what it means for Western to be a Bee Campus.

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**How did your campus promote being a Bee City Campus? For example, signage, website, social media, posters.**

Website - [https://sustainability.uwo.ca/Campus/buildings\\_green\\_space/bee\\_campus.html](https://sustainability.uwo.ca/Campus/buildings_green_space/bee_campus.html)

Social Media - <https://www.instagram.com/p/CBx4cL8n8lr/>

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**What are your plans for the coming year?**

This year we are excited to be launching the Western Sustainability Leaders Program for virtual student engagement with sustainability issues and solutions on- and off-campus. As part of this program, the month of March will be focused on educational and engagement initiatives about Gardening. Plans include social media campaigns about the importance of pollinators, Western's commitment to being a

Bee Campus, and how individuals can support pollinators at home. A plant or seed giveaway this month will encourage new habitat creation as students will be given the materials and tools to grow native plants in containers over the summer. The giveaway will also include instructions for growing and caring for the plants, and educational materials about the importance of growing native plants. We look forward to celebrating this initiative with students over the summer as their plants grow and attract pollinators.

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**Has your campus created a Bee City website or webpage?**

Yes

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**If you answered "Yes", please provide the URL of your Bee City webpage.**

[https://sustainability.uwo.ca/Campus/buildings\\_green\\_space/bee\\_campus.html](https://sustainability.uwo.ca/Campus/buildings_green_space/bee_campus.html)

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**Name of Dean/President/Official**

Lynn Logan

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**Submitted by**

Jessica Cordes

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**Date**

10/22/2020