



<http://www.beecitycanada.org/>

We have great news everyone, we completed a Bee City Canada application and Council approved a Bee City Canada BCR for us to become the very 1st, First Nation in Canada to be recognized as a Bee City.

What does that mean? Well, it means that;

- Establish a Committee to coordinate the Bee City Canada commitments below
- Our community will be pollinator-friendly
- Have a Pollinator Habitat Plan
- Integrated Pest Management Plan
- Develop a plant list for community members to grow in their yards for pollinators
- Respond to scientific concerns over the impact of harmful chemical on pollinators
- Coordinate a National Pollinator Week (3<sup>rd</sup> week of June) within our community
- Coordinate other community & educational events about pollinators and gardening
- And other activities to promote awareness and create eco-friendly habitats for pollinators

Our committee consist of: Shawn Scotcman (Bee City Canada Liaison), Matthew Davidson (AMLEC/horticulturalist), Adam Lingor (Ucwalmicw Center Society Garden/horticulturalist), T'it'q'et Youth, Lakota James (Secretary/Communication Officer), T'it'q'et Youth, Cynthia Adrian (Chair), Susan Napoleon (Traditional herbs/medicines), A.J. Aspinall (Health), and Chief Kevin Whitney (Media). We had our first meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017 to discuss these tasks and outline an approach. The committee will have to appoint a Chair, Secretary/Communication person, and technical team and facilitators for education events etc.

The process to becoming a Bee City Canada community was an interesting activity as the application process was mostly focused on larger cities with Mayors and technical experts. After a long telephone conversation, Bee City Canada adamantly encourage us to become Bee City recognized and they changed their application process to be more Indigenous friendly so that other First Nations across Canada can participate. They are also amending their logo to incorporate an Indigenous perspective.

There will be many activities coming up throughout the year, so keep an eye out for the listings and event postings. They will be welcome for all to participate. I would like to acknowledge our team and thank them for stepping up to help #savethebees and other pollinators within our little small World.

Shawn Scotchman