



Report Number: C2019-0670

Meeting: Combined Meeting of Council

Meeting Date: 2019 June 17

NOTICE OF MOTION

RE: City of Calgary becoming a Bee City: Adopting a Bee City Canada Designation

Sponsoring Councillor(s): Councillor Farrell

WHEREAS biodiversity has intrinsic value to life itself, in addition to providing direct benefits to Calgarians that include pollination, pest control, water purification, local climate regulation, and assurance of a pleasant living environment;

AND WHEREAS The City of Calgary has adopted the Biodiversity Policy, directed by *Our BiodiverCity: Calgary's 10-year Biodiversity Strategic Plan*;

AND WHEREAS the Biodiversity Policy includes the principle of Ecological Resilience, which commits The City of Calgary to plan, protect, manage, and restore open space in Calgary for productive, diverse, and healthy ecosystems with the capacity to recover from disturbance and adapt to change;

AND WHEREAS the Biodiversity Policy includes the principle of Ecological Literacy, which commits The City of Calgary to support the conservation and appreciation of biodiversity by cultivating knowledge and understanding about ecological processes, personal stewardship actions, and Calgary's natural heritage;

AND WHEREAS The City of Calgary recently performed restoration work in the natural area adjacent to Canyon Meadows Drive to improve pollinator and wildlife habitat, as well as to improve ecosystem health to increase biodiversity and the services provided by natural areas;

AND WHEREAS the endangered gypsy cuckoo bumblebee was discovered at the Canyon Meadows Drive restoration site, a species which this year was only otherwise spotted in northern Alberta and in a small area in the Yukon;

AND WHEREAS the presence of an identified endangered species in Calgary provides both a unique challenge and opportunity for Calgary to be a national leader in conservation and executing on the value proposition of biodiversity;

AND WHEREAS Bee City Canada is a designation that promotes healthy and sustainable habitats and communities for pollinators;

AND WHEREAS bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines, posing serious implications for the future health of humans, flora, and fauna;

AND WHEREAS Calgary's communities and their residents have the opportunity to support bees and other pollinators on both public and private land;

AND WHEREAS the Bee City Canada designation supports the implementation of the Biodiversity Policy;

AND WHEREAS through becoming a Bee City, The City of Calgary can highlight initiatives already in place, such as Our BiodiverCity's commitment to restore open space, with the aim to increase biodiversity and promote a healthier life for Calgary's communities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that City Council directs City Administration to submit a Bee City Canada Application to designate The City of Calgary as a Bee City no later than Q4 2019.