



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



MUNICIPALITY OF DORVAL, QUEBEC, 25TH CERTIFIED BIRD FRIENDLY CITY IN CANADA AWARDED BY NATURE CANADA

Dorval is the third municipality in Quebec to receive this designation after Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue and Hudson.

Unceded Algonquin Territory - Ottawa, ON | May 22, 2024

On this day of International Day for Biological Diversity, Nature Canada is excited to announce that the City of Dorval, QC is the 25th municipality in Canada to become Bird Friendly City Certified, at Entry level.

Birds play essential roles in our environments as indicator species. Their population declines can signal broader ecosystem shifts and represent the negative impacts of urbanization, biodiversity loss and climate change. Canadian municipalities of all sizes need to act now, and with their community, to protect, defend and restore their local bird populations for future generations to come. [The City of Dorval's Bird Committee](#) is doing just that!

Dorval is home to over 108 purple martin condos, active banding and nest box monitoring and hosts community science initiatives to track local populations of Short-eared Owls in collaboration with Technoparc Oiseaux. Residents of the City of Dorval must keep cats on their private property through their [BYLAW NO. RCM-74-2019](#) to reduce the amount of free roaming cats and is also located on the shores of Lac Saint-Louis et Îles-de-la-Paix, Important Bird Area (IBA). The Dorval City Council adopted a resolution at its August 22nd, 2022 meeting calling for the protection of federal lands, including Golf Dorval and the Monarch Fields, amounting to 215 hectares of contiguous greenspace and natural space in the broader site to be re-naturalized to protect biodiversity – like birds – in numerous areas across the City.

Quotes:

“The City of Dorval is thrilled to have the ongoing efforts of its citizens, partners and employees recognized by Nature Canada with certification as a Bird Friendly City. The various actions taken in recent years, and the many others in development emphasize our commitment to supporting birds and biodiversity more broadly in Dorval. We hope that this certification inspires individuals and our broader community to continue reducing threats, protecting habitats, and becoming further engaged in supporting birds.” – Christopher von Roretz, Councillor, District 5, City of Dorval

“We are delighted to have received Bird-friendly Certification from Nature Canada! Working through the application criterion gave us a roadmap to assess what we were doing to improve the situation for birds in Dorval, and what more we could do. Thanks to this effort, the City of Dorval has initiated a series of programs to involve citizens and the City in the birdlife around them.” -- Marian MacNair, Dorval resident, Bird Committee member



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Nature Canada's [Bird Friendly City Certification program](#) encourages communities to take action to:

- reduce the number of human-related threats to birds such as roaming cats, the use of pesticides, and glass treatment on buildings with large windows;
- create safe environments for birds by promoting stewardship and ensuring that natural habitats are protected and restored;
- engage and educate citizens about the benefits of Bird Friendly Cities and celebrating birds in our communities.

Nature Canada is pleased to acknowledge the support of Environment and Climate Change Canada for the Bird Friendly City program and World Migratory Bird Day.

Nature Canada is Canada's voice for nature. For 80 years, Nature Canada has helped protect over 110 million acres of parks and wildlife areas in Canada and countless species. Today, Nature Canada represents a network of over 175,000 members and supporters and more than 1,200 nature organizations.

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For more information about **Dorval's Bird Friendly Certification** please contact:

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