



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



HAMILTON, ON SUCCESSFULLY RENEWED BIRD FRIENDLY CERTIFICATION AWARDED BY NATURE CANADA

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

For International Day of Biological Diversity, Nature Canada is excited to announce that the City of Hamilton has successfully renewed their Bird Friendly City Certification at Intermediate level (over 65% of points received).

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 Hamilton has worked alongside [Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington](#) to advance bird-friendly practices and policies in the City such as the installation of two fishing line receptacles at Bayfront Park and the upcoming installation of a Purple Martin nesting structure on Hamilton's Waterfront. The City of Hamilton has also advanced their Biodiversity Action Plan and officially declared the Peregrine Falcon their City Bird!

Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington also monitors the number of bird-friendly buildings in the city and the ones with high numbers of bird-window strikes. Learn more about their efforts [here](#).

Quotes:

"I support Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington in their ongoing efforts to ensure that the City of Hamilton is a bird friendly city for years to come. I'm especially appreciative of the work they do to ensure that our urban environments are safe havens for birds. As the Ward 2 City Councillor, I represent residents who live in a dense urban area where wildlife, including birds, are at increased risk. The work of those who advocate on behalf of our feathered friends is necessary, urgent, and directly linked to City Council's priorities for the 2022-26 term of office." – Councillor Cameron Kroetsch, Ward 2 of Hamilton

"We are so happy to have been recertified as a Bird Friendly City and to move from entry level to intermediate level. We want to thank Hamilton City Council for voting in favour of supporting Hamilton being a Bird Friendly City and especially thank Councillor Cameron Kroetsch for moving the motion forward. We also want to thank everyone who has taken bird-friendly actions (residents, businesses, organizations, schools, the City of Hamilton). As you will conclude from the application, Hamilton is a Bird Friendly City in so many ways and we are excited to hear that there are more bird-friendly motions on the way. It has been heartwarming to witness the movement to help and protect birds getting bigger, both locally and internationally. " - Sara Shwadchuck, Co-chair of Bird Friendly Hamilton Burlington



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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 **Hamilton's Bird Friendly Certification** please contact:

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