



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



VILLAGE OF LIONS BAY, BC 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 Village of Lions Bay, BC has successfully renewed and increased their Bird Friendly City Certification level from Entry to Intermediate (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.

[Bird Friendly Lions Bay](#) championed the village to become the very first Bird Friendly Certified smaller municipality in the country in 2022. Since then, they have expanded their community outreach and education by offering birding backpack kits, advocating for bird-friendly practices such as reducing bird-window collisions and holding off on tree management work until after breeding and nesting season. They host annual shore line clean-ups, distribute bird-window collision mitigation kits, and promote the local birds in their community through street banners. Learn more about their efforts [here](#).

Quotes:

“The Village of Lions Bay is proud to renew its certification and advance in Nature Canada’s Bird Friendly City program. Through our volunteers, the community is making a difference in protecting habitat and preserving our ecosystem.” - Ross Blackwell, Lions Bay Chief Administrative Officer

“We are thrilled that our Bird Friendly City certification has been successfully renewed! We say "it takes a village" and advancing to the Intermediate Level is indeed thanks to the collaboration of several community groups, especially the native plant garden team and Butterflyway Project, our Trailblazers, Nature Lions Bay, municipal staff, councilors and residents, who have been so supportive. Everything is connected and, by working together, we can achieve exponentially more to make a difference for our birds, their habitat and their food sources.”- Penny Nelson, Lions Bay Bird Friendly Team Lead

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.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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.

-30-

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

Neville Abbot, Councillor, Lions Bay

604-363-2667

councillor.abbott@lionsbay.ca

For more information about **Nature Canada's Bird Friendly City Certification** please contact:

Autumn Jordan, Urban Nature Organizer

613-562-3447 ext. 238

ajordan@naturecanada.ca