BIRD FRIENDLY

APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION

Scoring and Evaluation Rubric Version 2.0 • June, 2025 • For Small Municipality

BIRD FRIENDLY CITY

CERTIFIED BY NATURE CANADA

TOWN/MUNICIPALITY REPRESENTED: Hudson, QC

DATE OF SUBMISSION: September, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please take a few moments to review the below preamble and Bird Friendly Town criteria.
2. Either copy and paste the information below into your preferred collaborative word-processing document or download the Word document version.
3. Provide relevant information needed for each criteria where indicated.
4. Upon completion, please send your completed document to Autumn Jordan, Senior Organizer - Bird Friendly City by email at: ajordan@naturecanada.ca

PREAMBLE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT EXERCISE OF POWERS IN RELATION TO THE STANDARD

To apply for Bird Friendly status for small municipalities, the municipality must have a small population (roughly less than 15,000 residents) or a very dispersed population that contains multiple villages or small towns.

Municipalities with populations up to 30,000 may apply for certification under this standard, or may apply for the Bird Friendly City Canada Standard. The standard for small municipalities is different from the “Bird Friendly City Canada Standard” mainly to reflect the reality that small municipalities have less capacity, and often, different circumstances than larger and more densely populated cities.

The applicant municipality must have its own elected Council with typical municipal powers that it can exercise alone or in tandem with an upper tier municipality (e.g. a County or a Region). If a lower level municipality applies but does not have powers to implement some of the criteria, those criteria could be addressed by the upper level municipal government through its own policies. For the criteria where you believe this is the case, it is the responsibility of the applying bird team to explain what level of government is responsible for the policy and how the local municipality is implementing it.

While the criteria below are optional, to achieve Bird Friendly status, a certain number of points must be obtained in each category of criteria. The level that an applicant is awarded is equivalent to the lowest level achieved in each of the three categories of criteria below.

SECTION 1: THREAT REDUCTION SECTION
SECTION 2: HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY
SECTION 3: COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Generally all of the points are awarded contingent on evidence in support of the action. However, points can be rewarded even if the action has not been completed, as long as there is strong evidence that a process to implement or complete the action is underway.

To obtain Bird Friendly status, a certain number of points must be obtained in each category of criteria. The level that an applicant is awarded is equivalent to the lowest level achieved in each of the three categories of criteria (threat reduction, habitat protection, restoration and climate resilience, and community outreach/ education). Many of the criteria include evidence of a policy and evidence of implementation of the policy.

Remember that the policy requirement can be met by a higher level of government than the municipality or village, but often implementation is the responsibility of the municipality.

Another important consideration is that in many cases, actions to meet a criterion are community-based (not government). It is a good exercise for Bird Teams during the application process to identify those actions that can be implemented by community members and those that require implementation by the municipality or some other level of government.

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MANDATORY CRITERIA

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M1 -ESTABLISHMENT OF BIRD TEAM

DESCRIPTION
Establish a Bird Team to drive the project forward. Ensure that your team is as diverse as possible and has a liaison with the municipality (municipal staff or a councillor).

SCORING INDICATORS
Provide a list of the bird team members, affiliations and contact information.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Expert Member: Jo-Annie Gagnon - BSc, Bird Care Coordinator at Le Nichoir (Wild Bird Conservation Centre

Hudson Resident Members:
Mark Gray - Hudson District 5 councilor,
Darren Legault - Hudson District 6 councilor
David Kalant - PhD, Biochemistry, member of Beaconsfield EC for 13 years,
Kevin Solarik - PhD, Forest Ecologist
Julie Gedeon - Environmental writer with an avid interest in conservation sustainability
Kirsten Bowser - MSc, Wildlife Biology, Research Coordinator (wildlife co-mgmt), McGill University
Loretta Baerg - Educator, gardener and bird enthusiast
Amanda Alfonso- MSc, Geography
Stéphane Desjardins - Agronomist
Anne Drost - Lawyer, specializing in Environmental Law
Rob Eccles - Mechanical Engineer
Ariane Jonassen - Environmentalist
Sofia Fuga - Town of Hudson Environment Division Head, Town of Hudson

M-2: INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, LAND AND INCLUSION

DESCRIPTION
We recognize that all of Canada is still within the traditional territory or unceded territory of Indigenous Peoples. Through respect of this fact, and the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples, an Indigenous perspective should be included in this program if possible.

We encourage prospective applicant bird teams to seek this perspective. Bird teams must identify the Indigenous traditional territory/territories of the municipality and invite someone from these communities to participate in the initiative.

SCORING INDICATORS
Provide evidence you have determined in which Indigenous traditional territory/territories your municipality occurs and that you are encouraging the participation and perspective of the local Indigenous community in the initiative.

Provide the name of the relevant Indigenous Nation(s) and report on the outcome of an invitation to participate in the initiative. In some cases, this may require the support of Nature Canada to coordinate contacting Indigenous communities.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Hudson is located on the territories of the Kanien'kehá:ka and Anishinaabe Peoples. The town has contacted the closest community (Kanesatake - across the river in Oka, Quebec) to invite them to participate in multiple environment-related projects, but has not had much success with participation to date. Continued efforts will be made to engage and include.

M-3: FORMAL MUNICIPAL SUPPORT

DESCRIPTION
Pass a Council resolution nominating or supporting your municipality's efforts to be a Bird Friendly Municipality. A resolution from Council ensures that the project is known and has been discussed at Council level and has Council's support.

SCORING INDICATORS
Provide a copy of the resolution.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
A copy of the resolution is found here: https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/PV_2022-11-07_Amendee.pdf

M-4: ANNUAL REPORT

DESCRIPTION
Once your municipality has been accorded Bird Friendly status, the Bird Team must provide an Annual Report card on activities related to your Bird Friendly status. Download Report cards from the Bird Friendly City website or request from Nature Canada staff.

SCORING INDICATORS
Provide an Annual Report card by your municipality's one-year certification anniversary.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Annual report was submitted on 2024-11-05.

M-5: RENEWAL OF STATUS

DESCRIPTION
Bird Friendly Town Certification status will last three years, after which you must reapply. Each application can use and build-on past applications, but must show some evidence of progress over time. No evidence of progress will result in rejecting the application or dropping a certification level.

SCORING INDICATORS
Applications for renewal are due by the September or February application window that follows the three year anniversary of their most recent application's acceptance and their recognition as a Bird Friendly Town.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION:
Sample Text Sample Text Sample Text

M-6: WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

DESCRIPTION
Hold an event celebrating World Migratory Bird Day in your community. An event can be as simple or elaborate as you wish. For ideas and options, visit Nature Canada's World Migratory Bird webpage https://www.birdday.ca

SCORING INDICATORS
Register your event on the World Migratory Bird Day Canada webpage: https://www.birdday.ca/host

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Le Nichoir Wild Bird Conservation Centre is located within the town of Hudson and is involved with the Environment Committee ('Bird Team'). Le Nichoir has been organizing a small event to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day for most of the past 7 years. This past spring (May 2026) Le Nichoir organized an event at the centre where Environment Committee helped organize the visitors who came to participate in the guided nature and bird observation walks.

Information about the event can be found here: https://www.facebook.com/share/1WFF3wAwzb/

There were around 200 attendees this past year. Activities for the event included:
- Bird observation walks in the CS nature reserve with experienced birding guides
- Open house of the rehabilitation facilities
- Bird-themed face painting
- Bird-themed crafts
- Educational tables with taxidermy, info sheets, general info on how to help birds.
- Used bird books giveaway

M-7: PROGRAM VISIBILITY

DESCRIPTION

Include information about Bird Friendly City Program on the municipal website once certification has been accorded.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide a link and proof of posting.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

The Town of Hudson announced our acceptance into the Bird Friendly City program in the Hudson ECO newsletter in April 2024. Hudson also reminded residents of our status on November 17, 2025 in a blog post on the website. The post, including a link to the program, can be found here: https://hudson.quebec/en/town-of-hudson-receives-certification-as-a-bird-friendly-town/

The Town will announce is reapplication for the certification in the fall in it's yearly environmental accountability report.



THREAT REDUCTION

SECTION 1: THREAT REDUCTION

1.1 (A) CAT PREDATION OF BIRDS

DESCRIPTION
Regulatory and educational measures taken to help control and reduce populations of cats roaming at large:
a) No roam bylaw

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for evidence supporting each subcategory. Subcriteria d. can be fulfilled by a survey of residents.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Hudson Bylaw 722 concerning nuisances, Article 21- Animals roaming free
https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/722-nuisances_Bilingue_MODIF-725SMcK.pdf

Le Nichoir provides education on the threats outdoor cats pose to birds and offers mitigation measure suggestions on-site and on its website. Most of our educational outreach talks about outdoor cats as being one of the main threat to wild birds. Le Nichoir's staff discusses this issues with every person bringing an injured bird for rehabilitation following a cat attack.

Le Nichoir handout: https://lenichoir.org//wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Cats-EN.pdf

The Town has also included some educational materials about the threats of cats in it's quarterly Hudson ECO Newsletter. See here: https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Eco-Hudson_numeo-1_pour-web_anglais.pdf

1.1 (B) CAT PREDATION OF BIRDS

DESCRIPTION
Coordinated non-regulatory efforts directed at cat owners to keep their cats from roaming at large such as educational campaigns.

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for evidence supporting each subcategory. Subcriteria d. can be fulfilled by a survey of residents.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Stray cats have not yet been identified as a major issue in the Town. The residents of the town are very active on social media and many town-related issues are often discussed. Stray cats has not been mentioned by residents to the best of our knowledge and thread-searching abilities within the last several years. Town Council has also not identified stray cats as an issue within the town. We could recommend that the municipality offer a survey to identify any areas where stray cat populations exist.

Additionally, By-Law 650 does include consideration of stray cats.
https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/By-law-650-2014-Concerning-Pets-ANG.pdf

1.1 (C) CAT PREDATION OF BIRDS

DESCRIPTION
An active strategy to reduce populations of unowned (feral) cats such as spay/neuter/re-home programs, or initiatives to deter pet abandonment.

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for evidence supporting each subcategory. Subcriteria d. can be fulfilled by a survey of residents.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
See above.

1.1 (D) CAT PREDATION OF BIRDS

DESCRIPTION
The Bird Team and/or municipality is able to track numbers of outdoor cats in their community so that progress on reducing the populations of outdoor cats can be tracked over time.

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for evidence supporting each subcategory. Subcriteria d. can be fulfilled by a survey of residents.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION:
N/A

1.2 (A) WINDOW COLLISIONS

DESCRIPTION
Demonstrate that your municipality is taking measures to reduce window collisions by:
a) Treating windows of municipal buildings to mitigate collisions of birds

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for proof that it is mitigating window collision danger in their own buildings.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Le Nichoir windows are treated and provides education on the dangers of windows and mitigation measure on-site and on its website. Most of the educational outreach talks coordinated through Le Nichoir are about windows and others glass surfaces as being one of the main threat to birds in urban and suburban areas.
Le Nichoir's store also offer a selection of window collision mitigation decals and stickers. Many customer are from Hudson.

Le Nichoir Handout: https://lenichoir.org//wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Windows-EN.pdf

The Town has also included some educational materials about the threats of window collisions in it's quarterly Hudson ECO Newsletter. See here: https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Eco-Hudson_numeo-1_pour-web_anglais.pdf

1.2 (B) WINDOW COLLISIONS

DESCRIPTION
Promoting and encouraging mitigation of threat from windows to birds in private buildings (including houses).

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for evidence that private residents are mitigating window collisions (treating their windows) and that there are efforts to increase the number of households treating their windows.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
The Town has installed Feather Friendly on the Community Centre windows at 394 Rue Main on June 4, 2026 in an effort to reduce bird collisions at this town building. The window mitigations can also be used as educational mechanism for the public.

1.3 (A) LIGHT POLLUTION

DESCRIPTION

Within the municipality, there is a policy/ bylaw, or active plans to reduce light pollution and there is evidence within the municipality or village of compliance, such as an active retrofit program for street lamps or sporting facilities (e.g. ball diamonds or tennis courts), or reducing light pollution from private sources through regulation.

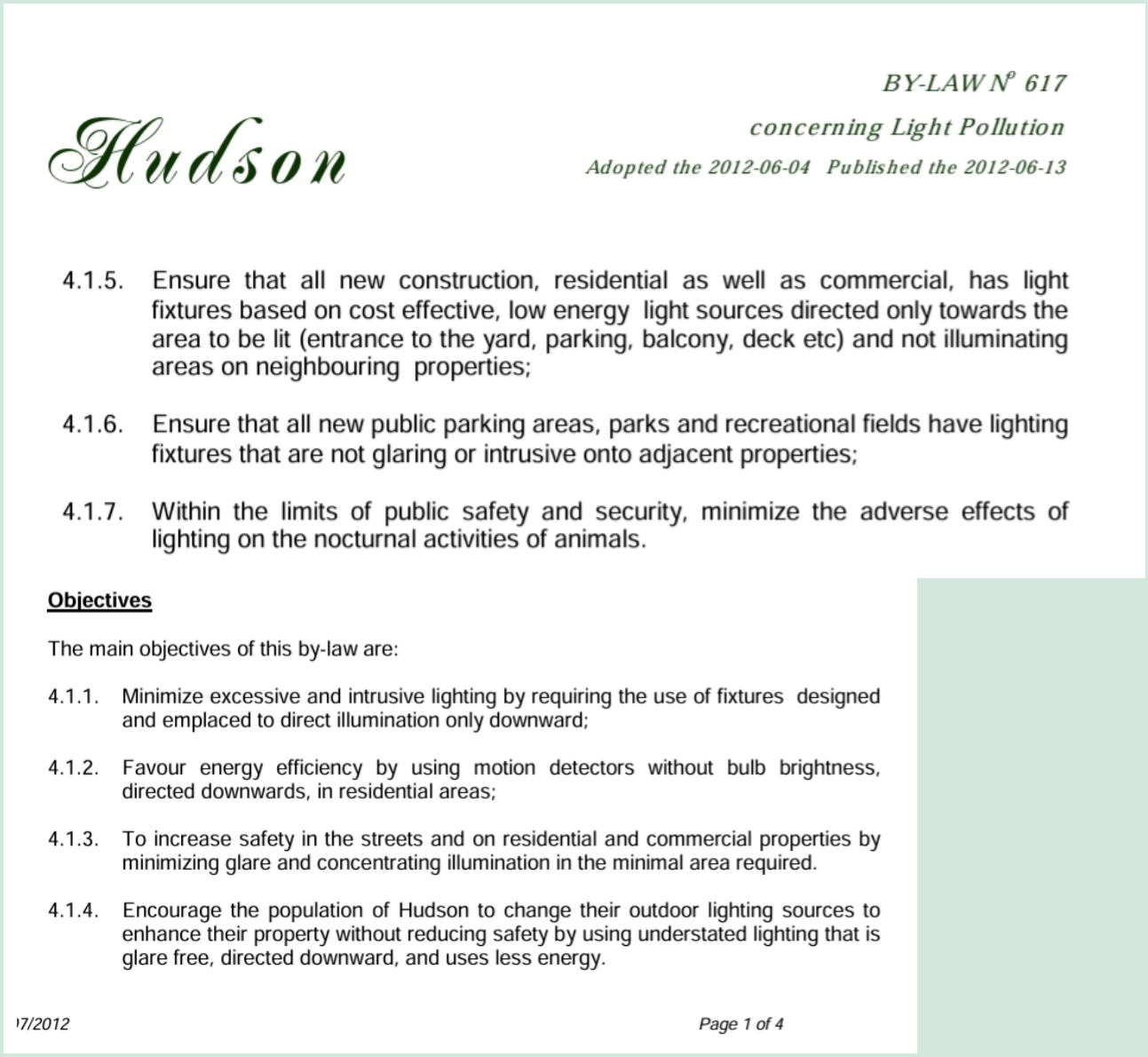
SCORING INDICATORS

One point for proof of policy and implementation that includes the municipality (can be higher level, i.e. county or region-wide such as dark sky zone) and one point for evidence of educational and outreach campaigns aimed at the local residents (e.g. Dark Sky initiative).

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson By-Law 617 By-Law Concerning the control of outdoor lighting (Light pollution)
https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/617-Lighting-Pollution.pdf

4.1.7. Within the limits of public safety and security, minimize the adverse effects of lighting on the nocturnal activities of animals.



Hudson

BY-LAW N° 617

concerning Light Pollution

Adopted the 2012-06-04 Published the 2012-06-13

4.1.5. Ensure that all new construction, residential as well as commercial, has light fixtures based on cost effective, low energy light sources directed only towards the area to be lit (entrance to the yard, parking, balcony, deck etc) and not illuminating areas on neighbouring properties;

4.1.6. Ensure that all new public parking areas, parks and recreational fields have lighting fixtures that are not glaring or intrusive onto adjacent properties;

4.1.7. Within the limits of public safety and security, minimize the adverse effects of lighting on the nocturnal activities of animals.

Objectives

The main objectives of this by-law are:

4.1.1. Minimize excessive and intrusive lighting by requiring the use of fixtures designed and emplaced to direct illumination only downward;

4.1.2. Favour energy efficiency by using motion detectors without bulb brightness, directed downwards, in residential areas;

4.1.3. To increase safety in the streets and on residential and commercial properties by minimizing glare and concentrating illumination in the minimal area required.

4.1.4. Encourage the population of Hudson to change their outdoor lighting sources to enhance their property without reducing safety by using understated lighting that is glare free, directed downward, and uses less energy.

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1.3 (B) LIGHT POLLUTION

DESCRIPTION
Outreach/educational campaign to reduce light pollution during periods of migration.

SCORING INDICATORS
One point for proof of policy and implementation that includes the municipality (can be higher level, i.e. county or region-wide such as dark sky zone) and one point for evidence of educational and outreach campaigns aimed at the local residents (e.g. Dark Sky initiative).

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
Hudson installed / retrofitted street lights throughout the town in 2018 and 2019 to controllable LED light to reduce light pollution.

Light pollution is mentioned as a threat to birds in April 2024's Hudson ECO Newsletter. See here: https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Eco-Hudson_numeo-1_pour-web_anglais.pdf
The Town sends letters to owners that do not respect the light pollution bylaws, ie their lights are pointing up rather than down onto their own property.

Light pollution is planned as a dedicated topic for a future newsletter and as a discussion for future Environment Committee meetings.

1.4 (A) PESTICIDE USE

DESCRIPTION
Municipality has policies/ bylaws to reduce or eliminate pesticide use that directly or indirectly harms birds on public and/or private lands. Points are awarded for: Restrictions on herbicides for cosmetic purposes (e.g. broad-leafed plant control in yards).

SCORING INDICATORS
Proof of the policies and implementation is provided. One point for ban on cosmetic pesticide/herbicide use, one point for ban on Bti and/or neonics, and one point for evidence of strong organic/ecological farm presence near the municipality.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
The Town of Hudson, Quebec, is a landmark in environmental law, having passed North America's first municipal by-law (739-2021) in 1991 to ban the non-essential use of cosmetic pesticides, which was upheld by the Supreme Court of Canada in 2001.

The pesticide by-law is currently being amended to strengthen and expand the by-laws, and evolve with the types of products available.

The currently adopted by-law is available here: https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/By-Law_739-2021_pesticides.pdf and prevents any application of pesticides (see definition below) and no application of insecticides from the neonictinoid family.

Low-impact pesticides: Mineral oils, azadirachtin and active ingredients, other than acetamiprid, authorized in Appendix II of the Quebec Pesticides Management Code.

SECTION 25

MIGRATORY BIRDS

The application and spraying of fertilizers or pesticides is prohibited during nesting periods in any wetland, forest, woodland or wildland, in order to reduce the risk of harmful effects on migratory birds.

SECTION 4

PROHIBITION

The use and application of pesticides are prohibited outside of buildings within the entirety of the Town's municipal boundaries.

In addition, the use of insecticides from the neonicotinoid family is strictly prohibited throughout the Town, without exceptions.

Pesticide: Any substance, material or micro-organism intended directly or indirectly to control, destroy, diminish, attract or repel an organism that is harmful, noxious or troublesome to humans, wildlife or other property, or intended to serve as a plant growth regulator, excluding a drug or vaccine, unless it is topical for external use on animals as defined by the *Pesticides Act (CQLR, chapter P-9.3)* and its regulations, with the exception of low-impact pesticides.

1.4 (B) PESTICIDE USE

DESCRIPTION

Pesticides to control insect populations that are important food sources for birds (neonics and Bti).

SCORING INDICATORS

Proof of the policies and implementation is provided. One point for ban on cosmetic pesticide/herbicide use, one point for ban on Bti and/or neonics, and one point for evidence of strong organic/ecological farm presence near the municipality.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

As described above, neonicotinoids are expressly banned without exception. In the updated pesticide bylaw, rodenticide will no longer be exempt.

1.4 (C) PESTICIDE USE

DESCRIPTION

Presence of strong organic/ecological habitat management practices in the community.

SCORING INDICATORS

Proof of the policies and implementation is provided. One point for ban on cosmetic pesticide/herbicide use, one point for ban on Bti and/or neonics, and one point for evidence of strong organic/ecological farm presence near the municipality.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

N/A

1.5 PLASTICS

DESCRIPTION

There are actions to reduce and remove plastic pollution within the local ecosystems, led within the community.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide evidence of community actions to reduce and remove plastic pollution from the local ecosystems such as shoreline cleanups.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson citizens organize a cleanup event over multiple days around Earth Day. This event has been happening for years informally. Screenshot of Facebook groups from the last 3 years. This year, 143 people joined the Facebook group and both Westwood Senior High School and Mount Pleasant Elementary joined in the event. A local company donated a dumpster to the cause that was placed in a town parking lot. Residents were able to completely fill the dumpster.

1.6 VEHICLES

DESCRIPTION

Measures in place to reduce bird collisions or disturbance associated with terrestrial and aquatic vehicles (including from the wake of boat traffic, agricultural machinery, and recreational vehicles on nesting beaches). For example, posted lower speed limits, signage to encourage vehicles to slow down, and educational campaigns.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of measures to protect birds and other wildlife from vehicle collisions, and related damage or disturbance.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson has very low speed limit across its territory. The speed limit in the center of town is 30 km/h and in the rest of the municipality is 40 km/h.

1.7 HABITAT DISTURBANCE

DESCRIPTION

Municipality recognizes and encourages practices that mitigate disturbance from human activities in areas surrounding the municipality, for example, adjusting hay harvest timing to protect nesting grassland birds, keeping public off beaches during moments of shorebird migration, removing abandoned fishing gear from nearby fishing grounds, or limiting the running of dogs off leash in natural areas.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point for evidence of successful efforts to protect birds and bird habitat from the types of disturbances explained.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson has adopted the 30% target through it's Conservation Plan. This year the Town has purchased 14 ha of riparian wetland at Sandy Beach for conservation and will add the 50+ha of the Clarke-Sydenham nature reserve. These properties are now public and as per Quebec law, dog owners must leash dogs at all times

Hudson By-law 650-2014 About Pets includes provisions for leashes and about harming nests and eggs of wild birds.

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/By-law-650-2014-Concerning-Pets-ANG.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/650.2_modif_chiens_laisse_CAHIER.pdf

By-Law 525.3-2021 adopts the findings and the recommendations of environmental conservation studies, which includes identification of priority conservation areas, many of which are habitat for birds.
https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Final-Reglement-525.3-2021-visant-a-modifier-de-nouveau-le-plan-durbanisme-de-la-Ville-dHudson-%E2%80%93-Protection-des-milieux-nature.pdf

There is also a by-law regarding tree protection prohibit tree cutting in woodlot etc. during nesting season.
https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_767.1-2024.pdf

SECTION 1

By-Law 666-2015 modifying By-Law 650 concerning pets is hereby repealed.

Paragraph h) of section 4.30 of By-Law 650 concerning pets therefore returns to its original wording, which is as follows:

«a dog to be outside the limits of the land on which is found the building or part of the building occupied by the guardian or owner, or to wander on streets and public places without being accompanied and on a leash of more than 1,85 meters or 6 feet in length by a person able to control or master the animal».

714.12 Protection of Migratory Birds

Felling, clearing, pruning and removal of trees is prohibited during nesting periods in any wetlands, forests, wooded areas of interest and wooded areas, in order to reduce the risk of adverse effects on migratory birds.

THREAT REDUCTION SCORING: 11 / 14 - HIGH

ENTRY 7 points from at least 3 categories.

INTERMEDIATE 9 points from at least 4 categories including at least 1 category worth 2 or more.

HIGH 11 points or more from at least 5 categories. Must include points in each of first four categories.



HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND CLIMATE

SECTION 2: HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY

2.1 PROTECTING NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY AND ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

DESCRIPTION

There are government policies and/ or plans to protect nature and/ or biodiversity and also to address climate change within the territory (either local or regional level). In the policy to protect nature, the expansion of natural areas, or protection, maintenance and restoration of regional biodiversity must be explicitly stated as a goal.

An example of such a policy at the county level is Environmentally Sensitive Areas. The climate change policy must include specific measures for mitigation or adaptation including nature-based climate solutions. An example for climate mitigation and adaptation is riparian restoration and wetland expansion.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point for protected areas and biodiversity policy or plan and one point for climate change policy or plan.

1 point for evidence of implementation at the local level. Note that these policies may be at a higher level of government than your municipality. However, to score points, you must provide proof of policy with the higher level municipality, and proof of implementation within your own community.

One point is deducted upon evidence for large scale current or very recent (within one year) activities that damage biodiversity such as loss or degradation of important habitat for wildlife, contamination of wildlife habitat by toxic chemicals, or building of energy or communications infrastructure on or near (within 1 km) important areas and habitats for birds.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Between 2017 and 2025 the Town commissioned three studies to build the evidence base for conservation: the CIMA+ report (2017), the Eco2Urb report (2020), and a Natural Areas Conservation Plan (2025). Findings and recommendations from the Eco2Urb study were carried forward by the Town's Conservation Working Group (CWG). The CWG's recommendations to Council led to an interim control by-law (RCI) — a development freeze that gave the Town the time needed to establish a permanent conservation framework.

On August 4, 2025, Council adopted the Natural Areas Conservation Plan. It provides a snapshot of the current state of the Town's natural areas, identifies available conservation tools and mechanisms, develops land-management and conservation strategies for priority areas, and proposes a five-year action plan to progressively implement conservation measures. Part 1 sets town-wide guidelines across four areas of intervention: identifying ecological corridors and protecting natural areas; actively managing, enhancing and restoring ecosystems to increase environmental benefits; mobilizing the community for conservation; and facilitating fair, environmentally respectful access to nature. Part 2 sets strategic priorities for three essential sectors (the Viviry corridor, the Black Creek corridor and the Western forest) selected for their biological richness, their role in connecting natural areas, and their sensitivity to surrounding pressures.

By-law 767.2-2024 (amending Zoning By-law 526, art. 1401 d) establishes conservation areas — including wetlands, natural environments and wildlife habitat facilities — as permitted uses in every zone of the Town, distinct from recreational parks and playgrounds.

By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 714.11) prohibits tree cutting within the woods and metropolitan forest corridors mapped in Appendix G, and this provision prevails over all other provisions of the by-law.
By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 535–542) requires land developers to cede land or pay into a dedicated fund that may be used only to acquire or develop parks, playgrounds and natural areas — the Town's principal mechanism for growing its protected-area base over time.

Comprehensive Development Plan By-law 772-2024 subjects development in environmentally sensitive sectors to comprehensive ecological review before approval (see art. 25, criteria for the protection and enhancement of the natural environment).

Most significantly, the Town has acted to permanently secure “Sandy Beach”, which is a large waterfront property of beach, wetland, forest and trails, as a conservation area and public natural space. On August 18, 2025, Council approved an agreement for purchase and on March 18, 2026, Hudson officially purchased the seven lots making up the site (a total cost of approximately $9.6 million), making this ecologically significant shoreline public for the first time in years. This is a concrete, large-scale example of the Town increasing its protected natural-area base rather than converting land to development. The Town is now developing a Conservation and Management Plan for Sandy Beach, in partnership with Nature-Action Québec, to secure its long-term conservation while guiding respectful public access. Other specific protected habitats include the Como bog and cattail marsh, conserved in part to protect least bittern (Ixobrychus exilis) habitat. At the regional scale, the Town participates in the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges regional action plan.

For the entirety of Section 2, we will repeatedly reference the following documents.

Details on Hudson’s conservation plan are available here: https://hudson.quebec/en/services/urban-planning/environment/conservation-plan/

By-laws:

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_767.2-2024_visant_modifier_reglements_zonage_numero_526_permis_certificats_numero_529.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_767.1-2024.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_772-2024_PAE.pdf

2.2 (A) HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

DESCRIPTION

Municipality has a habitat management strategy based on ecological and climate considerations. These include:
a) increasing the number of trees and area of the urban forest canopy.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of implementation of each action. One point per action. Note that these policies could occur at the Regional level but often require implementation at local level.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

- The Town has an official strategy to protect and restore biological diversity, adopted by Council as part of the Natural Areas Conservation Plan (August 4, 2025). The Plan explicitly identifies the protection of biodiversity, ecological connectivity and wildlife habitat as goals, and translates them into a five-year action plan with defined priority sectors (the Viviry corridor, the Black Creek corridor and the Western forest).
- Connectivity and buffering of core habitat are secured in regulation. By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 714.11) prohibits cutting in the woods and metropolitan forest corridors identified in Appendix G, protecting the linkages between natural areas. By-law 767.2-2024 (art. 1401 d) recognizes conservation areas and wildlife-habitat facilities (aménagements fauniques) as permitted uses in every zone.
- Tree cover is maintained through a minimum tree-density standard tied to lot size, with mandatory replacement of felled trees (By-law 767.1-2024, art. 714.13 and Table 6.4). Any tree felled must be replaced where the property falls below the minimum threshold; replacement trees must be at least 1.8 m high and 3 cm in diameter measured 1 m from the ground.
- Invasive and problematic species are controlled: planting of silver maple, Manitoba maple, willow, poplar, elm and ash is restricted (art. 714.15), and cutting of invasive exotic species is expressly permitted within protected woods (art. 714.11).
- For development in sensitive sectors, By-law 772-2024 (art. 24, 7°) requires an ecological characterization study

with an analyzed biological inventory, including the occurrence of threatened or vulnerable animal and plant species, delineation of ecological units, forest stands and wetlands — providing baseline data for tracking change.
- At the species level, the Town protects the Como bog and cattail marsh through a project to control invasive plants (kickoff fall of 2026) as least bittern habitat, and uses observations of this at-risk species to inform management of the site.
- The recently secured Sandy Beach property is a cornerstone of this effort. Ecological studies of the site identified 29 at-risk species, including the threatened chimney swift (Chaetura pelagica), and researchers rank it among the most biodiverse areas in the entire MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges. The Conservation and Management Plan being prepared with Nature-Action Québec includes ongoing monitoring of sensitive habitats and adaptive measures, such as the temporary closure of areas where ecological quality is at risk, a clear example of monitoring feeding back into management.

2.2 (B) MUNICIPAL LANDS

DESCRIPTION
Protecting trees on public and private lands through a tree bylaw that protects trees as a public value from private land owners cutting them down without permits.

SCORING INDICATORS
Provide proof of implementation of each action. One point per action. Note that these policies could occur at the Regional level but often require implementation at local level.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
- The Town manages its urban forest to maintain and increase canopy cover, supported by both regulation and inventory work. By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 714.13 and Table 6.4) sets a minimum required tree density scaled to lot size and requires replacement of felled trees, ensuring canopy is retained and rebuilt across the territory. The same by-law adds a mapped inventory of the Town's remarkable trees as Appendix H (locating plan) and Appendix I (inventory), giving the Town a documented baseline of high-value trees to protect and enhance.
- Building on this, the Town has applied for a grant to prepare a dedicated urban tree plan, and a preliminary tree inventory will be completed. For development in sensitive sectors, By-law 772-2024 (art. 24, 7°) additionally requires an inventory of principal forest stands and high-value individual trees as part of the ecological characterization study.

2.2 (C) HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

DESCRIPTION
Prohibiting active vegetation management on municipal lands during breeding season.

SCORING INDICATORS
Provide proof of implementation of each action. One point per action. Note that these policies could occur at the Regional level but often require implementation at local level.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION
- The Town restricts active vegetation management during the bird breeding season to avoid harming breeding birds and their habitat. This is backed by regulation: By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 714.12, Protection of Migratory Birds) prohibits the felling, clearing, pruning and removal of trees during the nesting period in all wetlands, forests, wooded areas of interest and wooded areas, in order to reduce the risk of adverse effects on migratory birds.
- On Town-owned land this is reinforced by an internal policy of deferred vegetation management in public parks during the nesting season; active cutting during this period is limited to the control of invasive species, consistent with the exception recognized in the tree by-law (art. 714.11). Municipal crews involved in habitat management therefore schedule works to avoid the breeding season.

Where public safety is not jeopardized, the Town's practice is to leave snags (standing dead and declining trees) in place on municipal land, recognizing their value as wildlife and bird habitat. This is currently an internal operational practice applied by municipal crews; the Town intends to formalize snag retention in writing as part of its forthcoming Tree Policy.
This practice is compatible with the current tree regulation: By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 714.2) lists a dead or dying tree as

a permitted — not a required — reason for felling, so dead trees are not obligated to be removed. Standing trees in wooded areas are further protected during the nesting season under art. 714.12 (protection of migratory birds).

2.2 (D) HABITAT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

DESCRIPTION

Protecting and enhancing naturalized buffers for watercourses, such as streams, rivers, canals and municipal drains, and shorelines, to prevent water contamination, reduce erosion and provide and protect habitat, including corridors linking natural areas, natural beaches, etc.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide proof of implementation of each action. One point per action. Note that these policies could occur at the Regional level but often require implementation at local level.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

- The Town has an in-force tree by-law that protects trees as a public value and requires a permit before any tree is cut, on both private and public land. Under By-law 767.1-2024:
- Art. 714.1 prohibits the felling of any tree anywhere in the Town without first obtaining a tree-felling certificate of authorization.
- Art. 714 prohibits planting, pruning or cutting trees in the public right-of-way or on Town land except by, or as authorized by, the Town.
- Art. 714.3 gives heightened protection to remarkable trees, which may only be felled if a qualified professional demonstrates they are dead, dying or dangerous.
- Section 8 (art. 205) sets substantial penalties for illegal felling: a minimum $2,500 fine plus per-tree and per-hectare amounts up to $100,000 per hectare, doubled for repeat offences, with mandatory replacement of any tree cut in violation.
- The permitting process is detailed in By-law 767.2-2024 (art. 413.1, amending Permits and Certificates By-law 529), which sets out the tree-cutting certificate application requirements, including a tree-inspection report signed by a forest engineer or certified arborist where required.

The Town addresses climate change through participation in the MRC de Vaudreuil-Soulanges regional climate / GHG-reduction action plan, and nature-based solutions are central to its local approach.

The Town's conservation studies (the Eco2Urb report and the Natural Areas Conservation Plan) specifically address the conservation and protection of wetlands, water bodies and their peripheral lands, and plan for corridors and connections between natural habitats, areas absorb and retains floodwater and buffers the effects of extreme weather. Regulations governing intervention in wetlands and water bodies are also embedded in the interim control by-law (RCI), which maintains the current development freeze while a permanent conservation by-law is finalized.

Wetland protection: By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 725.1) prohibits construction, works, backfilling, excavation and draining in wetlands, and (art. 726.1) establishes a 15-metre protective shoreline buffer around wetlands — preserving their floodwater-retention function.

Shoreline and floodplain protection: By-law 767.1-2024 (art. 700.1 and 700.2) applies shoreline, littoral and flood-zone provisions and sets minimum riparian buffer widths.

Tree canopy and urban heat: the minimum tree-density and replacement standard (art. 714.13, Table 6.4) maintains canopy cover; Comprehensive Development Plan By-law 772-2024 strongly encourages development that preserves a dense tree canopy (art. 23) and requires the electrical network to be planned for optimal forest-cover conservation, e.g., underground servicing (art. 25, 6°).

The Town's 2025 move to secure Sandy Beach reinforces this approach. The habitat was at risk of infilling and development but now is protected and can act as natural floodwater storage and shoreline buffering along the Ottawa River.

The Town has also conducted a public survey to inform of its climate and conservation planning.

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2.3 IMPORTANT BIRD AREA NEARBY

DESCRIPTION

There is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) within or adjacent to the municipality. A local partnership promotes the protection and stewardship of this area. The local community is involved in stewardship or promotion of the IBA.

SCORING INDICATORS

A point if there is a nearby IBA (the area must be a registered IBA on the IBA Canada database – IBACanada.com) and if the local community is involved in the stewardship or promotion of the area (e.g. ecotourism). Note that in the case of a village or small municipality, this criteria can be satisfied if there is an IBA within the county or region, within 20 km of the municipality, and if there is digital information on the IBA on the municipal website.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson lies within roughly 20 km of the Lac Saint-Louis et Îles-de-la-Paix Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA QC134), which includes the Îles de la Paix National Wildlife Area and Migratory Bird Sanctuary managed by the Canadian Wildlife Service. Local stewardship and bird expertise are anchored by Bird Protection Québec,which has run the region's long-standing bird counts, and by the Le Nichoir Wild Bird Conservation Centre in Hudson. The Town will eventually add information about the IBA to its website

2.4 PROMOTING LOCAL NATIVE FLORA ON PUBLIC LANDS

DESCRIPTION

Municipality has a demonstration garden/habitat on municipal lands, with local native plants to attract birds and insects, which offers residents a good example of beneficial practices for wildlife for their own properties.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide evidence of a demonstration project on municipal lands. A pollinator garden, or wildlife garden are example demonstrations.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

The Le Nichoir landscape and garden is a good example to the community of a wildlife and pollinator friendly garden. The garden uses native plants that are beneficial to insects. Le Nichoir's landscape has received the certification of Jardin pour la Biodiversité by Espace pour la Vie Montréal and the Wildlife-friendly Habitat certification by the Canadian Wildlife Federation. Le Nichoir is located on municipally-owned land.

Many Town gardens were designed as pollinator friendly, such as the garden at the corner of Selkirk and Main and some plantings at Jack-Layton park.

Thompson Park is also a good example of habitat for pollinators and birds. This city park used to be completely mowed and used as a soccer field but most of the park is now left to grow wild with only paths mowed. This initiative has been to promote habitat for butterflies as part of the city's Monarch Friendly certification but also creates habitat for other wildlife. The Jack Layton butterfly garden is a further example.

This is reinforced by regulation and planning: pesticide By-law 739-2021 prohibits outdoor pesticide use across the entire town, protecting native plantings and pollinators; tree By-law 767.1-2024 protects existing vegetation near natural features through riparian buffers and no-deforestation setbacks (art. 700.2, 726.1); and Comprehensive Development Plan By-law 772-2024 requires protection of existing natural habitat and shoreline-vegetation regeneration as conditions of development in sensitive sectors. The Town's first Parks and Green Spaces Master Plan (adopted October 1, 2025 further advance naturalized, native landscaping.

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/By-Law_739-2021_pesticides.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_767.1-2024.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_772-2024_PAE.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Parks-and-Green-Spaces-Master-Plan-Summary_2025.pdf

2.5 PROMOTING LOCAL NATIVE FLORA ON PRIVATE LANDS

DESCRIPTION

Demonstrate widespread community participation in initiatives to encourage native plant habitats that support native birds on private property, such as sustainable, environmentally friendly farming, establishment of pollinator habitat, wetland restoration, etc.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point if you provide evidence supporting “widespread community participation” in at least one national or international initiative or local program that encourages increasing wildlife habitat on private land. For example, Bee City recognition, ALUS projects, and Monarch City certification would all qualify. Need to demonstrate that the initiatives show engagement by multiple households or businesses.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Le Nichoir landscape and garden is a good example to the community of a wildlife and pollinator friendly garden. The garden uses native plants that are beneficial to insects. Le Nichoir's landscape has received the certification of Jardin pour la Biodiversité by Espace pour la Vie Montréal and the Wildlife-friendly Habitat certification by the Canadian Wildlife Federation. Le Nichoir is located on municipally-owned land.

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https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_772-2024_PAE.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Parks-and-Green-Spaces-Master-Plan-Summary_2025.pdf

2.6 STEWARDSHIP FOR SPECIES OF HIGH CONSERVATION CONCERN

DESCRIPTION

Within the municipality, there are projects to increase or improve breeding or stopover habitat for bird species that are of high conservation priority from your Bird Conservation Region Plan. Example species include Species at Risk (e.g. Chimney Swift and Barn Swallow) aerial insectivores, open-country and grassland birds such as Meadowlarks and Tree Swallows, and shorebirds.

Example actions: providing housing (e.g., maintained Purple Martin condos or tree swallow nest boxes), or maintaining bird-friendly hay production and managing forests to promote old growth conditions.

SCORING INDICATORS

A point if there are active stewardship recovery projects (can be led by individuals or groups in the community) such as those suggested in the criterion description.

Two points if there are more than two active projects for different species or groups of species.

For information on Bird Conservation Regions and their priority species, visit: https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-bird-conservation/regions-strategies.html

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

The Town is a certified Monarch-friendly community, and its town-wide pesticide ban (By-law 739-2021) directly supports pesticide-free native gardening by residents.

Five households hold David Suzuki Foundation Butterflyway garden certifications; the Le Nichoir landscape holds the Jardin pour la Biodiversité (Espace pour la Vie) and Wildlife-friendly Habitat (Canadian Wildlife Federation) certifications.

The Town runs Roots & Shoots education days and a bi-annual native-tree giveaway. This past Earth Day the town also offered native plants for 4 garden types (edible, xeriscape, bird friendly, and pollinator friendly).

The local garden club offers educational programming on planting natives.

Creek 53 Conservancy Trust (Fiducie de conservation du ruisseau 53) is a private, charitable land trust. It protects land in the Hudson escarpment / Creek 53 watershed through privately held lands and conservation servitudes (easements) placed in perpetuity, working with participating private landowners, trustees and stewards. Their mission is to preserve the biodiversity and ecosystem integrity of an area of ecological importance and natural beauty within the Hudson escarpment and the Creek 53 watershed. They have a “resident birder” who has compiled a solid data base of ornithological observations in the region including over 50 years of Christmas Bird Count participation centred on the area surrounding Creek 53. Creek 53 also has nest boxes and nest box monitors.

The Town and its partners are aware of high-priority species or habitat of high priority species of Bird Conservation Region 13 (Lower Great Lakes / St. Lawrence Plain):

Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica)

Le Nichoir is aware of at least 2 chimneys where Swifts have previously and may still nest in Hudson and there is a roost in Hudson though it’s exact location has not been established. An additional roost was unfortunately capped a few years back.

Least Bittern (Ixobrychus exilis)

habitat restoration through the control of invasive plants in the Como bog and cattail marsh.

Bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus)

Local conservation organization Creek53 worked with landowners to alter their haying operations to reduce impacts on nesting bobolinks. See here: https://creek53.org/pages/partnering-in-our-commitment-to-biodiversity

Riparian-nesting species such as the Belted Kingfisher (the town bird) are further supported by the shoreline and no-deforestation buffers in tree By-law 767.1-2024.

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Reglement_767.1-2024.pdf

HABITAT PROTECTION, RESTORATION, AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY SCORING: 12 / 12 - HIGH

ENTRY 6 points from at least 3 categories.

INTERMEDIATE 8 points from at least 4 categories.

HIGH 10 points from at least 5 categories including at least 2 points from both categories 2.1 and 2.2 and 2.6.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

SECTION 3: COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

3.1 CHILDREN AND YOUTH EDUCATION

DESCRIPTION

There are educational programs and activities for children and youth about birds and nature in the municipality.

A) A significant percentage of local schools and other educational organizations (e.g. Scouts Canada, Earth Rangers, 4-H) provide students with opportunities to connect with nature, enjoy birds and learn how to help them. Local school boards, conservation authority, or municipality, has facilities/staffing to support outdoor/environmental education, including opportunities to observe birds.

B) Educational programs include specific elements designed to engage children and youth who could be considered underprivileged, racialized or recent arrivals to Canada.

C) At least one school does a specific bird-related program such as Christmas Bird Count for Kids, the Great Backyard Bird Count, Global Bird Rescue, or curriculum from Keep Cats Safe and Save Bird Lives.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point per action.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Le Nichoir Wild Bird Conservation Centre offers a series of education program for children (https://lenichoir.org/education-and-outreach/). The programs covers multiple topics from habitat, cohabitation, conservation, identification and more. Both elementary schools and one of the daycare within Hudson have booked Le Nichoir programs multiple times. More recently however, unfortunately Le Nichoir is shifting the main aim of our education and are not promoting our education programs to children as much anymore. They still are available if someone requests them but are not actively promoting them so we have few programs delivery. Le Nichoir has also provided programs and activities to families through events organized at the town community centre and at the bird centre itself.

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In addition, Scouts take part in clean-ups and nature activities in Hudson's natural areas, Hudson Forest Play runs nature programming and a summer camp, and local daycares and schools regularly explore Hudson's parks.

https://www.hudsonforestplay.org/en

3.2 COMMUNICATING BEST PRACTICES TO HELP BIRDS

DESCRIPTION

Municipality (and/or Bird Friendly City partners if appropriate) promotes and has information available to its residents and visitors linked with Bird Friendly City Program about ways to help birds. Examples: establishment of natural habitat on their property, feeder maintenance, and mitigation of threats to birds.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point if you can provide evidence of the digital or paper resources, as well as evidence of public interest and knowledge of them (e.g. social media activity).

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

A Le Nichoir provides a series of documents offering education and information to promote healthy cohabitation and the conservation of wild birds. These documents are easily available on Le Nichoir's website and are distributed at the centre and during community events. (https://lenichoir.org/resources/)

Le Nichoir is also very active on its social media platforms where it consistently promotes cohabitation and conservation. Le Nichoir's Facebook has 9300 followers and is also active on Instagram, TikTok and LinkedIn.

The Eco Hudson brochure and the Town's environment webpage offer additional public-facing guidance.

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Eco-Hudson_numeo-1_pour-web_anglais.pdf

https://hudson.quebec/en/services/urban-planning/environment/

3.3 DEMONSTRATIONS OF BIRD FRIENDLY ACTIONS

DESCRIPTION

Municipality (and/or Bird Friendly City partners if appropriate) install displays (e.g. information panels) in public areas that include information on birds in the community and the benefits of bird friendly actions. This is done to encourage local residents to do things to help birds.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point based on proof of installations (e.g. photographic evidence, or news stories).

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Le Nichoir neighbours the Clarke-Sydenham Nature Reserve and has developed and installed a series of interpretation panels along the reserve's trails covering local wild birds, their habitat and conservation, and a further series of panels on its own property describing the centre's conservation work.

https://lenichoir.org/clarke-sydenham-natural-reserve/

Educational displays are planned for the Sandy Beach Conservation Area.

3.4 NEARBY ACCESSIBLE BIRDING LOCATION

DESCRIPTION

There is at least one birding location near your village or municipality that has infrastructure to facilitate the observation and appreciation of birds (e.g. signs, panels, observation tower, and trails). Information on birding area, or birding trail and how to access it should be easily available digitally on partner websites and/or in printed materials.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point based on evidence of a local birding area that is publicly accessible, a brief description of the infrastructures (e.g. trails, observation tower), and how the area can be accessed. Note that links to general descriptions of a public park, that do not include information about birds, will not be given a point.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson has a series of nature trails accessible to the public. A list of the trails is accessible on the town's website and the map is available in the Parks and Green Spaces Master Plan. The Clarke Sydenham nature reserve trails are accessible all year round including cross country ski trails in the winter. The main entrance to the reserve is located right beside Le Nichoir's backyard. Information about the reserve and the trails is easily accessible on Le Nichoir's website: https://lenichoir.org/clarke-sydenham-natural-reserve/

Jack Layton Park is accessible for people with reduced mobility and sits close to the train station, making it reachable without a car.

https://hudson.quebec/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/Parks-and-Green-Spaces-Master-Plan-Summary_2025.pdf

3.5 BIRD FRIENDLY BUSINESSES

DESCRIPTION

For your municipality, one or more businesses promotes and adopts bird friendly practices (e.g. sell or offer bird friendly coffee, sell window treatment film, sell products that promote or support birding, demonstrate bird friendly practices, etc.). In the case of a village without a store, partner websites/ landing pages recognize or include links to bird-friendly products.

SCORING INDICATORS

One point for proof of businesses in your area with bird friendly practices or proof of information on your website for Bird Friendly products. This could be the Municipality's website or that of other partners on the Bird Team.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Le Nichoir provides a wide array of Bird Friendly products in its store, La Plume Verte. It offers durable feeders, seeds, window collision deterrents, Bird Friendly coffee and a variety of items to appreciate and celebrate birds. www.laplumeverte.ca

Hudson's IGA grocery store and Que de Bonnes Choses sell Bird Friendly coffee.

The local hardware store (Castle Hardware) as well as Penny Petz pet store also offer a selection of feeders and seeds to attract and feed birds in residents yard.

3.6 TOWN BIRD

DESCRIPTION

You have a "Town Bird" species that was selected through a public engagement process and which is recognized by the municipal council.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide the name of the "Town Bird" species, proof that it was officially adopted or recognized by Council and evidence of the process to select it.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

Hudson selected an official Town bird through a public engagement process. In spring 2024, during the annual native-tree giveaway, residents voted from a shortlist of candidate species proposed by Le Nichoir, and the Belted Kingfisher (Megaceryle alcyon) was chosen after receiving 37% of the 396 votes cast. The Kingfisher was publicly welcomed as the Town bird in August 2024.

Local news covered the announcement: https://www.neomedia.com/vaudreuil-soulanges/actualites/my-english-news/611362/hudson-has-finally-chosen-its-emblematic-bird

As did Le Nichoir: https://lenichoir.org/2024/08/08/hudson-welcomes-the-kingfisher/

3.7 PARTICIPATORY SCIENCE TO MONITOR BIRDS

DESCRIPTION

There are active participatory science programs to monitor birds in your municipality such as Christmas Bird Count, Great Backyard Bird Count, Project Feederwatch, Marsh Monitoring, Swiftwatch, or Global Bird Rescue. Public participation in these programs is promoted on local media or social media.

SCORING INDICATORS

Provide a list of bird-related participatory science programs that operate in your municipality, and evidence of efforts to engage community members in these programs.

Evidence of widespread engagement in multiple projects receives 2 points.

EXPLANATION OF PROGRESS OR COMPLETION

A Christmas Bird Count organized by Bird Protection Quebec has been conducted in Hudson for the past 82 years.

Le Nichoir participates every year to the Global Bird Rescue event by submitting the information of window collision bird victims received during the event.

Hudson has an active bird watching community; twelve hotspots can be found on eBird within the small town of Hudson.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION SCORING : 6 / 11 - INTERMEDIATE

ENTRY 5 points from at least 3 categories.

INTERMEDIATE 7 points from at least 5 categories.

HIGH 9 points from at least 7 categories.

APPLICATION TOTAL FINAL SCORE: 30 /37

Intermediate overall.

OUR NORTH STAR

The Normalization of Nature in Decision-Making

Bird Friendly Cities and Towns is a certification program run by Nature Canada.

Suite 1000, 141 Laurier Avenue West, Ottawa, ON K1P 5J3
1-800-267-4088 | info@naturecanada.ca | NatureCanada.ca
Charitable registration #11883-4704-RR0001

Nature CANADA

BIRD FRIENDLY CITY

CERTIFIED BY NATURE CANADA