

Barrie Bird  
Friendly City  
Certification  
Presented By  
Dorothy  
McKeown



# Our Ask to City Building Committee

Aim: to attain support the following we are looking to achieve:

1. That City Building Committee support the efforts of Nature Canada, and through leadership of Nature Barrie, efforts to become certified as a Bird Friendly City by Nature Canada (e.g., letter of support to Nature Canada as part of our application).
2. That upon certification as a Bird Friendly City, staff be directed to explore partnership opportunities with Nature Barrie in an effort to communicate and celebrate the City's status as a Bird Friendly City.

The following presentation will highlight the rationale for this request and questions are welcome at the end.

# Barrie Bird Friendly Team Co-Chairs

## Phyllis Tremblay

### Work Background:

- Retired RN
  - York County Hospital Newmarket now called South Lake and doctors offices
- Formerly Food services manager
  - St. Joseph's High School

### Volunteer Background:

- Nature Barrie Board
  - past President, SwiftWatch coordinator, conservation chair, social convenor, education
- Formerly Brownie Leader at unit district and division level

## Dorothy McKeown

### Work Background:

- Retired 2021, from Bell Canada
  - finance for cross-Canada customer network hardware maintenance

### Volunteer Background:

- Nature Barrie Board
  - past President, formerly Bluebird nest box coordinator
- Past Ontario Nature Board Huronia regional director
- Past Huronia Symphony Orchestra Board
- Simcoe County Historic Association member
- Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW)
  - past President

# Barrie Bird Friendly Team Members And Member Associations



Jim Coey

- Retired school Principal, Quest Nature Tour Senior Naturalist, Ontario Field Ornithologist (OFO), Nature Barrie Outings Coordinator

Gwen Petreman

- Retired Educator, Children's Book Author and Illustrator, Nature Barrie Education Displays

Darren MacTavish

- TELUS Senior Technology Consultant, Nature Barrie Vice-President

Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority  
(NVCA):



*Healthy Watershed, Healthy Communities*

Naomi Saunders

- Education at NVCA

Taryn Arsenault

- NVCA Water Biology Expert, representing Friends of Minesing Wetlands

Dr. Kristen Mancuso, Birding Consultant

Matchedash Tiny Marl Conservation Association  
(MTM):

Anne McArthur

- Important Bird Area (IBA) Caretaker

Kate Harries

- Past President of MTM, Aware Simcoe member, Return of the Native Nursery Owner, current Ontario Nature Huronia Regional Director



Wild Birds Unlimited:

Kristen Martyn

- Owner/Manager, Bird Friendly Products, Former Field Biologist with MNR



Barrie Hill Farms:

Morris Gervais

- Owner/Manager, Bird Friendly Farm Practices



Simcoe County Environmental Youth Alliance (SCEYA):

Lucy Duncan

- SCEYA Coordinator, Student





# Barrie Bird Friendly Team Partners (present and pending)

City of Barrie: Ann-Marie Kungl (Ward 3 Councillor) and Stephanie Wideman (Parks)



# Nature Canada Certification Aim

*Nature Canada has developed a certification standard to certify eligible cities as a “Bird Friendly City”, to recognize and celebrate the contributions they have made to save bird lives in their municipalities. The goal of certification is to provide local partners with a clear standard that reflects what a city needs to do to make it safe for birds. Certification is a badge of honor and a source of community pride. It tells the world that your city or town does things to help birds and reverse their declines in your own backyard. We are looking towards **World Migratory Bird Day 2022** as a timeline to certify at least **thirty eligible** Canadian cities as a Bird Friendly City.*

# Threat Reduction

## Measures Taken by the City of Barrie

- Controlled Cats Roaming at Large
  - Animal Control By-Laws
- Reduced Disturbance of Birds from Pets
  - Leash By-Law
  - Chain link fences between residential and natural areas
- Reduced Window Collisions
  - New urban design guidelines including bird-friendly designs
  - Anti-strike measures on new buildings
- Reduced Light Pollution
  - Illumination study aspect in planning and development that included compliance with Dark Sky Policies
- Reduced Pesticide Use
  - Barrie is a Bee City due to Pesticide Reduction Policy
- Reduced Plastic Waste
  - Single use plastics ban
  - Rethink waste on City of Barrie Educational Page
- Reduced Vehicle Collisions by Reducing Vehicles Near Important Bird Habitat Areas
  - Public transit to the Waterfront
  - Increased active transport routes (biking lanes and walking trails on the Waterfront)



# Habitat Protection, Restoration and Climate Resiliency

- Natural Areas Protected
  - Plans to increase (separate from recreational area)
- Removal of Invasive Species
  - Invasive phragmites removal by RVH, NVCA, Nature Barrie Phragbusters, Georgian College and City of Barrie, at RVH, Georgian College, and E end Northshore Trail
- City Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and Implementation Plan
- Naturalization in Parks and Natural Areas
  - Increase urban tree canopy
- Plant Native Flora on Municipal Lands
  - Boulevard Gardens
  - Communities in Bloom



# Habitat Protection, Restoration and Climate Resiliency

- Improve Breeding or Stopover Habitat
  - City of Barrie Adopt-A-Park or Trail Program
  - Rotary Islands: promote fish habitat and a protected area of shallow water for dabbling ducks
  - Gables Park: A designated Natural Urban Park. Improvement to Kempenfelt Bay shoreline to prevent erosion. By City of Barrie and Nature Barrie
  - Minesing Wetlands by NVCA
  - Tiny Marsh – Important Bird Area – MTM, Ducks Unlimited



# Community Outreach/Education

- Educate public on native plants, animals – City signage, QR code signage
- Nature Barrie
  - sponsors students for Ontario Nature Youth Summit: How to be citizen scientists and community activists, Includes indigenous perspectives on conservation
  - Outings
  - Speakers
  - Christmas bird count
  - CBC4Kids
  - Educational display at events and festivals
- NVCA
- MTM
- Georgian College and Lakehead University
  - Birding workshops and Master Naturalist Course (LU)
- Barrie Hill Farms and Wild Birds Unlimited
  - Promote bird-friendly practices



## Birding included in Tourism Barrie Website

### E-bird Birding Hot-spots:

- City of Barrie Marine
- Allandale Station Park
- Minet's Point
- Centennial Park
- Dock Road
- Tyndale Park
- Wilkins Beach
- Lackie's Bush
- Little Lake Park
- Spirit Catcher
- North Shore Trail

What Does The City  
Of Barrie Need To  
Do To Finalize  
Certification?





# The Proclamation

- Written and sent to Lauren Wild
- Proclamation set for May 9<sup>th</sup> by Barry Ward, Deputy Mayor
- Events posted on Nature Barrie and Nature Canada Website
- Note: Spirit Catcher by Ron Baird of Beaverton represents a Thunderbird, a mythical creature. In Algonquian/Ojibwe culture the Thunderbird is considered to return from the 4 directions with migratory birds

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THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF BARRIE  
Mayor's Office  
"Committed to Service Excellence"

## PROCLAMATION

I, BARRY WARD, Deputy Mayor of the City of BARRIE,

do hereby proclaim

**May 14, 2022**

as

### World Migratory Bird Day

**WHEREAS;** The theme for World Migratory Bird Day in 2022 is "Dim the Lights for Birds at Night"; and

**WHEREAS;** Bird populations are in great decline, and their habitats in peril, it is of paramount importance to reduce the impact of light pollution on migrating birds. Artificial light is increasing by 2% per year globally and has profound impacts on many species. Migrating birds can suffer disorientation at night, leading to potentially fatal collisions with buildings, disruption of birds' internal clocks and interference with their ability to complete the arduous long-distance journeys that have occurred across our continent for millennia; and

**WHEREAS;** Barrie by virtue of its location on the sheltered shores of Kempenfelt Bay, is an important destination for migratory birds that stop off here to feed and rest; and

**WHEREAS;** The Barrie Bird Friendly Team, Nature Barrie, and Nature Canada invite you to celebrate, discover, and welcome our returning migrating birds, and address the problems that night-time lighting creates for them. Residents and neighbours of this city, young and old, are encouraged to join one of 6 expert-led walks from a network of parks, creeks, and bay areas in Barrie, or by visiting a bird friendly themed display at Lampman park. For more information see [www.bfnclub.org](http://www.bfnclub.org), [www.birdday.ca](http://www.birdday.ca), and [www.worldmigratorybirdday.org](http://www.worldmigratorybirdday.org).

**THEREFORE,** I, Barry Ward, Deputy Mayor of the City of Barrie, do hereby proclaim **May 14, 2022** as "World Migratory Bird Day."



  
Barry Ward,  
Deputy Mayor



# What else is required by the City of Barrie.

- Pass a council resolution supporting our municipality's efforts to be a Bird Friendly City within the first year of certification or letter of support from Acting Mayor. Ann-Marie Kungl has drafted a resolution.
- Include information about Bird Friendly City on the City of Barrie website.



How Can The  
City Help Going  
Forward?

- City Website
  - Birding hot spots
  - Bird friendly information
  - Education material regarding threats to birds from cats, light pollution, fireworks, window collisions and 'Goose Patrol', and the importance of Kempenfelt Bay for bird migration and tourism
- Reduce Light Pollution
  - Retrofitting standard street lights with down-facing street lighting
- Implementing Bird Friendly Standards for Windows in New Construction
  - Private members bill Rick Glover to amend Ontario Building Code
- Assist with City Wide Public Engagement of Choosing City Bird
- May Include Changing By-Laws
- Think Green In Your Choices
- Plant trees
- Less mowing

Keep up the good work!

# Our Ask to City Building Committee

We hope that you are supportive of our efforts and ask again, that:

1. The City Building Committee support the efforts of Nature Canada, and through leadership of Nature Barrie, efforts to become certified as a Bird Friendly City by Nature Canada (e.g., letter of support to Nature Canada as part of our application).
2. That upon certification as a Bird Friendly City, staff be directed to explore partnership opportunities with Nature Barrie in an effort to communicate and celebrate the City's status as a Bird Friendly City.





Thank you past and present Mayors, councillors, committee members and all city staff for supporting all our Bird Friendly City team members keep Barrie Bird Friendly, Healthy and a Naturally Wonderful place to call home!!!

Questions?

