

Will you support our application for Uxbridge to be the next Bird Friendly City?

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Chair of Bird Friendly Selwyn Bird Team

Presentation for Uxbridge Council
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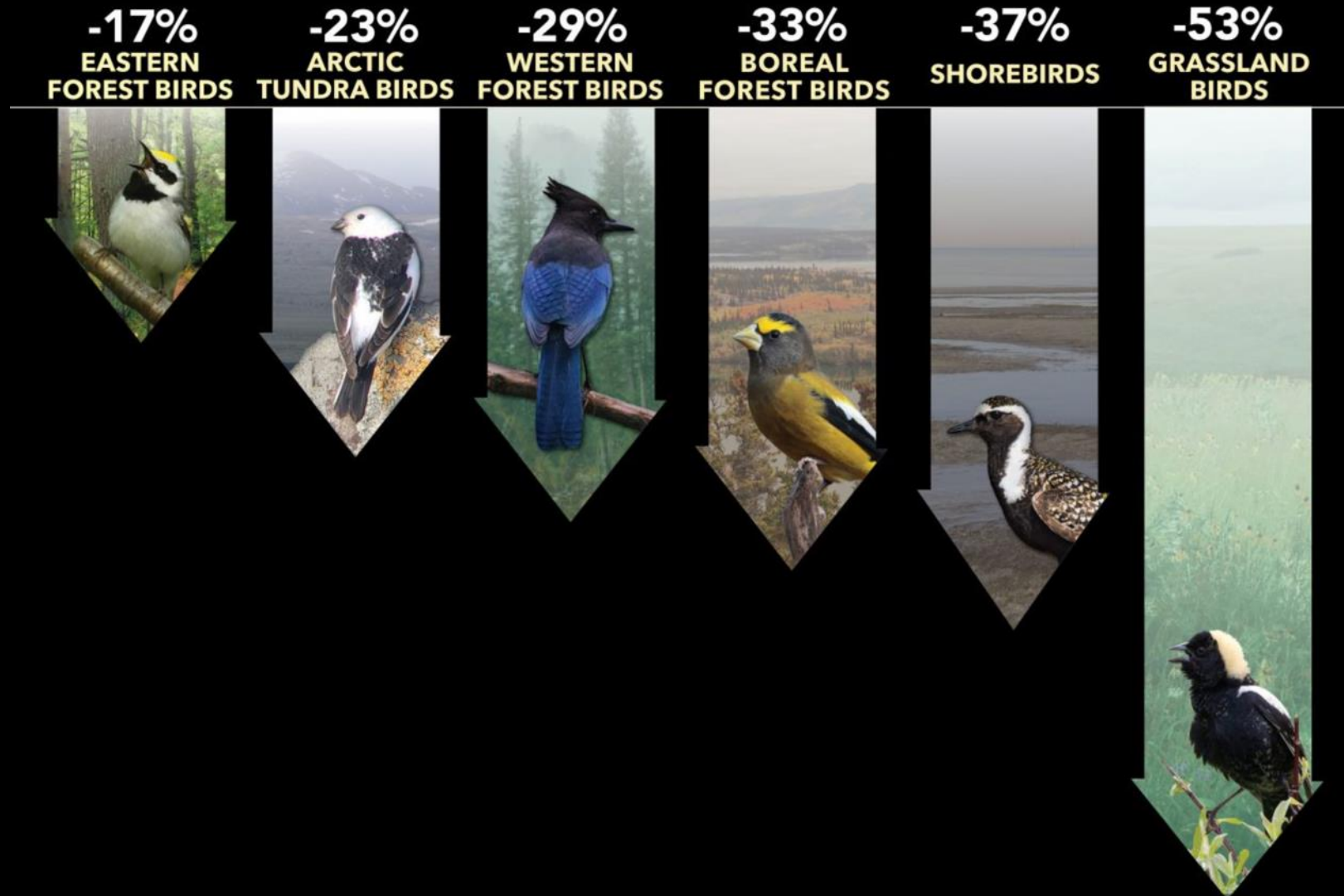


Rosenberg et al., 2019 in *Science*



Graphic by Jillian Ditner.

Declines in every biome



Graphic by Jillian Ditner.

7 simple actions to help birds:

1. Make windows safer – day and night
2. Keep cats indoors
3. Reduce lawn, plant natives
4. Avoid pesticides
5. Drink bird-friendly coffee
6. Protect our planet from plastics
7. Watch birds, share what you see

“Government Leadership
On Bird Conservation
Desperately Needed”



Bird Friendly City: A Certification Program

North American bird populations are decreasing at alarming rates. Help us reverse this trend with coordinated, science-backed action.



Partners and Funders

- National Partners:



- Funders:



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada

The Gosling Foundation

Better Organizations for Nature Project



The
McLean
Foundation

How do we reverse human impact?

1

Threat Reduction

Reduce threats to birds through educational and regulatory measures to create more opportunities for birds to survive and thrive.

2

Habitat Protection, Restoration, and Climate Resiliency

Factor in the well-being of birds and communities when planning urban development projects to ensure that habitat conservation and restoration are prioritized.

3

Community Outreach and Education

Officially recognizing and celebrating days like World Migratory Bird Day will allow communities to celebrate birds and the diverse places they call home.

How is this work accomplished?

- Formation of a bird team
 - Strictly volunteer
 - Inclusive, diverse, and accessible
 - Engage the public to drive political action
- Complete initial certification application to Nature Canada
- Annual reports following certification

Criteria scoring explained:

3 categories for scoring:

- ① 1.1 – 1.7 Threat Reduction (entry level: 7 points needed)
- ② 2.1 – 2.6 Habitat Protection, Restoration, Climate Resiliency (entry level: 6 points needed)
- ③ 3.1 – 3.7 Community Outreach/Education (entry level: 5 points needed)

3 levels of certification:



Example of certification criteria:

THREAT REDUCTION

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.

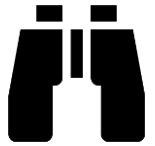
Goal of the program:

- Provides a clear standard of what a city needs to do to make it safe for birds
- Certification is a tool that allows for:
 - independent assessment (community-led reporting)
 - performance assessment in key areas (evidence-based)
 - measurement of progress over time
 - comparison with other cities/municipalities

Why certification?



Badge of honour and source of community pride



Ecotourism– Uxbridge as a birding destination



Join the growing movement and network of Bird Friendly Cities across Canada



Access to small grants



Feather Friendly discounts

Join other neighbouring communities in certification!



- **Peterborough** – entry level (April 2022)
- **King Township** – entry level (Jan 2023)
- **Vaughan** – level unknown (June 2023)
- **Selwyn Township** – entry level (Sept 2023)
- **City of Kawartha Lakes** – application in progress

Work successfully completed through Bird Friendly Selwyn:



- Avoid over-lighting with new LED lighting (<3000K)
- Downshield essential exterior lighting
- Turn off interior lighting
- Turn off exterior decorative lighting
- Install motion sensors wherever possible

Work successfully completed through Bird Friendly Selwyn:



Carly Davenport 
Aug 25, 2023 · 1 min



Feather Friendly window treatment now up on Lakefield branch of the Selwyn Public...

Have you noticed anything new at the Lakefield branch of the Selwyn Public Library? Volunteers from Bird Friendly Selwyn's Bird Team...

14 views 1 comment

2 

Work successfully completed through Bird Friendly Selwyn:



 Carly Davenport 
Aug 25, 2023 · 1 min



Help us keep old fishing line out of the environment

Earlier this summer Bird Friendly Selwyn donated two 'Clear Your Gear' fishing line recycling receptacles to Selwyn Township. One was...

22 views 0 comments



Work successfully completed through Bird Friendly Selwyn:

Do you recall our advocacy for the construction of the proposed Rogers tower at the Lakefield sewage lagoons

to occur in compliance with MBR, 2022, to avoid negative impact on birds?



Scroll through →

Below is the positive response received from Rogers following our letter writing campaign:

Rogers has been in contact with representatives within the Wildlife Enforcement Directorate at ECCC, to better understand Rogers' responsibilities and general management best practices - in order to protect natural habitats during construction, particularly species at risk. →

In addition to avoiding construction activity during the prime nesting season (identified as April to early July), it was recommended that Rogers engage a Wildlife Management Consultant to survey the area prior to construction in order to identify active/abandoned nests, and that Rogers follow any recommended mitigation measures.

Rogers commits to following this guidance. →

WE BELIEVE SELWYN TOWNSHIP CAN EXPAND AND IMPROVE INFRASTRUCTURE, AND STILL BE BIRD FRIENDLY!



Future Bird Friendly Selwyn work:



Applied for Nature Canada Bird Friendly City small grants to undertake a 2024 update to Imagine the Marsh Wetland Report

Table 1. Summary Budget

| Item | Estimated Cost | In-kind support | Amount Requested |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Update to Wetland Evaluation | | | |
| Labour | \$7,910.00 | \$4,410.00 | \$3,500.00 |
| Materials | \$400.00 | \$400.00 | - |
| Surveys (approx. 10 people, 3 dates) | | | |
| Labour (@ \$18.00/hour, 8 hour days) | \$4,320.00 | \$4,320.00 | - |
| Materials | \$1,200.00 | \$1,200.00 | - |
| Gas (@ \$20.00/day) | \$600.00 | - | \$600.00 |
| Volunteer Refreshments (@\$20.00/day) | \$600.00 | - | \$600.00 |
| Water Quality Testing | | | |
| Sampling | \$32.00 | \$32.00 | - |
| Probe rental | \$300.00 | - | \$300.00 |
| Project Deliverables | | | |
| Analysis and Reporting | \$630.00 | \$630.00 | - |
| Creation and design of biophysical inventory checklists for publication | \$450.00 | \$450.00 | - |
| Graphical resources for web | \$270.00 | \$270.00 | - |
| Blog entry creation (x3 @ \$18.00/hour) | \$54.00 | \$54.00 | - |
| Community wetland survey | \$90.00 | \$90.00 | - |
| Total | \$16,856 | \$11,856.00 | \$5,000.00 |

Community support for Bird Friendly Uxbridge:



Uxbridge's
Environmental
Advisory
Committee

Request for Action:

That Council consider endorsing the Bird Friendly Uxbridge Team's application to Nature Canada to seek certification to designate Uxbridge as a 'Bird Friendly City' to achieve the following three goals:

- ① Reduce human-related threats to birds
- ② Habitat protection, restoration, and climate resiliency
- ③ Community outreach/education

Scan this for the companion guide:



Email me: carlydavenport@trentu.ca

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