

MEMBER'S RESOLUTION

Committee of the Whole (2) Report

DATE: Tuesday, June 21, 2022

TITLE: BIRD FRIENDLY CITY AND WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY

FROM:

Councillor Tony Carella

Whereas, in the last 50 years, North American bird populations have dropped by more than 25% and three million birds, including species that live in towns and cities, are gone due to predation by domestic cats and car and window collisions;

Whereas, birds play an essential role as pollinators, and in maintaining healthy and resilient ecosystems;

Whereas, 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;

Whereas, on May 17, 2022, Council endorsed that the Sustainability Metric IB-1 Bird-Safe Design Standards be a requirement for all new private and City-owned developments;

Whereas, the City is currently executing bird-friendly activities related to threat reduction, habitat protection and restoration, and community outreach and education; and

Whereas, World Migratory World Day is an annual awareness campaign highlighting the need for conservation of migratory birds and their habitat, and celebrating World Migratory World Day is a mandatory criteria the City must fulfill in order to be Bird Friendly City certified.

It is therefore recommended:

1. That Council endorse the City's efforts to be a certified Bird Friendly City through Nature Canada, and staff be directed to submit an application to Nature Canada;
2. That World Migratory Bird Day be proclaimed on an annual basis on the second Saturday of May;
3. That the proclamation be posted on the City's website and staff be directed to promote the proclamation, and execute a World Migratory Bird Day event, as appropriate; and
4. That staff be directed to undertake activities to uphold the Bird Friendly City status, including creating a Bird Team that includes community members and stakeholders and providing an annual report card to Nature Canada on activities related to the City's Bird Friendly City status.

Attachments

1. World Migratory Bird Day Proclamation