

## MOTION ON NOTICE

### 2. The Pollinator Project

MOVER: Commissioner Sharma

SECONDER:

#### WHEREAS:

1. Bumble bees, honey bees, butterflies, and other pollinators provide essential ecosystem services by pollinating crops, backyard gardens, fruit trees, and native plants.
2. Honeybee health is declining across North America and many of our native pollinators are susceptible to the same adverse affects of industrial agriculture, urbanisation, disease, and pesticide use.
3. Many parks in Vancouver are inhospitable to pollinators because of predominance of frequently maintained turf areas, lack of native plants, and loss of overwintering habitats.
4. The Park Board's Local Food Action Plan includes actions supporting pollinators and community gardens provide important pollinator habitat.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- A. Staff be directed to develop strategies for supporting pollinators in priority Vancouver parks and streets as part of the Biodiversity Strategy and Urban Forest Strategy.
- B. Staff be directed to work with stewardship groups, community gardeners, and others to raise public awareness about the value of pollinators, facilitate habitat enhancement projects, and assess and monitor pollinator populations.
- C. Staff be directed to work with the VanDusen Botanical Garden Association, Environmental Youth Alliance, Hives for Humanity and other groups to develop a brand for promoting pollinators across the city in spring 2014.
- D. Staff be directed to begin to test methods in 2014 for enhancing pollinators in parks such as creating unmowed meadows, planting flowering trees and shrubs, using more native plants in park planting, and restoring overwintering habitats.
- E. Staff be directed to work with other City departments to enhance pollinators in streets and development sites.
- F. Staff be directed to provide an update to the Board in spring 2015.

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