



# Beekeeping in Urban Settings

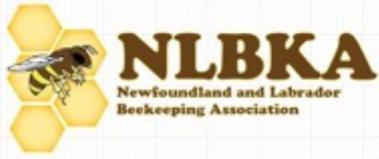


# About the NLBKA

- Our Association Nov 2014 Started with 35 – growing – over 120
- Aim is to support beekeepers and protect native pollinators
- Keep out Diseases
- Education
- Cooperating with Farmers and Towns
- Develop a  
honey bee industry



**NLBKA**  
Newfoundland and Labrador  
Beekeeping Association



# Newfoundland Honey Bees

- Most of “our” honey bees are from the Skinner lineage – Wally Skinner, Andrea Skinner, Paige Marchant, and Alison van Alten . From bees imported from Nova Scotia
- 1980 import restrictions.
- The Skinners have been keeping bees here on the West Coast since the 1970’s.

After a lot of careful breeding, our bees are:

- *Apis mellifera ligustica* (Italian)
- gentle
- winter-hardy
- smaller winter numbers, economical re. winter stores
- fast build-up in spring
- good honey producer
- resistance
- Varroa free!

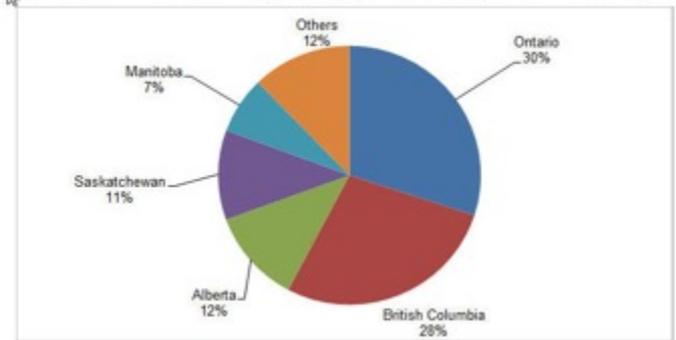




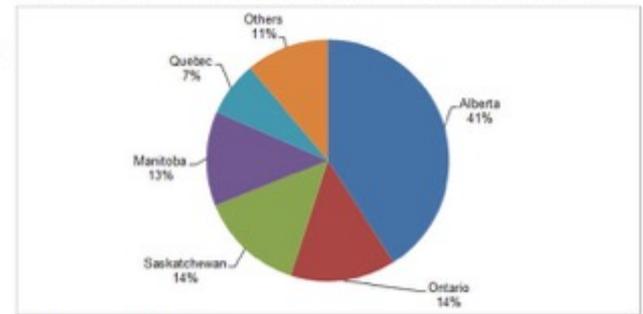
# Newfoundland in the Canadian Context

	# Beekeepers	# Colonies
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2015</b>
PEI	45	4,005
NS	395	23,776
NB	291	6,710
QUE	315	53,000
ON	2,562	101,135
MAN	607	90,909
SK	955	101,000
AB	1,000	295,000
BC	2,363	45,571
<b>CANADA</b>	<b>8,533</b>	<b>721,106</b>

1.2. Number of beekeepers by province – percent share, 2015



1.4. Number of colonies by province – percent share, 2015



► Description of above image

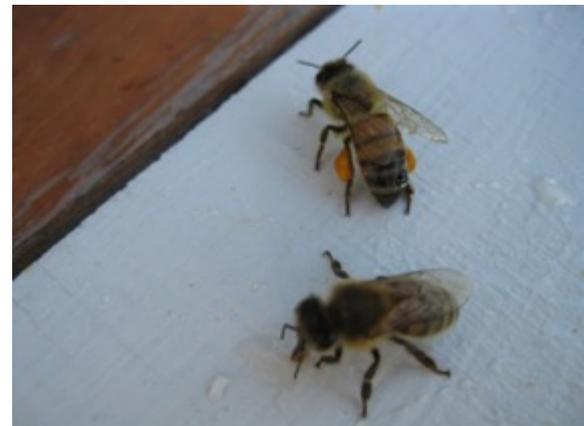
Source: Statistics Canada (CANSIM Table 001-0007)

Newfoundland ~40 beeyards ~500 colonies. 1 beekeeper in Labrador.



# Benefits of Honey Bees

- Bees travel up to 3 km so they can help many backyard gardens.
- Increased Pollination throughout a neighbourhood
- The presence of experienced beekeepers in your town can lead to help with capturing swarms and explaining the life cycles of other bees.
- Local honey and other products become available.
- Concerns about food security are leading a resurgence in backyard and community gardens.
- Beekeeping fits with these trends.





# What do we keep them in?

**Top Bar Hives**



**Langstroth Hives**



**These are the most common types.**

**Hives must have removable frames to allow for inspections**



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# Rules and Regulations

## PROVINCIAL

- Encourages beekeepers to register their hives.
- Most interested in commercial production

## MUNICIPALITIES/COMMUNITIES

- Many cities around the world have developed regulations for keeping bees. It is a Proactive Step to work with beekeepers.
- Mount Pearl is the first City in Newfoundland to develop bylaws.



# Bylaws Template

## TEMPLATE FOR URBAN BEEKEEPING REGULATIONS

June, 2017

In December 2016 The City of Mount Pearl passed an amendment to their regulations to outline conditions for keeping beehives within the city boundaries.

The regulations were developed in consultation with the Newfoundland and Labrador Beekeeping Association (NLBKA). Mount Pearl gave permission for other municipalities to use this template, developed from their amendment to develop their own set of regulations.

The NLBKA is happy to provide advice or meet with communities interested in the template.

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# Bylaws Template

## **Beehive (short form)**

A beehive use shall be subject to the following conditions:

- For backyards in a city lot a maximum of two (2) beehives may be kept for each subject property;
- A beehive will be installed in the rear yard of the subject property;
- Beehives shall be a minimum of (3.75 m) from any property boundary;
- Fencing, hedging, or other suitable barrier with a minimum height of (1.83 m) shall be established to direct bees away from neighbouring buildings; and
- The entrance of the beehive shall be aimed away from neighbouring buildings;
- A water source shall be provided for the bees on the same property as the beehive(s);
- The individual proposing to install and maintain the beehive shall submit written confirmation that the individual is trained in the keeping of bees or will be mentored by an existing beekeeper who has more than two (2) years' experience caring for bees in Newfoundland and Labrador;
- The beehive structure shall be a type with moveable frames that are easily removed for visual inspection without causing damage to the frames or comb;



# Bylaws Template

- The NLBKA thanks the City of Mount Pearl for their cooperation in developing this bylaw amendment.
- The Template is available through MNL and also from the Beekeeping Association
- We strongly advise communities that wish to implement beekeeping bylaws to consult with our association and with local beekeepers so that your bylaws suit your community. Some have larger lots, and more rural sections where beekeepers could have more than two hives.
- Making the regulations “friendly “ means that more beekeepers will register.
- If a few communities that are in close proximity decide to work on this together, and wish to contact our Association we will try to get a representative out to work with you .
- The NLBKA thanks MNL for their co-operation in getting this information out to its member communities.



# Native Pollinators

OTHER WAYS FOR COMMUNITIES  
TO ENJOY BEES:  
40 native species



*Bombus fernaldi* – B. Hicks



*B. vagus bolsteri* – B Hicks



*Bombus ternarius* – C Walsh

- Learn to recognize some of the native species in your yard
- Look for their nests
- Avoid using pesticides
- Plant bee friendly gardens, both flower and vegetable

# What Else is Bee Friendly?

You can bee friendly by doing less!

- ❖ Mow less
- ❖ Let the dandelions grow and flower
- ❖ Use fewer pesticides and herbicides  
(none is great!)
- ❖ Identify the homes of solitary bees  
and LEAVE THEM BEE!
- ❖ Buy local honey and products.





**THANK YOU**

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