

Welcome to the 5th Southern Ontario Bee Researchers Symposium! The event, dubbed BeeCon by its organizers, is hosted this year at York University. BeeCon is free and provides an opportunity for local melittologists, and students in particular, to meet and discuss their work. Presentations cover a wide range of bee-related topics, with many of this year's talks focussing on bee behaviour and conservation.

This year's BeeCon was organized by Sheila Colla and Brock Harpur

This year's BeeCon was generously sponsored by the following:













8:30-9:00	Coffee and Light Snacks	
8:55-9:00	Introduction	
9:00-9:20	Adaptive evolution of queen versus worker traits depends on degree of sociality in bees	Brock Harpur & Amro Zayed
9:20-9:40	Best Practices for Bee Bioinformatics	Clement Kent, Brock Harpur, & Amro Zayed
9:40-10:00	Unrelated social groups in the eastern carpenter bee: competition for nesting resources and direct fitness benefits	Jess Vickruck & Miriam Richards
10:00-10:20	Ovarian development and vitellogenin gene expression in a eusocial sweat bee, <i>Lasioglossum laevissimum</i>	David Neil Awde
10:20-10:55	Coffee Break	
11:00-11:20	A pheromone-responsive mechanism for worker sterility in honey bees	Graham Thompson
11:20-11:40	Interaction between clothianidin and <i>Varroa</i> destructor on honey bee grooming behaviour	Nuria Morfin
11:40-12:00	Honey bee and native bee use of common cover crops	Vicki Wojcik
12:00-12:20	The Squash Bee: A Study in Agroecology for Ontario	Sue Willis Chan
12:20-12:40	Pesticide impacts on bumblebees: from individual behaviour to pollination services	Nigel Raine
12:40-1:20	Lunch	
1:20-1:40	There goes the neighbourhood? Socioeconomic implications for urban bee diversity	Scott MacIvor & Laurence Packer
1:40-2:00	BumbleBeeWatch.org: citizen scientists gather data across North America, with implications for policy and action	Victoria MacPhail & Sheila Colla
2:00-2:20	The Ecological Relevance of Pollinator "Intelligence": Taxonomic, Demographic, and Geographic Patterns of Cognitive Traits in Bumblebees	Harry Rusnock
2:20-2:40	Stalking a stem nesting bee: a holistic approach to wild bee habitat and nutrition	Sandra Rehan
2:40-2:55	Coffee Break	
3:00-3:20	Rapid initial recovery and long-term persistence of bee communities in restored habitat	Miriam Richards
3:20-3:40	Delving deeper: Questioning the decline of long-tongued bumble bees, long-tubed flowers and their mutualisms with climate change	Charlotte de Keyzer
3:40-4:00	Sampling decisions when bee species density is high	Bob Minckley
4:00-4:05	"Apiary World" – Short video	Ruth Tait
An evening reception will be held at 6:30pm at Granite Pub (Walking distance from Eglinton Station)		