PRESS RELEASE

Ville de Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue

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For immediate release

SAINTE-ANNE-DE-BELLEVUE UNVEILS ITS EMBLEMATIC BIRD, THE PILEATED WOODPECKER

Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue, September 15, 2023 - The City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue is proud to announce the choice of its emblematic bird: the Pileated Woodpecker. The choice of an emblematic bird is part of the City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue's commitment as a *Bird Friendly City*.

In 2022, Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue became the first municipality in the province of Quebec, and thirteenth in Canada to obtain Nature Canada's *Bird Friendly City* certification. This designation is given in recognition of the City's commitment to implement policies and actions that aim to create a welcoming environment for wild birds to thrive in.

To achieve consensus, the involvement of citizens was essential to the process. To that end, a two-phase questionnaire was submitted to citizens in recent weeks. At the end of the process, the municipal council met to compile the results. The Pileated Woodpecker was thus designated as the emblematic bird of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue.

The official announcement of the choice of an emblematic bird was made under a radiant sun on September 9th, during the ninth edition of *Naturally Sainte-Anne*. For the occasion, Paola Hawa, Mayor of the City, Gabriel Vézina, Recreation Coordinator, and Ryan Young, City Councillor, were present to share this news with the citizens. Following the announcement, banners were installed across the city to celebrate this recognition.

For more information on the process and on Nature Canada's *Bird Friendly City* certification, please visit our dedicated web page <u>here</u>.

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Source: City of Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue



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