Municipality

Tantramar, NB

Mayor Andrew Black

Pledge Summary

Tantramar is a Municipality in Southeastern New Brunswick, Canada, with a population just less than 10,000 people. The community is on the Bay of Fundy, and is home to many significant natural assets. In 2022, it became the first city in North America to achieve Ramsar accreditation as a site with internationally significant wetlands. Andrew Black, Mayor of Tantramar, has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with the signing of the Mayors' Monarch pledge, and he looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitats throughout the Municipality.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Communications and Convening

- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)
- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Andrew Black	2026	5/1/2026	
Mayor Andrew Black	2025	7/15/2025	Leadership Circle

Action Items

In total, how many individuals have been reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan-Dec)? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

100

Of the total number of individuals engaged, how many youth (0-18) were reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan. - Dec.)? If none, please write 0." (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.)

40

In total, how many acres of monarch habitat have been created in your city in the last 12 months? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 3). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0.15

Where was the habitat created this year? Example locations may include residences, schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, shared public spaces, and more.

right of way/roadside (on our Bridge Street)

How are you leveraging the Mayors' Monarch Pledge program to engage marginalized communities, such as low-income communities or communities of color?

We are making all of our programming open to everyone and we are promoting it well.

What was your community's motivation for taking and continuing to work on the Mayors' Monarch Pledge?

Valuing biodiversity and pollinators in the region

What resources have been most helpful to you thus far and what new resources would you like to see to help meet your goals? What resources would be useful to

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help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

We are new to this so we're still getting our feet wet. All of the resources so far have been helpful.

What else should we know about your monarch butterfly conservation efforts over the last year?

We are developing good partnerships with Nature NB and EOS Eco-Energy

Selected Action Items

Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).

We read the monarch pledge (and had signage for it) at the launching of our new Quarry Park. It was also read out at a Town Council meeting in October. We are developing a new communication plan and will be part of that as well. We are also a Bee City and we're exploring becoming a Bird City so we will incorporate all designations in our communications plans.

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

We are working with Nature NB and EOS Eco-Energy to plant milkweeds and other nectar-producing plants. Nature NB supplied milkweed seeds to us for our Dorchester site, and supplied 20 seed packets to participants at our Quarry Park opening. There are also Monarchs and milkweed sign at our popular community garden.

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

EOS Eco-energy Sackville Community Garden Nature NB

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Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions/maintenance implemented for mowing or planting programs.

We are working with Nature NB and EOS Eco-Energy to plant milkweeds and other nectar-producing plants. Nature NB supplied milkweed seeds to us for our Dorchester site, and supplied 20 seed packets to participants at our Quarry Park opening. There are also Monarchs and milkweed sign at our popular community garden. We only entered the program in late summer 2025, so mowing adaptations for 2026 are now being considered.

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)

We have a rooftop garden at out Municipal Building (Town Hall) and we also encourage planting at our popular local community garden.

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

Nature NB, EOS Eco-energy

What is the size of the demonstration garden (in acres)? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 0.5 acres). For reference, 1 acre = 43,560 square feet and is about the size of a football field without the end zones. Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0.5

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

Canadian Wildlife Service; EOS Eco-energy; Nature NB; Ducks unlimited; Tantramar

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

Bee Community; Ramsar Designated Wetland

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Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

Nature NB, EOS Eco-energy

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

100

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

At the launch of our Quarry Park and at Sandpiper Days in Dorchester

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

3

Please describe the educational information on the sign(s), and provide any links to externally purchased sign(s).

Quarry Park; Town Hall rooftop garden; Sackville Community Garden.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.

There has been no action on this yet but it is being considered for the future.

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

Nature NB

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

in progress

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If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

in progress

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

Mowing plans are considered by our Public Works Department over the winter months for implementation when the next mowing season (usually early May) begins. We will be working with that Department over the winter to help them to improve their mowing plans as per this action item. There is also discussion in our Municipality about lawn length and other related things (which would effect native prairie and plant habitats). We have elections in May of 2026, so this might be an issue and might be followed up accordingly in 2026 (or sometime after that).

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

Nature NB, EOS Eco-energy; Tantramar staff and consultants

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

in progress

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

in progress

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

We are currently working on a Climate Change Adaptation Plan which will be ready in 2027. We're also implementing our Corporate Strategic Plan (from now until 2029). Neither document explicitly mentions monarch butterfly conservation, but they do include protection of wetlands and native species and other things that would be helpful in protecting monarch butterflies.

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