CENTRAL ALBERTA

Foothills
Alpine
Boreal
Parkland
Grassland

A note on the Visual Guide:

- All bumble bees are in the genus Bombus (denoted by 'B.' in the Guide and followed by the species name).
- Cuckoo bees (Bombus Psithyrus) act as nest parasites of bumble bees and have a similar appearance.
- Some bumble bee species have multiple colour variants, denoted by V1 and V2 in the Guide.
- Workers (females) usually have similar coloration but are smaller than Queens.
- Males, which are similar in size to workers, often have different coloration and have one more abdominal and antennal segment than workers and Queens.

This is not a comprehensive list of bumble bees of Central Alberta. Other colour variants and species may be found.

2023
albertanativebeecouncil.ca

HOW CAN YOU HELP OUR BUMBLEBEES?

- Plant flowers (preferably native species) with large patches of individual species & a variety that will bloom throughout the season.
- Build a bumble bee house and report back annually through our Bumble Bee Box Monitoring Program.
- Avoid or minimize the use of pesticides.
- Be aware that keeping honey bees does not support native bee conservation and may even harm native bees.
- Take up 'bee watching' and report bumble bee sightings to BumbleBeeWatch.org or iNaturalist.
- Support the Alberta Native Bee Council, the Alberta Native Plant Council or other non-profit organizations by becoming a member or purchasing merchandise!

NATIVE BEES ARE IMPORTANT!

- The agricultural sector relies on wild pollinators to produce nutritional and economic benefits for people.
- Native bees are also a critical part of natural systems where they pollinate plants that are food and habitat for wildlife.
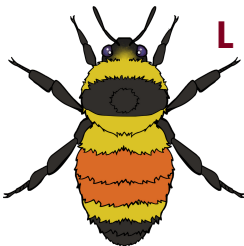

ALBERTA NATIVE BEE COUNCIL
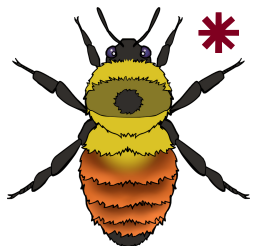

Visual Guide to the
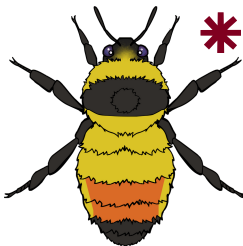## BUMBLE BEES OF CENTRAL ALBERTA

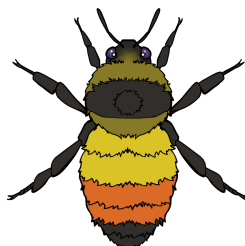# BUMBLE BEES OF CENTRAL ALBERTA
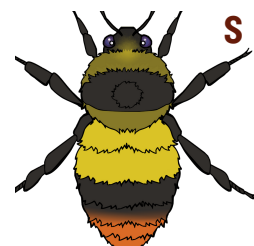
❋
B. ternarius

L
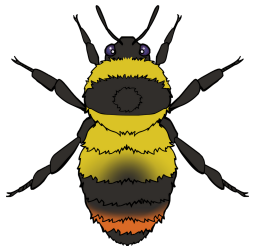*B. huntii*

❋
B. rufocinctus V1
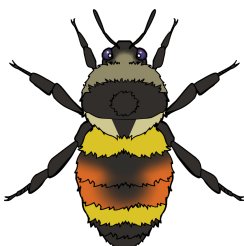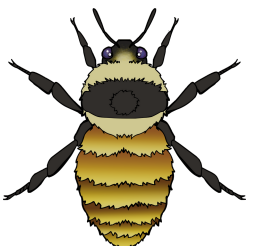
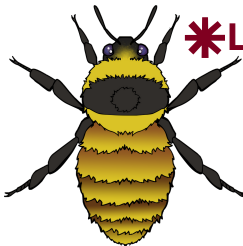*❋*
B. centralis
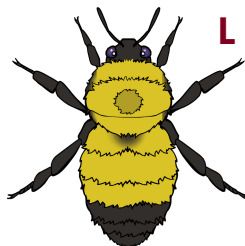
B. flavifrons V1
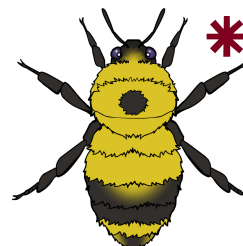
S
B. melanopygus
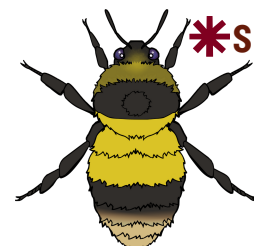
S
B. mixtus V1

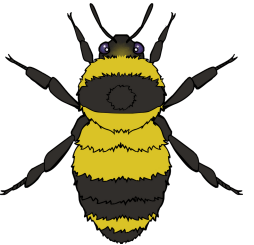*B. frigidus*

B. vancouverensis V1

B. appositus

❋L
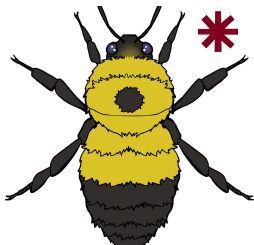*B. borealis*

L
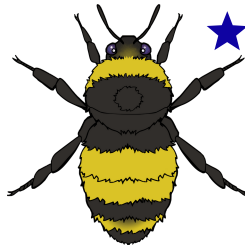*B. nevadensis*

❋
B. rufocinctus V2
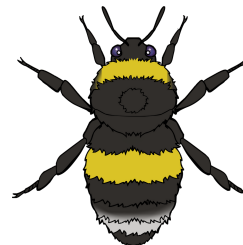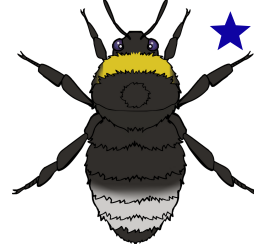
❋S
B. mixtus V2

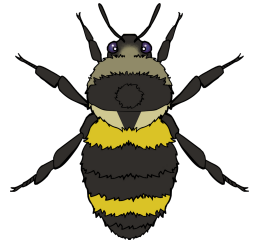*B. sandersoni*

B. perplexus
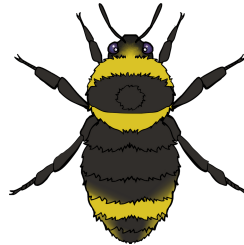
❋
B. vagans

B. flavifrons V2

★
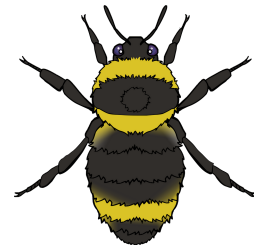*B. terricola*

B. cryptarum

★
B. occidentalis

B. vancouverensis V2
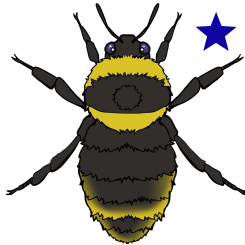
CUCKOO BEES Subgenus Psithyrus

B. insularis

B. flavidus
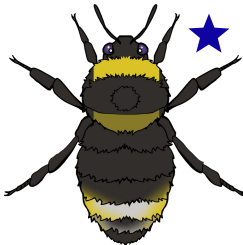
★
B. bohemicus

★
B. suckleyi

Legend

S Small Bodied

L Large Bodied

❋ Common

★ At Risk

Scan here for more information: