



Each spring, the hives that are part of MacEwan's Urban Beekeeping Project are unwrapped for the season.

Tuesday, April 21, 2026

It's time to unwrap the hives: MacEwan University celebrates Earth Day by marking ten years of its Urban Beekeeping Project

Edmonton – MacEwan University is proud to mark the tenth anniversary of its Urban Beekeeping Project.

Since 2016, the hives on the roof of Building 5 of the downtown campus have served as an important part of the university's commitment to sustainability.

To increase the chances of surviving the winter months, the hives are wrapped with insulation so the bees can remain comfortable and the queen can begin to lay eggs in spite of the cold temperatures.

On Earth Day, MacEwan's certified beekeeper will be joined by project volunteers to unwrap the hives and to prepare for the upcoming season.

The Urban Beekeeping Project has grown over the years. There are now eight hives after originally starting with four. The harvested honey is sold in the bookstore every year and is always in great demand, and there is even a Griffins Beer served at the university's Towers Pub. The honey lager is quite popular and a portion of the sale of each pint goes towards student awards.

The students who are selected to be volunteers for the project also receive formal recognition of their contributions through the Student Experience Record.

Troy Donovan, MacEwan's beekeeper (and full-time senior analyst with IT security), will host a short presentation as the hives are unwrapped for 2026.

Media are invited to attend:

Wednesday, April 22

12:30 p.m. (meet at the doors to Building 5 on 105th Street)

1:00 p.m. (program begins on the roof of Building 5)

105th Street and 104th Avenue

Edmonton

For more information, please contact archerj24@macewan.ca

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University inspires its students with a powerful combination of academic excellence and personal learning experiences. Offering more than 90 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training, the university provides a transformative education in a creative, collaborative and supportive learning environment where creativity and innovation thrive. Located in Edmonton, Alberta Canada, MacEwan University offers a unique student experience that opens up diverse pathways for achievement and growth.