

### COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM – COLLECTIVITÉS EN FLEURS

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#### What is Communities in Bloom?



Communities in Bloom is a Canadian non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through the enhancement of green spaces in community settings.

### History



Established with the guidance of Britain in Bloom, Tidy Towns of Ireland and Villes et Villages Fleuris de France, Communities in Bloom held its first edition in 1995 and 29 participating municipalities were honoured at the first awards ceremonies on Parliament Hill. The program now includes more than 500 communities across the country and an international challenge involving communities from the United States, Japan and several European countries allows participants to compete internationally.

#### Program

The program consists of communities receiving information and being evaluated either provincially or nationally by a volunteer jury of trained professionals on the accomplishments of their entire community (municipal, private, corporate and institutional sectors, citizens) on seven key criteria: Tidiness, Environmental Action, Heritage Conservation, Urban Forestry, Landscape, Floral Displays and Community Involvement.

#### **Program Benefits**



Communities will be able to gain from numerous benefits through participation in the Communities in Bloom program, including:

Green & Sustainable Initiatives

Best Practices & Information Exchange Valuable Feedback from the judges

**CiB Foundation** 

Environmental Leadership

Tourism Development Marketing and promotional opportunities

Funding initiatives

Community
Involvement &
Civic Pride

Year-round projects

Access to a network of Information

#### **Program Philosophy**



## PEOPLE - PLANTS - PRIDE

**Growing Together** 

# **Building Better Communities**

- Liveable
- Enjoyable
- Diverse

- Green
- Sustainable
- Healthy

#### **Communities in Bloom Program**



# **Evaluation Categories**

- Landscape
- Urban Forestry
- Floral Displays

- Tidiness
- Environmental Actions
- Heritage Conservation
- Community Involvement

### LANDSCAPE INITIATIVES



All efforts to create and improve the landscape environment and green spaces, both urban and rural. Covers initiatives from parks to playgrounds and playing fields to civic spaces and streetscapes







2015 Sun Rivers Resort Community BC

2014 Trail BC

2013 Southwest Middlesex ON



### **URBAN FORESTRY**



Efforts made with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree management (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, tree replacement policies, tree inventory, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees.



2015 Charlottetown PE



2014 Drummondville QC



2013 Brandon, MB



#### **FLORAL DISPLAYS**



Efforts made by the municipality, businesses and institutions, and residential sectors of the community to plan and maintain floral displays of high quality standards. Evaluation includes the design and arrangements of flowers and plants in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, color, and harmony. This pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.



2015 Rosemère QC



2014 Stratford ON



2013 Boissevain MB



#### **TIDINESS**



Overall tidiness effort made by the municipality, businesses, institutions, and residents of the community. Elements for evaluation are green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets, municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties, ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots and buildings and signage, with regards to weeds, maintenance and repair, graffiti and vandalism.



2015 Castlegar BC



2014 Stettler AB



2013 Sun Rivers Resort Community BC

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS**



Efforts and achievement by the municipality, businesses, institutions, and residents of the community, with respect to: policies, by-laws and best practices, 3-R initiatives (reduce/reuse/recycle), waste reduction, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, naturalization, environmental stewardship activities, and environmentally friendly transportation, under the guiding principles of sustainable development.







2015 Brandon MB

2014 Wood Buffalo AB

2013 Yarmouth NS

### **HERITAGE CONSERVATION**



Efforts made to preserve the natural and cultural heritage within their community. Priority is given to natural heritage, as well as the integration of landscape and streetscapes as it pertains to the built heritage of a community.







2015 Grand Falls-Windsor NL

2014 Millet AB

2013 Jasper AB



#### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**



Public involvement in various community programs and projects, focused on the recognition of volunteers.

Volunteer efforts have a significant impact.







2015 Jasper AB

2014 Strathcona County AB

2013 Qualicum Beach, BC



### **Communities in Bloom Program**



# **Outstanding Achievement Awards**

### YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AWARD



To recognize community involvement in projects which engage youth. Entries should relate the measurable impact of Youth Involvement on the community.



2015 Stettler AB



2014 Killarney-Turtle Mountain, MB



2013 Wood Buffalo, AB



### **COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS AWARD**



To recognize collective Community Involvement in gardening, floral and horticulture projects.





2015 Edmonton AB

2014 Summerside PE

2013 Goderich, ON



### LAND RECLAMATION AWARD



The park/garden/green space will have been an area for which the community was looking for new perspectives.



2015 Yarmouth NS



2014 Brandon, MB



2013 Palmerston Lions Heritage Park Minto, ON



### **WINTERLIFE AWARD**



To recognize efforts and involvement in projects and initiatives which engage the community with indoor and outdoor activities and programs during the winter season



2014 Edmonton AB



2013 Charlottetown PE





# Why get involved?



#### WHY GET INVOLVED



### **Promoting pride...**

Celebrating

Acknowledging

Showcasing your achievements





#### WHY GET INVOLVED



**\*** Encourage consumers to plant

**Promote your trade** 

**\*** Create relationships

\* Network with stakeholders



#### **COMMENTS**





Excellent program to engage multiple aspects of a community and provide a forum to promote teamwork towards a common goal."

Jeremy Gammon, MARLANT, Nova Scotia

"Like many other small communities, Hampton depends heavily on its volunteers to get the job done. There is a real sense of accomplishment generated in the community, a 'yes we can' attitude." Laurie Mills - Hampton, New Brunswick





The networking opportunities that CIB provides through its website, national sponsors, info packages, judges visits along with the awards ceremonies."

Dean Dietrich - Neepawa, Manitoba

Increase awareness of the beautification program and its benefits to the environment, the community and the quality of life of its residents

Create opportunities for citizen participation.



#### **LOCAL CONTESTS**



#### **\*** Residential:

- Front yards
- Flower beds
- Balconies

### **Commercial**

- Hanging baskets
- Grounds
- Maintenance







# **Promoting Green Spaces**

- 1. Economic benefits
- 2. Environmental benefits
- 3. Public Health/Leisure benefits





#### PARKS AND GREEN SPACES



Within the actual context of global warming and environmental challenges, everyone involved in parks and green spaces are actually contributing to the solutions





#### **ENERGY SAVING ATTRIBUTES OF GREEN SPACES**

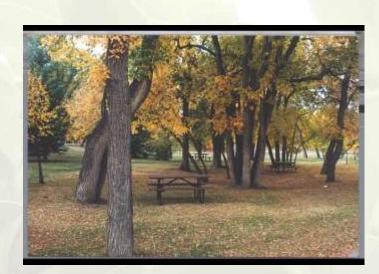


\*Effects of vegetation on Air Temperature

Tree groves: 5 C cooler than an open terrain

Grass sports field: 1 to 2 C cooler than parking lot

Source: Maco & McPherson, 2003



### **INCREASED PROPERTY VALUES**



- Market value of homes can increase up to 7%
- Resale values can be increased by 15% with landscape investment



#### **M**ULTIPLE **E**CONOMIC BENEFITS



#### **Tourism Benefits**

- 25% to 30% of adults visit a park while on a trip
- 36% of travellers identify parks and horticultural attraction as desired destinations





### **ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**



**Oygen production** 

**Reduces carbon footprints** 

#### **Pollution Amelioration**

- Absorption of gaseous pollutants
- Collection of dust, ash and other particulate matter





#### **ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS**



### **Water Management and Erosion Control**

 Wetlands and Green Space purify and retain water that would otherwise overload strom sewers

#### Wildlife Attraction, Preservation and Biodiversity

#### **Windbreaks and Noise Attenuation**





#### **HEALTH & LEISURE BENEFITS**



### Life satisfaction and Well-Being

- Exercice
- Health
- Connection with nature
- Community and social relations



### **Reduction in Agression and Violence**

Neighbourhoods with more green public spaces report fewer crimes

### **HEALTH & LEISURE BENEFITS**



#### **Fitness**

Gardening is considered a beneficial physical activity

#### **Parks and Recreation**

Scenery of parks has in impact on the level of use
 Plants provide the environment











#### **NATIONAL SPONSORS**

























#### **PARTNERS**















# International Challenge Défi international





Five Blooms "GOLD"

Outstanding Achievement Award







2015 Award Ceremony, Kamloops, Canada



# Glenarm Village, County of Antrim, Northern Ireland UK





# Village of Cehnice, Czech Republic



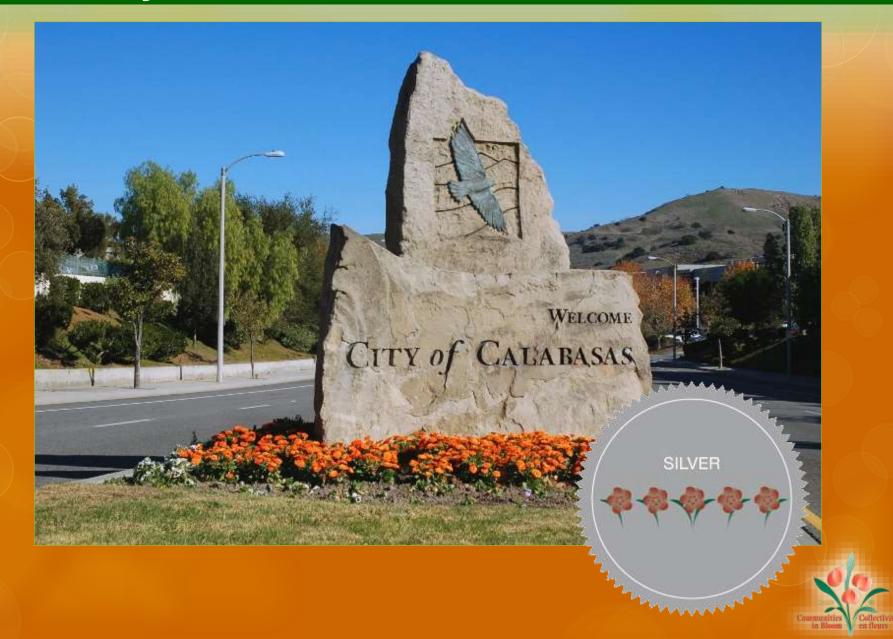




# Comune di Cervia, Italy



# City of Calabasas, California, USA



# Kilkenny City, Ireland



# City of Zlin, Czech Republic







