

Growing Together

GREAT PLACES

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Grow Your Way – Register for 2023
- GardensBC Link to New Website
- What are the Evaluation Criteria
- BC CiB Registration Form

GOLD SPONSORS:

URBAN
SYSTEMS

Teck

GREEN BUD SPONSOR

Equinox Environmental Products

NATIONAL CiB MAJOR SPONSOR

Scotts Canada

SUPPORTERS

BC Landscape & Nursery Association
BC Recreation & Parks Association
Invasive Species Council of BC

MEMBER OF

Gardens BC – [Blog Post](#)



British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

19951 FRASER HIGHWAY
LANGLEY, BC V3A 4E2
(604) 576-6506

www.bccib.ca

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS
[Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#)

[Newsletter Subscription Info](#)

REGISTER FOR 2023



Photo Credit: Angie Bailey, District of Sooke

CONNECTION

Collaborative process recognizes key contributors

PARTICIPATION

Engage citizens of all ages and abilities

BEAUTIFICATION

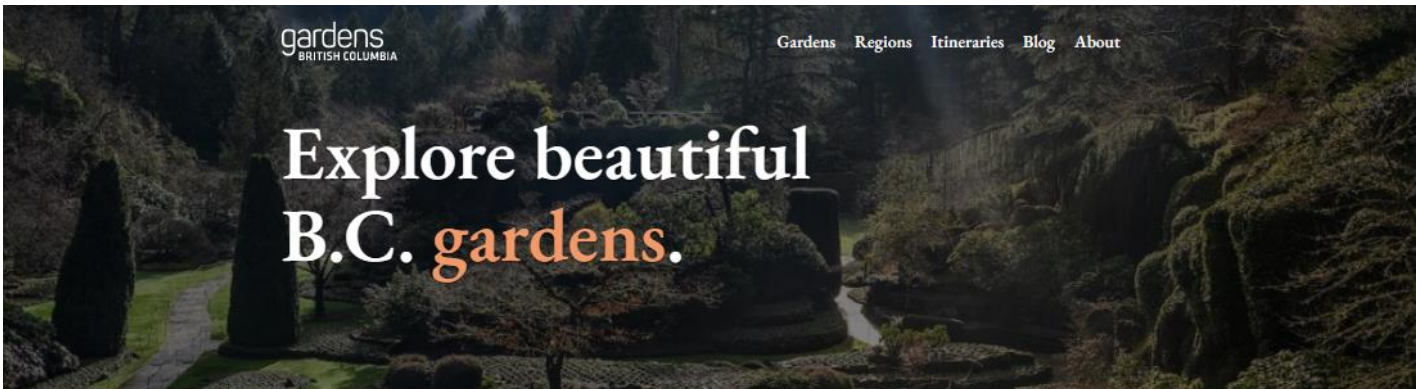
Enhance your community's quality of life



British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

"Clinton has enjoyed participating in CiB since 2005. The program brings people together and has helped us see our community through different eyes. By following the recommendations from the judges' evaluations, the overall look of the community has been improved and more people have become interested in environmental issues and how individuals can help make a difference. Our group works closely with the Village Public Works on many projects in the Village. This helps the limited village staff keep Clinton looking it's best. It's a great program for communities of all sizes."

Susan Swan, Chair, Clinton CiB Beautification Society (and former Mayor)



Connect with nature and explore British Columbia's gardens for fun, adventure, beauty, rejuvenation, relaxation, and learning.



Historic and modern gardens offer great trip ideas and itineraries. From rugged coastal rain forests to fertile valleys, from urban centres to mountains – many gardens are open year-round in BC. Bird watch, take photos, learn about biodiversity and sustainability, and enjoy immersive and unique garden experiences enjoyed by visitors every year. So many things to do and see in BC Gardens!



Discover all BC Gardens Itineraries

BC has no shortage of foliage and amazing gardens to explore. With so many options, sometimes you need a bit of help. That's where we come in. We have put together some curated itineraries for you to better explore the beautiful gardens BC has to offer.

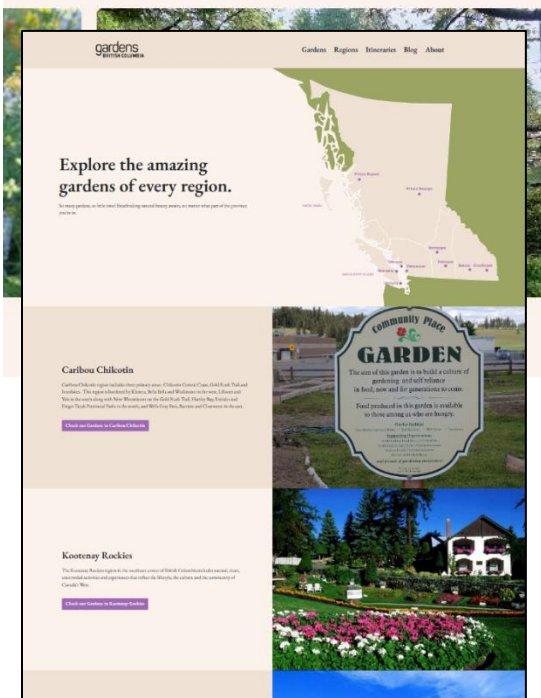
[Explore all the trails](#)



Featured Listings

Enjoy our Gardens BC featured gardens showcasing the amazing beauty and diversity of each season.

[View all Listings](#)



[Bloedel Conservatory >](#)



[Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden >](#)

[Check out the GardensBC website.](#)



Refresh your senses and immerse yourself in nature.

Discover an exciting diversity of beautiful garden experiences from botanical gardens, cultural gardens, National Historic Sites, arboreta, gardens with historical significance and royal connections, garden centres and nurseries, educational gardens, city and municipal public gardens, along with butterfly gardens and tropical wildlife sanctuaries. We have a garden for everyone to enjoy!





BC Communities in Bloom

From coastal tourist hotspots through to wide-open interior and forested northern towns, the British Columbia Communities in Bloom program provides a measurement of a community's desirability as a place to live, work and visit.



Bloedel Conservatory

Experience Bloedel Conservatory, a fun, family-friendly indoor attraction located at the peak of Vancouver in Queen Elizabeth Park.



Chilliwack Sunflower Festival

Chilliwack Sunflower Festival open August 10 to September 5, 2022!



Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden

Our mission is to maintain and enhance the bridge of understanding between Chinese-Canadian cultural heritage and Canada's diverse cultural mosaic through the tranquil space of a Classical Chinese Garden.



Hatley Park National Historic Site

Hatley Park: Majestic. Magnificent. Memorable.



Horticulture Centre of the Pacific

The Horticulture Centre of the Pacific (HCP) started with volunteers in 1979, today it is a hidden gem that captivates and inspires all year around, one of Canada's top garden treasures. "Come for a visit, leave feeling like one of the family."



Milner Gardens & Woodland

A one-of-a-kind woodland estate and gardens nestled in the peace that only an old-growth forest can provide; an oasis that rejuvenates the soul.



Minter Country Garden

18-acre destination garden store located in the scenic Fraser Valley. Open year round!



Naa'Waya'Sum Coastal Indigenous Gardens

Naa'Waya'Sum Coastal Indigenous Gardens are twelve acres of gardens, forest, and shoreline that explore the relationship between culture and nature.

Growing Great Places Together



The national **Communities in Bloom** (CiB-Cef) organization is a volunteer and partnership-driven charitable organization that uses a multi-tiered competitive evaluation process to foster community strength, involvement, and continuous improvement. This is accomplished by nurturing environmental sustainability, enhancements of green spaces, and heritage conservation, in cultural and natural environments encompassing municipal, residential, commercial, and institutional spaces. The program began in 1995 with 29 Canadian communities and has grown to improve the quality of life in hundreds of participating communities in the provincial, national and international editions.

The British Columbia Communities in Bloom (BC CiB) Society delivers the provincial edition of the program.

All communities are invited to start in the provincial edition, within their population category. Trained volunteer judges travel during preselected dates in the summer to evaluate registered participants and view the overall contributions of each sector (municipality, businesses/institutions, residents) including volunteer efforts in each of the program criteria.

What are the 6 Evaluated Program Criteria?

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE reflects an overall effort by each sector throughout the community to create great first impressions and a sense that there is continuous attention and upkeep to critical elements of a community that benefit quality of life and economic vitality. Elements for evaluation are: parks and green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets; municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties; ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots, signs and buildings; weed control, litter clean-up, graffiti prevention/removal and vandalism deterrent programs.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION pertains to the impact of human activities on the environment and the subsequent efforts and achievements of the community with respect to environmental stewardship, policies, by-laws, programs and best practices for waste reduction and landfill diversion, composting sites, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, energy conservation, and activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION includes efforts to preserve and protect both natural and cultural heritage within the community. Preservation of natural heritage pertains to policies, plans and actions concerning all elements of biodiversity including flora and fauna ecosystems and associated geological structures and formations. Cultural conservation represents the “persona” of a community and refers to the heritage that helps define the community including the legacy of tangible elements such as heritage buildings, monuments, memorials, cemeteries, artifacts, museums and intangible elements such as traditions, customs, festivals and celebrations.

TREE MANAGEMENT Woodlands, Canopy Management, Urban and Rural Forestry includes the efforts of each sector (municipal, business/institution, residential) with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree management protection (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, tree replacement policies, pollinator-friendly tree selection, tree inventory including heritage, memorial, and commemorative trees, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs.

LANDSCAPE includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of parks, green spaces and cemeteries suitable for the intended use and location on a year-round basis. Elements for evaluation include native and introduced materials; biodiversity, materials and constructed elements; appropriate integration of hard surfaces and art elements, use of turf and groundcovers. Landscape design should harmonize the interests of all sectors of the community and provide safe and secure public spaces. Standards of execution and maintenance should demonstrate best practices, including quality of naturalization, use of groundcovers and wildflowers along with turf management.

PLANT & FLORAL DISPLAYS evaluates the efforts of each sector to design, plan, execute, and maintain plant and floral displays of high-quality standards. Evaluation includes the design and arrangements of flowers and plants (annuals, perennials, bulbs, ornamental grasses, edible plants, water efficient and pollinator friendly plants) in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, colour, and harmony. It also pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.





Within the context of climate change and environmental concerns, all communities involved in the program can be proud of their efforts, which benefit all of society.



BC Communities in Bloom 2023 PROVINCIAL EDITION Registration Form

**REGISTRATION
DEADLINE:
April 14, 2023**

MUNICIPALITY (PLEASE PRINT)	TOTAL POPULATION	MAYOR
NAME OF MUNICIPAL CONTACT	POSITION / TITLE	
ADDRESS	CITY	POSTAL CODE
()		
PHONE	MUNICIPAL CONTACT EMAIL	
NAME OF COMMUNITY CONTACT OR LOCAL CIB CHAIR	WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR COMMUNITY	
()		
PHONE	COMMUNITY CONTACT/CHAIR E-MAIL	
PROGRAM OPTIONS (indicate your level of participation) REGISTRATION FEE Based on Population Size:		
<input type="checkbox"/> GROW - MODIFIED EVALUATION - 3 Criteria <div style="background-color: yellow; display: inline-block; padding: 2px;">NEW PROGRAM OPTION!</div> <input type="radio"/> Beautification <input type="radio"/> Conservation <input type="radio"/> Other Combo Results are based on an in-person evaluation. More information on page 2. Community is awarded a Certificate and Report. Eligible to win a Criteria Award or the NEW Volunteerism Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Up to 1000 - \$ 375 <input type="checkbox"/> 1001 to 2000 - \$ 450 <input type="checkbox"/> 2001 to 5000 - \$ 500 <input type="checkbox"/> 5001 to 10,000 - \$ 600 (Plus 5% GST)	<input type="checkbox"/> 10,001 to 20,000 - \$ 700 <input type="checkbox"/> 20,001 to 50,000 - \$ 800 <input type="checkbox"/> 50,001 to 100,000 - \$ 925 <input type="checkbox"/> 100,000+ - \$1150 (Plus 5% GST)
<input type="checkbox"/> BLOOM - FULL EVALUATION - 6 Criteria Results are based on an in-person evaluation. More information on page 2. Community is awarded a BLOOM RATING and 18-page Report. Eligible to win a Criteria Award or the NEW BEST OF BC Award	<input type="checkbox"/> Up to 1000 - \$ 500 <input type="checkbox"/> 1001 to 2000 - \$ 600 <input type="checkbox"/> 2001 to 5000 - \$ 675 <input type="checkbox"/> 5001 to 10,000 - \$ 800 (Plus 5% GST)	<input type="checkbox"/> 10,001 to 20,000 - \$ 925 <input type="checkbox"/> 20,001 to 50,000 - \$1025 <input type="checkbox"/> 50,001 to 100,000 - \$1225 <input type="checkbox"/> 100,000+ - \$1525 (Plus 5% GST)
<input type="checkbox"/> FRIENDS - NON-EVALUATED – Half of Full Evaluation Registration Fee based on population size noted above. Recognition category for past CiB communities who do not want an evaluation but want to continue showing their support for their CiB initiatives and the BC Communities in Bloom provincial program.		
AMOUNT ENCLOSED Population Fee + 5% GST = \$ GST # 8446 03670 RT0001		
PLEASE INVOICE US AT <input type="radio"/> Above Address or		
MAIL FORM & FEE TO BC Communities in Bloom 19951 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4E2 ← Please note updated info		
OR PAY BY CREDIT CARD at WWW.BCCIB.CA NOTE: Please email completed form to Catherine at c.kennedy@telus.net		
CANCELLATION POLICY Before May 15th a \$50.00 fee may be charged, after that, all registration fees are non-refundable.		
CONTACT Catherine Kennedy, Executive Director c.kennedy@telus.net (604) 576-6506 www.bccib.ca		

EVALUATED OPTIONS		
GROW Modified Evaluation – 3 Criteria Only Awarding Levels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open to first time, smaller or returning municipalities who want a simpler CiB option. • Participants may choose any 3 criteria to be evaluated OR choose a theme. • Expect to provide 1-night accommodation for pair of judges. (5-hour tour day) <div> <div>  BEAUTIFICATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Appearance - Landscape Areas - Plant & Floral Displays </div> <div>  CONSERVATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environmental Action - Heritage Conservation - Tree Management </div> </div>		ELIGIBLE TO WIN A CRITERIA AWARD OR (New this year) VOLUNTEERISM AWARD
BLOOM Full Evaluation – 6 Criteria Awarding 1 to 5-Blooms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-Bloom winners receive a Street Banner. • Open to any size Municipality wanting the full program experience and its many benefits. • Communities gain social value from the community involvement elements of the program. • Entry point for National and International Communities in Bloom competition. • Expect to provide 2-nights accommodation for a pair of judges. (2-hr first day, 7-hr tour day) <div>  </div>		ELIGIBLE TO WIN A CRITERIA AWARD OR (New this year) BEST OF BC AWARD 
COMMUNITY RECEIVES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Getting Started Package of Information. ▪ Evaluation by a pair of trained BC CiB Judges. ▪ Evaluation Report with Comments & Suggestions. ▪ Rating Certificate (Blooms only for full evaluated program). ▪ 5-Bloom Winners receive a special Street Banner. ▪ Profile on newsletter, press releases, www.bccib.ca website and Gardens BC tourism website. 		PROGRAM BENEFITS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Strengthens community pride for residents and businesses. ▪ Collaborative creates opportunities to celebrate volunteers. ▪ Enhances enjoyment and value of green spaces. ▪ Highlights climate action initiatives ▪ Contributes to a healthy social & economic lifestyle. ▪ Profile for best features of the Community. ▪ Measurable results with year over year benefits.
ADDITIONAL DETAILS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow a local 'in Bloom' committee to build collaboration with residents, businesses, service clubs and a municipal rep. (Councillor, Public Works, Administration or Parks & Recreation staff). • Plan to meet online mid-season with Provincial CiB Judges with a Virtual Check Up on how to support your CiB efforts. • Develop a basic budget to cover registration fee and to create community wide CiB awareness projects, i.e.: parades, tidy up days. Consider planning some fundraising events too. Document volunteer contributions. • Create a Community Profile Document outlining the community's achievements. Plan a judge's tour to view community in the 3 or 6 evaluation criteria. (Once registered, additional information is provided in the Getting Started Package). • Host 2-judges in 2nd or 3rd week of July (TBC), in separate rooms (Hotel, B&B or Billeting if certain conditions can be met), with meals during evaluation day. • Communities will be presented a Certificate and a Report at the Provincial Awards in the fall. (Event details to be confirmed) • Evaluating three or six criteria, the report creates a benchmark score to celebrate successes and for future improvements. 		
NON-EVALUATED OPTIONS		
FRIENDS For communities that want recognition for ongoing CiB initiatives but want to take time off from evaluation. Bonus: this category is encouraged to provide a Showcase Project.		
SHOWCASE PROJECT (requires separate form) Recognition program for individuals, communities, and neighbourhoods of all sizes. Showcase a place or space and how you are using CiB to make a better community, and world. Acknowledge your volunteers.		
MEMBERSHIP (requires separate form) – www.bccib.ca The BC CiB organization represents all areas of the province, if you would like more information about becoming a director or a judge, please contact Catherine at c.kennedy@telus.net before Feb. 28/23.		