

Growing Together GREAT PLACES

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

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Bloom & Grow Program Evaluated

Please be aware that there are limited spots available for evaluating participants this year. Bloom ratings and award trophies are only awarded to evaluated participants. If you would like to know more, please contact the program coordinator asap. Evaluations take place during the early part of July, but we are happy to accommodate other times if desired. Register before **March 31** and get started growing your community pride!

Friends – Non-Evaluated

Municipal participants have more than one way to be involved with the British Columbia Communities in Bloom program.

All participants are profiled throughout the season on the website, newsletter, and social media. There are also promotional and grant opportunities through special initiatives for registered participants.

All participants (Evaluated and Friends non-evaluated) are additionally invited to submit a 'showcase' that gets featured in this newsletter.

Showcase Program

Smaller community groups or garden clubs are encouraged to register in the non-evaluated [Community Showcase](#) program before August 31. See the information on page 4 & 5.

BC CiB Membership

See the form on page 6 & 7. This is the entry point for judges and board members.

This year's AGM will be April 6, 2024 at 9am on line.



Photo L to R:
BC CiB Board Members Linda Tomlinson and Heather Doheny, at the recent Kelowna Garden Club 100th Anniversary event.



BC Communities in Bloom 2024 PROVINCIAL EDITION Registration Form

DEADLINE
MARCH 31, 2024

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 NEW PROGRAM OPTION! <input type="radio"/> Enhancement <input type="radio"/> Conservation <input type="radio"/> Other Combo Results are based on an in-person evaluation. More information on next page. Community is awarded a Certificate and Report. (no bloom rating awarded) Eligible to win a Criteria 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 next page. Community is awarded a BLOOM RATING and 18-page Report. Eligible to win a Criteria Award or Community Involvement Trophy	<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 also 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

- 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)

**AWARDING LEVELS
NO BLOOMS**

**ELIGIBLE TO WIN A
CRITERIA AWARD**



ENHANCEMENT

Community Appearance | Landscape Areas | Plant & Floral Displays



CONSERVATION

Environmental Action | Heritage Conservation | Tree Management

BLOOM Full Evaluation – all 6 Criteria.



- 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)

AWARDING BLOOMS

**ELIGIBLE TO WIN A
CRITERIA AWARD**

OR

**OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT TROPHY**

COMMUNITY RECEIVES:

- **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:

- **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:

- 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. See first page.

SHOWCASE PROJECT (requires separate form)

Recognition program for individuals, communities, 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.

GROWING Great Places TOGETHER SHOWCASE PROGRAM

Showcase a Place or Project that is unique to your community.

Get recognition for special green spaces or community enhancing projects.
This is also a great opportunity to acknowledge volunteers and service groups.

How to Get Involved:

- Submit a Showcase Entry with 3 photos and a 250-word description.
- Register in the appropriate population category before Aug. 31, 2024

Details:

- All entries will be featured in the BC CiB Growing Together Newsletter, website and social media as they are received.
- All entries will receive special recognition and a frameable certificate if submitted before August deadline.
- **Prizes will be awarded for three outstanding submissions.**
- Photos must be from the 2024 season.
- Submit 3 of your best photos with full rights in high resolution (a minimum of 300dpi at print size or a minimum weight of 800kb). These photos will be used by BC Communities in Bloom for the promotion of your community and the BC CiB Program.



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CITY OF COQUITLAM – TREE SPREE EVENT as featured in the BC CiB Growing Together Newsletter Oct. 2022 issue.



LAKE COUNTRY GARDEN CLUB Xeriscape, Pollinator Garden with bug hotel project as featured in the BC CiB Growing Together Newsletter Aug 2023 issue.

To be recognized in this year's BC CiB Provincial Awards, please enter **before August 31**

CATEGORY		POPULATION	FEE	+ 5% GST
Individual Membership	1	1	\$20	(\$21.00)
Small OR Club/Group	2	up to 1000	\$50	(\$52.50)
Medium	3	up to 10,000	\$100	(\$105.00)
Large	4	up to 20,000	\$250	(262.50)
Ex-Large	5	20,000+	\$500	(\$525.00)

PROJECT NAME:	
Name of Individual, Group or Municipality	
City/Province/Postal Code:	
Contact Person	
Phone	Email (required)
Social Media/Facebook	Website
Please supply a Description (250 words Maximum) and three JPEG or TIFF photos (Ideally 1MB each)	
Category # _____ FEE \$ _____ + GST 5% = _____ <input type="checkbox"/> New Option: PAY BY CREDIT CARD at www.bccib.ca and send email of completed form to c.kennedy@telus.net <input type="checkbox"/> Form and Fee enclosed Cheque Payable to: BC Communities in Bloom 19951 Fraser Highway Langley, BC V3A 4E2 <input type="checkbox"/> Please invoice and send form to: c.kennedy@telus.net	FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Paid online <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Paid by cheque <input type="checkbox"/> Sent Invoice # _____ www.bccib.ca 604 576-6506



Membership

2024

British Columbia Communities in Bloom Society

CATEGORY	POPULATION	FEE	AGM
Individual Member	1	\$20 (no tax)	Voting (or NV)

Membership Benefits

- Newsletters (10+ issues/year)
- Invitation to fall Awards and Conference
- AGM voting privileges,
- Entry point for Board of Director or Trained Volunteer Judge (see page 2)

POTENTIAL MEMBERS:

- Enthusiasm for the CiB program
- Individuals with previous 'in bloom' experience
- Individuals who would like more information about how to get a group started in CiB
- Interest or experience in horticulture
- Experience in community engagement

LEGAL:

- Applicant must reside in BC to be a member or with permission from the BC CiB Board.
- Per the BC CiB Constitution and Bylaws our Board has the right of refusal.

www.bccib.ca

Membership shows your support
for the British Columbia
Communities in Bloom Society

Thank You!

Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Voting <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Voting (NV)	
Name of Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal?
City/Province/Postal Code:	
Contact Person	
Phone	
*Email (required)	
<input type="checkbox"/> PAY BY CREDIT CARD Online at www.bccib.ca	REQUEST FOR MORE INFO: <input type="checkbox"/> Judging or Board Member <input type="checkbox"/> Showcase Project <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Advertising <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsorship Program <input type="checkbox"/> Conference Hosting
<input type="checkbox"/> SEND FORM TO c.kennedy@telus.net Or by Mail	
<input type="checkbox"/> PAY BY CHEQUE \$ _____	
Send Form and Fee payable to: BC COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM 19951 FRASER HIGHWAY LANGLEY, BC V3A 4E2	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Paid or <input type="checkbox"/> Send Invoice	
Invoice number: _____ Membership number: _____	
604 576-6506	

BC Communities in Bloom Program Volunteer Positions

Judge

Do you like people and plants? Think horticulture is a critical part of community life and wellness?

BC Communities in Bloom is a not-for-profit organization looking for volunteer judges able to train and evaluate at specific times of the year. New judges are paired with a more experienced partner to evaluate communities all over British Columbia.

Think you might be interested? Contact Catherine Kennedy at c.kennedy@telus.net for an application form and to find out more information about the BC Communities in Bloom program go to www.bccib.ca

Prerequisites:

1. A committed interest in the Communities in Bloom program and all that it represents.
2. Employment experience and/or dedication to horticultural initiatives, with an interest/experience in environmental practices, natural and cultural heritage, tree/urban forestry, landscaping, or floral displays.
3. Able to attend a judges training session in early spring.
4. Willing to volunteer one week of time in mid-July.
5. Able to travel (driving) throughout the province for the evaluation of communities (lots of walking & talking).
6. Good communication skills and excellent report writing skills. Allow time after tour for completion of reports.
7. Understanding that the time commitment while on tour is intense. Communities expect judges to be available during established tour times and special events.
8. Adaptability to the unexpected and an adventurous spirit is an asset!

Board Member

Duties:

The Board of BC Communities in Bloom is a “working board”

1. Participate at the meetings of the Board of Directors (mostly by zoom, approx. 6x/year).
2. Participate in the development and promotion of BC CiB's objectives.
3. Participate in the decision-making process.

Eligibility:

The following are eligible for nomination as Directors of BC Communities in Bloom:

1. A member having two (2) years experience as a member at the provincial level; or
2. A person with experience in an organization associated with or of relevance to the mission of CiB.

Voting process:

Eligible candidates are invited, prior to the annual general meeting, to submit their name on a nomination form.

Please contact Catherine for a nomination form. C.kennedy@telus.net or 604 576-6506

British Columbia Communities in Bloom (BC CiB) was formed as a society to deliver the CiB program and support our volunteers who are specialists in horticulture, parks and recreation and community engagement.

Municipalities from around the province participate in the CiB program to enhance their hometown's unique potential and celebrate their successes.

“In my years of judging and being a board member for British Columbia Communities in Bloom Society, I have met many wonderful, dedicated people who share my love of growing things; and who want their communities to be the best they can be. I have witnessed extraordinary efforts put forth to bring people and groups together to showcase nature in urban environments. The CiB program provides the tools. People make it happen.” Yvette May, Clinton