

PEOPLE, PLANTS AND PRIDE...

Growing Together

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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BC Communities in Bloom

Suite 102 - 19289 Langley Bypass,
Surrey, BC V3S 6K1 (604) 576-6506

www.bccib.ca



SAVE THE DATE - Sept. 20 & 21, 2019

**British Columbia Communities in Bloom
16th Annual Conference & Awards**

The City of Coquitlam is pleased to host the 16th Annual British Columbia Communities in Bloom Conference and Awards. This year's Conference will shine a spotlight on "Youth in Bloom" and new ways to engage teens and young adults in Communities in Bloom initiatives. Other highlights include: Our keynote speaker, Brenda Robinson known for her humor and passion for working with community, Hands on experiences at various break out education sessions and at site tours, and of course the Awards and Banquet evening at Westwood Plateau Golf & Country Club.

We welcome your visit to Coquitlam, located on nature's doorstep, home to more than 70 parks and nature areas as well as over 100 km trails. Our City is also diverse with a rich multicultural make-up embracing its French Canadian and First Nations heritage. Come network and share ideas and experiences with other "In Bloom" Communities. Brochure details to come in June.

Hosted by the City of Coquitlam

At Westwood Plateau Golf & Country Club, 3251 Plateau Boulevard

The BCLNA is on the Move



After July 6th their new office will be located at
19951 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4E2

This means the BC Communities in Bloom's
mailing address changes too!

Volunteer Biographies

Our BC Communities in Bloom program would not be possible without the talented group of volunteer judges & directors who represent the province. With a variety of horticultural backgrounds or experience in their own community's CiB program, our judges bring a wealth of knowledge to your community.

Darlene Kalawsky – Castlegar - Business Owner

Darlene Kalawsky is VP of the Kalawsky Automotive Group. She has been involved with Castlegar CIB program since 2006, and passionately supports the changes that CIB makes in communities across Canada. Darlene is our current Board Chair and judge.

Bruce Hobin - Osoyoos - Retired Professional Agrolgist

Bruce is an experienced CiB judge from Ontario and Saskatchewan who now lives in Osoyoos. He was the Director of the Agriculture, Food and Horticulture Program including the Saskatchewan Master Gardener Program with the Extension Division, U of Saskatchewan. Bruce also operated an agriculture training and rural/community leadership consulting firm in Ontario. He is a judge and our current Vice Chair.

Yvette May – Clinton - Retired Nurse

Yvette enjoys gardening and is a passionate supporter of Clinton's CiB community improvement efforts. She has been involved with the provincial organization since 2012 as a judge, board member and chair.

Floortje Molenaar – Peachland - Inventory coordinator Bylands Nurseries

Floortje moved to Canada from the Netherlands in 2006. She has worked for a landscape contractor, municipal parks department and the promotion organization for the Dutch Nursery Stock Industry (PPH). While working for Plant Publicity Holland she was involved with Entente Florale, the Dutch and European equivalent of Communities in Bloom. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture and Environmental Management with a major in landscape management.

Vania Bowman - Surrey - Horticulture and Arboriculture Technician White Rock

Vania has been in Horticulture all her life and loved it so much she decided to make a career out of it. She has over 15 years' experience working in various areas including nursery production, interior plant-scaping, arboriculture and landscape management. In conjunction to her experience she has a Diploma in Arboriculture and Landscape management. She has worked and studied in Boston MA at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University.

Shirley Fowler - Armstrong - City Councillor

Shirley was the Landscape Gardener for the City of Armstrong and helped the local CiB committee win both the Provincial and National titles. She is currently serving her 4th term as City Councillor, is a Board Member with the Regional District of the North Okanagan and a passionate member of the Armstrong Rotary Club. She is our Treasurer & Judge Coordinator.

Bert Pulles - Mission - Business Owner & local CiB chair

Bert was a landscape gardener for 9 years, worked for the next 30 years in different companies from production foreman to plant manager. He started his own Mole Control business making, using and marketing the "Mole Buster" for the last 30 years. He has been a Chamber of Commerce Director for 3 years and is totally involved with CiB in Mission.

Rea Smith - Armstrong - Retired Teacher

Rea is a life-long gardener and is a co-ordinator for the local community gardens. She was part of Armstrong's success in CiB and has continued her love of the program at the provincial level and has returned to the board after a brief break.

Kathleen Reinheimer - Maple Ridge - Parks Manager

Kathleen is a Parks Manager for the City of Coquitlam. We value her extensive parks experience and her many years as a provincial judge and chair of BC CiB. Kathy and the Coquitlam CiB team are hosting the Provincial Awards and Conference this year.

Edward Stanford – Fort St John - Urban Planning Consultant

Edward is a municipal government consultant specializing in urban design, governance and community planning. Edward has been involved in the local Fort St John Communities in Bloom committee since 2000 and a BC CiB board member since 2012.

Ali Double – Langley - Business Owner

Alison has been 'In Bloom' since 2004. She has participated in the Bloom competition in the UK; being Lead Coordinator for her town's entry into the competition and as a regional judge to evaluate other entries. Since her move to BC in 2010 she has judged for BC CiB, served as a Board Member as well worked in horticulture.

Peter Crawshaw – Nanoose Bay - Retired Parks and Facilities Superintendent

Peter has 50 years in the horticultural industry mostly in municipal environments in Canada and UK including the Vancouver Parks Board and Parksville where Peter retired in 2013 as Superintendent of Parks. Peter and his wife spend much of their time in their 2.5-acre garden enjoying the beauty of nature.

Kerry Bysouth – Chilliwack - Retired Parks and Facilities Manager

Kerry retired from the District of Mission in 2016. He has over 46 years of experience and was very involved in Mission's CiB efforts.

Catherine Kennedy – Surrey - Executive Director

Catherine has been involved with the provincial CiB program on a part-time contract since 2004. Her education and work experience in Graphic Design and Horticulture/Landscape Design all have helped in the day to day coordination of this amazing community enhancement program.



The Harvest Bin Project

School gardens can be the perfect way for teachers to create learning opportunities across multiple subjects. The hands-on activities and fresh air get students excited about learning and are also an important part of physical and mental health. Finding the space, however can be something of a challenge at many schools. BC Agriculture in the Classroom developed the Harvest Bin Project in 2015 as a way for schools to create their own garden no matter the size or location of their school. The large square bins provide the perfect raised garden beds that can be placed on grass or cement and moved when emptied of soil.

This year we have nine schools participating in areas such as Burnaby, Sooke, Fernie, and Port Hardy. Schools receive a delivery of five blue bins, a step-by-step handbook, and a gift card to a local nursery where they can purchase soil, seeds and garden supplies. At the start of the project, a BCAITC representative, along with a farmer, will visit the enrolled school to conduct a start-up workshop and demonstrate how the project works.

Teachers on the program have told us how successful their crops have been and how easy it is to connect the program learning to the BC curriculum. Students have also had an enthusiastic response to the program. "It was a great learning experience on how to grow and harvest food rather than just going to the store", said one Student from Guru Angad Dev Elementary School in Surrey.

This project also places special importance on making connections within the community. Schools are encouraged to seek support and assistance from community centres, senior centres and local garden clubs to help sustain their school gardens over the summer and into the future.

Schools that are interested in applying for the Harvest Bin Project can visit <https://www.bcaitc.ca/harvest-bin-project>

BC Agriculture in the Classroom Foundation (BCAITC)



Find out more information about the discounts and rewards for Communities in Bloom Participants at www.egnx.biz

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As we all patiently await warmer weather to truly arrive, we are excited to share our new planter designs with you!

The Villa, Corridor, and Patio designs are sure to receive compliments even before the flowers get to full bloom. And the Ridge planters look striking as a group of two or three in different sizes. These new styles are displayed in the photo below, and are also included in our online catalogue:

<https://www.DesertPlanters.com/catalog/>

These new planter designs use moisture-wicking technology as employed in other self-watering Desert Planter styles:

- ensures water efficiency with slower and less water evaporation than traditional planters, resulting in up to an 80% reduction in water consumption;
- promotes extraordinary rapid and lush plant growth by supplying water from below the soil, directly to the roots;
- double walled construction allows for temperature control of plant roots, resulting in a longer growing season;
- discourages weed growth by keeping the top of the soil dry;
- are available in a variety of colours.

If you would like further information about the products, or would like to receive pricing information, please don't hesitate to connect as we would be very happy to assist.

Upcoming Events:

- Early June** Press Release
- June 15-23** National Garden Days
[Register your Activity](#)
- June 20-23** National Peony Festival in Castlegar
www.castlegarpeony.com
- July 14-20** Community Evaluations for Provincial Edition
- Sept. 20-21** BC Communities in Bloom Provincial Awards and Symposium in Coquitlam

CANADIAN
PEONY
SOCIETY

2019

NATIONAL PEONY FESTIVAL

CASTLEGAR COMMUNITY COMPLEX
2101 6th Avenue • Castlegar, BC • June 20 - 23, 2019
Information & Registration: www.castlegarpeony.com

Contact Show Chair: Holly Pender-Love at 250-368-6228 or hplove8@telus.net