

Growing GREAT PLACES Together

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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

www.bccib.ca

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What a Day!

On April 23rd, the City of Coquitlam CiB team hosted our Judge’s Training day at the Executive Plaza Hotel. Special thanks to Kathleen Reinheimer and Wendy Wiederick who assisted with training content and shared some talented staff members Sara, Tiffany, Noel, Julie, Mo, Dustin and Keegan who helped make our day fun and informative. We really enjoyed the food during the weekend too!

Our provincial AGM and elections were held at the end of the day. Congratulations to the incoming Chair, Floortje Molenaar, Vice Chair Kerry Bysouth. We wish all the best to our outgoing Chair Bruce Hobin who is relocating to Alberta. As well we thank Rea Smith, another long-term board member who is retiring from service.

Our current board consists of Floortje, Kerry, Shirley Fowler, Darlene Kalawsky, Edward Stanford, Yvette May, Michael Evison, and new director Gail Mansell. Please see page 2 for all our volunteer biographies.



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.



Floortje Molenaar – Peachland - Garden Centre
Floortje holds a BSc in landscape maintenance and has worked in horticulture most of her life. She was involved with the Dutch and European CiB programs before moving to Canada in 2006. She joined us in 2017, is a judge and is our newest Chair.

Kerry Bysouth – Chilliwack - Retired
Kerry retired from the District of Mission in 2016 as their Parks and Facilities Manager. He has over 46 years of experience and was very involved in Mission's CiB efforts. Kerry joined us in 2019, holds the position of Vice Chair, Secretary and Judge.

Shirley Fowler - Armstrong - City Councillor
Shirley is in her 17th year as City Councillor, is a Regional District of the North Okanagan Director, Chair of the Sterile Insect Release Board and also Chair of Armstrong in Bloom. She is our Treasurer and has been with us since 2008

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.

Darlene Kalawsky – Castlegar - Business Owner
Darlene is VP of the Kalawsky Automotive Group. She has been involved with Castlegar CIB program since 2006. Darlene is a judge and has been with the BC CiB organization since 2012. She also sits on the national CiB Board and is chair of the Provincial Liaison Committee.

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.

Michael Evison – West Vancouver – Retired
Michael is a former West Vancouver City Councillor, Parks Commission Chair and had his own landscape

construction business, he has also held positions with the BCLNA board. Michael joined us in 2020 to be a judge and is now a board member.

Gail Mansell – Peachland - Semi-retired public servant
Gail is a keen gardener with a passion to learn and grow healthy fruit and vegetables. Gail was a police officer in the UK before moving to Canada in 2006. In her position she

specialized in community policing and environmental assessments to enhance quality of life.

Alison Double – Chilliwack - Business Owner
Alison has been 'In Bloom' since 2004. She has participated in the Bloom competition in the UK. Since her move to BC in 2010 she has judged for BC CiB, served as a Board Member as well worked in horticulture.

Linda Tomlinson – Kelowna – Retired
Linda is an experienced judge from Alberta and the National CiB Program and in 2020 she moved to Kelowna. She will be judging national communities this year.

Heather Edwards – Coquitlam - Manager
Heather has judged at all levels of the CiB program and has been part of our provincial board in years past. She is a Landscape Architect and works for the City of Burnaby as a Parks Planning and Development manager.

Dustin de Jongh – Coquitlam Landscape Coordinator
Dustin joined the Judge's Workshop this year as part of the Coquitlam group, his background is in landscape and park operations. Graduated in 2009 from KPU with a Diploma in Horticulture

Mo Asadian – Coquitlam Parks Partner Coordinator
Mo has worked in the parks and recreation field for over 10 years. He works with youth, volunteer, and community development to connect his community.

Keegan Bennington – Coquitlam Gardener
Keegan is part of the Park Spark team; he shares his horticulture knowledge with volunteer groups at the Inspiration Garden.

Catherine Kennedy – Langley - Executive Director
Catherine has been involved with the provincial CiB program since 2004. Her education and work experience in Graphic Design and Horticulture all have helped in in the day-to-day coordination of this amazing community enhancement program.



Meeting in real life was such a joy!

The Day included:

- Breakfast
- Novice Presentation
- How the Judge's use the Scoring Grid
- Judge's Forum
- Coffee Break
- FireSmart Information
- Lunch
- Coquitlam Community Engagement Ideas
- Coffee Break
- Refresh for future Strategic Plan
- AGM and Board Elections



NEWS FROM NATIONAL

CiB National Symposium & Awards Start Planning your Visit to Victoria October 20-23



- Proclaim 2022 Year of the Garden in your Municipality.
- Commit to be a Garden Friendly City
- National Garden Day is the Saturday before Father's Day
- Visit your favourite garden or discover a new one
- Celebrate your Garden Heritage
- Plant Red to express your Canadian Garden Pride



2022 WEBINAR SERIES

**How BIA's add to the
Vitality & Economic Welfare
of a Community!**

May 12, 2022 11am EST



**Alison Scheel, General Manager
Orangeville BIA**



**Mark Renaud, Executive Director
Tillsonburg BIA**

**Growing Great Places Together
Cultivons ensemble de beaux espaces**

These webinars are open to all and no fee to attend but space is limited. Register today!

Our first webinar is **Thursday May 12th at 11am EDT.**

Alison and Mark represent two very successful BIA's and will describe their programs and how they achieved success in combination with community partners, in activating their community and in creating great downtown environments!

Have your questions ready so we can answer them during this interactive webinar!
We hope you will join in and take advantage of this opportunity!

REGISTER TODAY!