

Growing Together

GREAT PLACES

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

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www.bccib.ca

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Announcing a New Program Option!

Covid taught us a thing or two 😊. For the 2023 program year we are offering a modified evaluation option that halves the full Communities in Bloom program, making it easier for first time and smaller communities to transition into the full (six) criteria program.

Choose any three criteria to be evaluated or choose a theme:



BEAUTIFICATION

- Community Appearance
- Landscape Areas
- Plant & Floral Displays



CONSERVATION

- Environmental Action
- Heritage Conservation
- Tree Management

Receiving an evaluation and support for your 'in Bloom' efforts is one of the best investments in your community! However, everyone loves to win special recognition, so we are developing some new award categories. See page 3 for additional information.

Recruiting Qualified Candidates for Judge or Board Member

Get a BC CiB membership (see pages 5 & 6) and let us know if you are interested in joining our amazing group of passionate volunteers who represent all areas of our beautiful province.

Year of the Garden



At the National Symposium and Awards in Victoria last month, BC Communities in Bloom awarded a special criteria award, and it was a TIE! Congratulations to Armstrong and Sicamous for their win. See the next page for more information.

CiB is promoting Purple as the 2023 theme colour

BC CiB AWARD Year of the Garden Winner - Armstrong Communities in Bloom



The year of the Garden was executed with a small army of volunteers. It is evident volunteers are one of Armstrong's strongest assets. They have rallied to action on many fronts and one of the showiest results are the plant beds adopted by volunteer gardeners. These beds express a variety of planting designs styles and interests of the volunteer that adopts the space. The net effect is a patchwork of styles and plant arrangements in individual plant beds.



There are also volunteer groups heading up art, historical museum, garden clubs, food initiatives, trails, wetlands, and

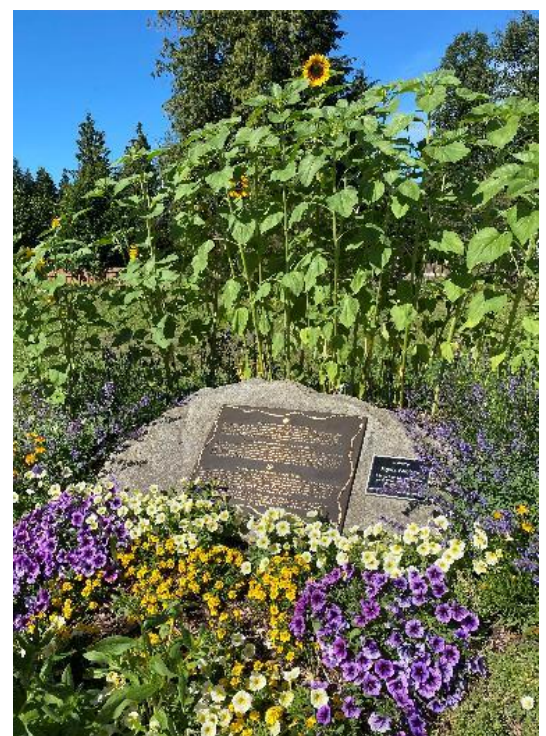
other areas. One new upcoming groups (ASCA) is focused on climate change and have sparked the younger generation into actions of advocacy, listening, and youth friendly small action programs that keep current issues front and center in the community life.

The net effect of all these volunteer clubs and interests is multiple action plans that appeal to a wide variety of people in the community. From very young to very old everyone has opportunity to volunteer in something that works for them. CiB group leaders have brought a new profile for work these volunteers do for the City.

Congratulations to Armstrong for establishing a welcoming and inclusive opportunity for all their volunteer groups. Through their interest, action programs and an ongoing interaction with the municipal leaders they have helped to influence and shape the town into the lovely community it is today.

BC CiB AWARD Year of the Garden Winner – Sicamous Communities in Bloom

- Sicamous CiB chose to acknowledge world events unfolding in Ukraine by planting sunflowers in many gardens throughout the community.
- Original Art boards from the Arts Council were everywhere in Sicamous, the newest boards featured a Sunflower Theme.
- To raise funds for recent Ukraine immigrants; sunflower plants and vegetable seedlings were sold at the Friday night market.
- This year the Ukrainian Internment Camp Memorial plaque and new flower garden were relocated to a safer location off the highway.
- To mark the year of the garden celebrations, Sicamous created red t-shirts for their volunteers to wear while they are out in the community.





British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

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 NEW PROGRAM OPTION! <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

- 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)



BEAUTIFICATION

- Community Appearance
- Landscape Areas
- Plant & Floral Displays



CONSERVATION

- Environmental Action
- Heritage Conservation
- Tree Management

ELIGIBLE TO WIN A CRITERIA AWARD

OR

**(New this year)
VOLUNTEERISM
AWARD**

BLOOM Full Evaluation – 6 Criteria

Awarding 1 to 5-Blooms

- 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)



ELIGIBLE TO WIN A CRITERIA AWARD

OR

**(New this year)
BEST OF BC
AWARD**



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.

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.



British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

Membership

2023

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 next page)

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 604 576-6506	
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Paid or <input type="checkbox"/> Send Invoice Invoice number: Membership number:	

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 extra 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 BC 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 national 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.