

Growing Together

GREAT PLACES

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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British Columbia
Communities in Bloom

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(604) 576-6506

www.bccib.ca

[Facebook](#) [BC CiB](#) [Privacy Policy](#)

Coordinator Catherine Kennedy
catherine.bccib@gmail.com

RETURNING PARTICIPANTS Register before January 31 for a discount!

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT CIB?

Info Sessions can be arranged by zoom or in person – contact Catherine.

JOIN OUR PROVINCIAL TEAM

We are recruiting for 2026 Judge and Board Member positions.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY for NEW PARTICIPANTS

Communities in Bloom National received a Grant for two years from RBC to help with Nature Based Solutions and Climate Change Mitigation Solutions through the Communities in Bloom programs.

In British Columbia, five grants* of up to \$1000 per community will be offered in 2026. This grant will subsidize costs associated with an in-person consultation/evaluation of the community. The community would have hosting responsibilities for a pair of judges to view it over a couple of days. *One grant is designated for a First Nations community.

Community Consultations This is geared towards small and medium sized communities (under 50K population) as well as indigenous communities that often lack the tools, expertise, funding, or staff to implement necessary changes. By offering a Consultation program, we help these communities understand efficient and affordable ways to build their environmental initiatives and enhance resilience against climate challenges. This evaluation process fosters a sense of inclusion and encourages awareness for local environmental improvements, increased tourism and investments. This one-time grant is available to first time participants, or communities who participated prior to 2020. (exceptions may apply)

Over 30 Years of Community Excellence Communities in Bloom is a volunteer partnership-driven organization that uses a multi-tiered evaluation process to foster community strength, involvement and continuous improvement. This is accomplished by nurturing environmental sustainability, enhancements of green spaces, and heritage conservation encompassing built cultural and natural environments within municipal, residential, commercial, and institutional spaces.



CiB supports RBC's ambition to help improve management and/or restoration of natural ecosystems; advance Indigenous-led conservation efforts; and enhance urban green infrastructure, helping to foster environmentally sustainable and equitable outcomes for people and communities.

Under 50K new communities catherine.bccib@gmail.com

Over 50K and Capital Cities – Healthy Liveable Cities Program
sonia@cib-cef.com

LOOKING GOOD!

Maple Ridge

New Entrance Sign –
Submitted by City of Maple Ridge’s
Paula Christianson



In 2023, the City of Maple Ridge underwent a comprehensive rebranding initiative, introducing a refreshed logo, updated colour palette, and a brand narrative that highlights the city's connection to nature, its strong sense of community, and its vision for future growth. The new visual identity is being implemented in phases across municipal platforms and has received multiple international marketing awards. The rebranding process included extensive public engagement to ensure it authentically reflects the vibrancy and modern character of the community. As part of this initiative, the entrance sign landscaping was completely reimagined in the fall of 2023—more than doubling in size and incorporating a diverse selection of trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, and bulbs. This enhancement was completed in time to welcome visitors to the 2024 BC Summer Games.



BC Communities in Bloom Ambassador’s are proud of our communities. The purpose is to photograph a special space or a community enhancing project that is worthy of some recognition in our newsletter.

Think your community might have a worthy ‘Looking Good’ entry?
Please contact Catherine.BCCiB@gmail.com to obtain more information.



This year, CiB is recognizing the restorative power of greenspaces - gardens that nurture the mind, body, and spirit. Whether through community food gardens, volunteer-maintained landscapes, or the simple act of tending plants so that others can enjoy them, therapeutic gardening fosters connection, resilience, and well-being.

We sincerely hope you will join us in 2026; to explore why greenspaces can enrich communities, promote well-

being, and inspire civic pride across Canada. Your participation is vital to the ongoing success of Communities in Bloom and to celebrate your ‘Therapeutic Gardening’ achievements.

British Columbia Communities in Bloom offers several participation options for individuals, groups or municipalities. Please go to www.bccib.ca or email catherine.bccib@gmail.com for more information.



BC Communities in Bloom

2026 PROVINCIAL EDITION

REGISTRATION FORM

**Early Registration Discount
before January 31, 2026**
Final Deadline March 31, 2026

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 Results are based on an in-person evaluation. Community is awarded a Certificate and Report. See page 4 for more details.	<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)
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<input type="checkbox"/> BLOOM - FULL EVALUATION 6-Criteria Results are based on an in-person evaluation. Community is awarded a BLOOM RATING and 18-page Report. See page 4 for Awards and more details.	<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)
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EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT - BLOOM less \$100 and GROW less \$50 on above Fees.
 Completed Form must be received by January 31/26. (Request invoice or send cheque, [online credit card payment](#) cannot be discounted.)

AMOUNT ENCLOSED	Population Fee _____ less Early Reg Discount _____ + 5% GST ____ = \$	GST # 8446 03670 RT0001
PLEASE INVOICE US AT	<input type="radio"/> Above Address or	
MAIL FORM & FEE TO	BC Communities in Bloom c/o 4451 212 Street, Langley, BC V3A 7Z8	← Please note updated mailing info
CANCELLATION POLICY	Before May 30th a \$50.00 fee may be charged, after that, all registration fees are non-refundable.	
CONTACT	Catherine Kennedy, Executive Director catherine.bccib@gmail.com (604) 576-6506 www.bccib.ca	

The BC Communities in Bloom program provides a proven process to help municipalities inspire their residents and businesses around a positive message of 'Growing Great Places Together'.

EVALUATED OPTIONS - (links to separate form)		AWARDS
	<p>GROW MODIFIED EVALUATION – 3 Criteria Only</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For 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. Host a pair of judges. (shortened tour day) – see additional details for more info. <p>ENHANCEMENT: Community Appearance Landscape Areas Plant & Floral Displays CONSERVATION: Environmental Action Heritage Conservation Tree Management</p>	<p>Awarding Certificate and Report with no Bloom Rating</p> <p>Eligible to Win a Criteria Award*</p>
	<p>BLOOM FULL EVALUATION – all 6 Criteria.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to all Municipalities wanting the full program experience and its many benefits. Gain social value from the community involvement elements of the program. 5-Bloom Winners receive special recognition. Future entry point for National and International Communities in Bloom competition. Host a pair of judges. (2-hr first day, 7-hr tour day) <p>EVALUATION CRITERIA: Community Appearance Environmental Action Heritage Conservation Tree Management Landscape Areas Plant & Floral Displays</p>	<p>Awarding Blooms</p>  <p>Eligible to Win a Criteria Award*</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Outstanding Community Involvement Trophy</p>
<p>*SPONSORED CRITERIA AWARDS recognize outstanding achievement in specific evaluation criteria or to encourage communities working towards 5-Blooms. British Columbia Communities in Bloom values its relationship with our sponsors; we thank them for their support.</p>		
<p>COMMUNITY RECEIVES:</p> <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 special recognition. Profile on newsletter, press releases, www.bccib.ca website and Gardens BC tourism website. 	<p>PROGRAM BENEFITS:</p> <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 	
<p>ADDITIONAL DETAILS:</p> <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 to capture components judges may not see in person. 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 week of July (TBC), in separate rooms (Hotel, B&B or Billeting if certain conditions can be met), with meals during evaluation day. Expect to host two nights minimum, some factors will necessitate +/- night and will be determined asap. 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 - (links to separate form)		
	<p>FRIENDS For communities that want recognition for ongoing CiB initiatives but want to take time off from evaluation. (see form front) Bonus: this category is encouraged to provide a Showcase.</p>	
<p>MEMBERSHIP (requires separate form) – The BC CiB organization represents all areas of the province, if you would like more information go to our website’s Volunteer page.</p>		
<p>(links to separate form)</p>		