

PEOPLE, PLANTS AND PRIDE...

# Growing Together

B.C. COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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## 2018 COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

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District of Mission • City of Castlegar  
City of Armstrong • Village of Clinton

## SUPPORTERS

Gardens British Columbia  
Bylands Nurseries  
Invasive Species Council of BC  
BC Landscape & Nursery Association  
BC Recreation & Parks Association  
Sandman Hotel Group

## BC Communities in Bloom

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[www.bccib.ca](http://www.bccib.ca)



## Wishing you a happy and healthy New Year!



Lights at Lafarge in Coquitlam, BC <https://www.coquitlam.ca/parks-recreation-and-culture/arts-and-culture/special-events-calendar/lightsatlafarge.aspx>  
YouTube <https://youtu.be/kbv59Xi1ktA>

### Is 2019 the year to get your community pride growing?

This is what our participants say about the Communities in Bloom program:

- ***"We are seeing increased pride from Village residents and staff"***
- ***"More interest from general community with tidiness and beautification of the downtown core"***
- ***"Clarifies / quantifies our objectives and measurement of progress which is invaluable"***
- ***"Easier to get business buy in when there is a tangible goal in mind"***
- ***"Communities in Bloom gives us a framework around which to focus our improvement efforts. Combine that with people seeing us work our butts off to make things better, and everyone notices and attitudes change. We are transforming our town and Communities in Bloom is a key part of that strategy"***




## Recognition and Bloom Award Program for Municipalities

## Inspiring Civic and Citizen Involvement

### CiB is a Recipe for Success!

Communities in Bloom (CiB) is the catalyst to inventory assets and create awareness for Municipal Staff, Business Leaders, Service Clubs and Individuals who want to see their town achieve its full potential.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

Participating communities develop their own organizing committee to:

- Generate awareness & enthusiasm by involving citizens of all ages;
- Promote beautification and tidiness initiatives within community;
- Create awareness for long-term heritage and environmental plans;
- Arrange for, and host BC CiB judges on evaluation day.

#### BENEFITS

People and businesses want to be associated with an attractive looking community, which is particularly important with respect to potential residents, visitors, investors and others. It also:

- Ignites Community Energy
- Promotes Tidiness & Beautification in Residential/Business Areas
- Networks Various Organizations for a Common Good
- Encourages Excellence in Environmental Initiatives
- Friendly Competition provides Focus & Deadline for Projects
- Judge's Report is a Cost-Effective Measurement of Success

#### MAXIMIZE YOUR EFFORTS

It is amazing what can be accomplished with citizens who are being motivated by obvious visual changes in their community. Starting with simple objectives, participants plan future projects to capitalize on the best use of available resources. The CiB Evaluation process helps create focus and provides feedback for these efforts.

#### REGISTRATION FEES

are based on a community's population size and are very reasonable. These population groups ensure fairness with respect to your availability of people and resources.

#### POPULATION CATEGORIES

1 - 1000,  
1001 - 2000,  
2001 - 5000,  
5001 - 10,000,  
10,001 - 20,000,  
20,001 - 50,000,  
50,001 - 100,000,  
100,001 - 300,000  
300,000+ Direct to National

#### PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

##### EVALUATED:

Provincial Edition, Novice First Year,  
Mentor (Experienced with New)

##### NON-EVALUATED: (½ fee)

Friends  
Showcase

##### MEMBERSHIP:

Individual, Community or Corporate

**Please see our REGISTRATION FORM  
for FEES & other requirements at**

**[www.bccib.ca](http://www.bccib.ca)**

#### REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

**MARCH 31**

#### Need more information, contact

Catherine Kennedy, Executive Director  
at: (604) 576-6506 or  
Email [c.kennedy@telus.net](mailto:c.kennedy@telus.net)

**BC Communities in Bloom provides the framework for Enhancing Community Liveability**

## Criteria and Evaluation Process

During late July of each year, on an agreed upon date, a pair of BC CiB judges assesses the four sectors of a community (Local Government, Business, Service and Citizen) to evaluate their overall efforts on specific criteria:

**Tidiness, Environmental Action, Community Involvement, Heritage Conservation, Urban Forestry, Landscape and Floral Displays.**

**TIDINESS** cleanliness of green spaces (parks etc.); medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets, properties, ditches, road shoulders; vacant lots and buildings, repair and maintenance; signage; weeds, graffiti and vandalism issues.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION** policies, by-laws and best practices, 3-R initiatives (reduce reuse recycle); waste reduction, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections; water conservation; naturalization; environmental stewardship activities; under the guiding principles of sustainable development.

**HERITAGE CONSERVATION** Priority given to natural heritage, as well as the integration of landscape and streetscapes as it pertains to the built heritage of a community. Recognition for traditions and customs through: festivals and celebrations, events and parades, heritage foods and the arts.

**URBAN FORESTRY** demonstrate standards for tree management (selection, planting, and maintenance); written policies, by-laws; long and short-term management plans; tree replacement policies; tree inventory; Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage; memorial and commemorative trees.

**LANDSCAPE** design should harmonize the interests of municipal, commercial and residential sectors of the community. Evaluating the balance of plants, materials and constructed elements; native and introduced materials; appropriate integration of hard surfaces and art elements, **Turf & Groundcovers** which is now included in this section of the evaluation form.



**FLORAL DISPLAYS** evaluate the design, planning, execution, and maintenance of floral displays. Includes the design and placement of annuals, perennials, bulbs, ornamental grasses in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity, balance, colour, and harmony whether in ground or in containers.

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT** Recognized as such a major component of the overall program; it has become a key sector to be included in each of the criteria sections. It also creates recognition for volunteers and helps show support for community initiatives by the municipal, business, service and private sectors.

**RESULTS** All participating communities receive a rating of one to five 'Blooms'. The community with a top five-bloom score (one in each population category) may receive an invitation to participate in the following year's National competition.

Special Criteria Awards are also presented to communities displaying outstanding effort in specific criteria from our sponsors.

In addition to a Bloom Rating, each participant receives a comprehensive report, prepared by highly qualified judges. This report reviews the features and projects in each of the criteria that the community has presented and offers constructive comments and suggestions for the following year.

**Of course, all our participants are winners with respect to their ability to attract tourism and generate economic activity because of their efforts to be more attractive, liveable communities!**

**[Register Today and Get Started Building your commUnity Pride!](#)**



Find out more information about the discounts and rewards for Communities in Bloom Participants at [www.eqnx.biz](http://www.eqnx.biz)



is partnering with

**Partnership Program**

- Save 10% on all orders of any quantity of Self-Watering Planters and In-Ground Waste Containers
- Orders placed through our Early Booking program will receive an additional 2.5% off your order
- In addition, all orders of Self-watering planters and Waste Containers will generate a 2.5% contribution to the Provincial Edition for Communities in Bloom



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