

PEOPLE, PLANTS AND PRIDE... Growing Together

BC COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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GOLD SPONSORS:



BRONZE SPONSORS



V.I.P. Soap Products

2016 COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

- City of Coquitlam
- District of Mission
- City of Burnaby
- City of Castlegar

2016 PROVINCIAL AWARDS/CONFERENCE

Host: District of Hope - Sept 30 - Oct 1

SUPPORTERS

- Gardens British Columbia
- Invasive Species Council of BC
- BC Landscape & Nursery Association
- BC Recreation & Parks Association
- Langley Sandman Hotel & Denny's

BC Communities in Bloom

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www.bccib.ca

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Evaluated & Novice Registration

Deadline is Extended to April 8

[Download Form](#)



Communities Registered to Date

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Abbotsford | 11. Sooke |
| 2. Bowen Island | 12. Terrace |
| 3. Cache Creek | 13. Whitehorse, Yukon |
| 4. Chetwynd | 14. Kelowna (Showcase) |
| 5. Enderby | Community Members |
| 6. Fort St. John | 15. Burnaby |
| 7. Hope (Prov. Awards Host) | 16. Castlegar |
| 8. Lumby | 17. Coquitlam |
| 9. Salmon Arm | 18. Mission |
| 10. Sicamous | |





At Sybertech Waste Reduction Ltd we really dislike being wasteful. Particularly when it concerns conserving a life nurturing commodity that is becoming more and more in demand worldwide and less and less available. Water. Pure and simple. Mankind is consuming water at an

also save valuable dollars in man hours required to maintain your planters and hanging baskets. Sybertech planters have a self-contained water reservoir that allows the plants to feed from the bottom. (often called sub-irrigation) This stimulates strong root growth and allows the plants to feed only as required thus never stressing the plants. Conventional top watering methods can be sporadic and can shock the plants. Your plants are constantly drying out, then being soaked with water then being allowed to dry out again. This is not optimum for healthy plant growth. Plants flourish in an environment where they are never under stress.



Weekend and Holiday watering can be eliminated. Water conservation is optimized. As the water stays in the water reservoir evaporation, common with top watering, is virtually eliminated with a reservoir style self-watering planter!! Water puddles under hanging baskets are eliminated. Planters can be started with smaller plants which saves you even more money.



Aside from our wonderful Communities in Bloom customers Canada wide, Sybertech is noticing an increased interest from BIA's, BRZ's, from Community Gardens wanting to establish a successful garden scenario with a greater ease of success and one of the more gratifying programs using our self-watering planters is involving schools. Kids are now having the opportunity to discover where food comes from, get their hands dirty and, because of the built-in water reservoir incorporated into the base of a Sybertech planter, the Teachers and parents no longer have to be relied on for weekend or holiday watering duties.

ever expanding rate with only so much of it to go around. Water management and water conservation is essential in today's world.

Sybertech has the answer. Over the past few years, we at Sybertech have continually improved on our "Millennium Series" reservoir style self-watering planter designs to the point where we feel we have created the most durable and long lasting self-watering planter products available on the market today. Sybertech Self-watering reservoir planters and hanging baskets have proven themselves to not only dramatically conserve water but to

Sybertech self-watering reservoir style planters allow for a stronger, larger more vibrant display of plant growth, demanding a minimum amount of care, while dramatically reducing your impact on the Carbon Footprint.

The benefit to Sybertech customers is that you can now rely on a watering system that requires far less effort to produce lush, vibrant, healthy colourful displays and less reliance on volunteers.

If you can appreciate how a self-watering planter will save you a lot of time, money and effort while still producing a vibrant display of plants and colour please give Craig, the PLANTER GUY a call!

Spring is in the air!

Sybertech Waste Reduction Ltd
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 (604) 544-3839 www.swrl.com
 TOLL FREE: 1-888-888-7975 ext 6

Thanks to Sybertech for their donation of a Self-Watering Planter to the BC Communities in Bloom Awards & Conference Silent Auction Oct. 1

BC CiB Directors...Walking the Talk



Heather Doherty

What is not to love about Communities in Bloom! It is, bar none, the best darn program in Canada for uniting communities!

In 2008, a friend entered my container garden in the City of West Kelowna's CiB 'Most Beautiful' contest.....despite my adamant protests that she not do it. She didn't listen! Was I ever surprised when I got a call saying I had won the container garden category. Wow! The City then entered my little garden space in the Scott's Miracle Gro contest that year. I was totally blown away when I received a call from the City's CiB Chair, Annette Beaudreau, saying I had won the Award of Merit for my garden at the National CiB Conference.

From there, Annette asked if I would like to serve as a community volunteer member of the City of West Kelowna/Westbank First Nation CiB Committee? My reply was 'yes' and the rest is history.... It is 8 great years later!

I have learned so much about the CiB program in those years including seeing (from the inside) just how hard communities work as CiB participants. It has been so rewarding seeing the two communities of the City of West Kelowna and Westbank First Nation forge such a strong bond working together as what is now known in our community as the 'Partners in Bloom'. Two communities as one striving together to be the best we can be.

So many great projects including some I have personally been involved working on.....several landscape plans for both CWK and WFN; facilitating some evening CiB sponsored garden workshops; being co-facilitator for the past six years of a garden program sponsored by CiB called Roots, Shoots, and Boots; and year 8 this year of being lead judge for the local CiB contest called the 'Most Beautiful' contest....the same contest for which I have a plaque hanging in my home with the word 'winner' on it. It has been a privilege to come full circle!

With encouragement from Stacey Harding and Annette Beaudreau who work for West Kelowna.....I became a BC CiB judge in 2014 and Director and judge in 2015. It has been such a pleasure to work with great people in my own CiB com-

munity and then as a CiB judge to work with and share some of what I have learned over the years with representatives of other BC communities who are also striving to be the best they can be. It has been a win/win experience for me!

Peter Crawshaw

Since retiring as Superintendent of Parks and Facilities from the City of Parksville in 2003 it has been a delight to continue my involvement in the Communities in Bloom Program as a Provincial/National judge and member of the BC board as a director.

My first experience of the Communities in Bloom Program occurred in 2003 when I attended the National Awards and Parks Symposium in Kelowna.

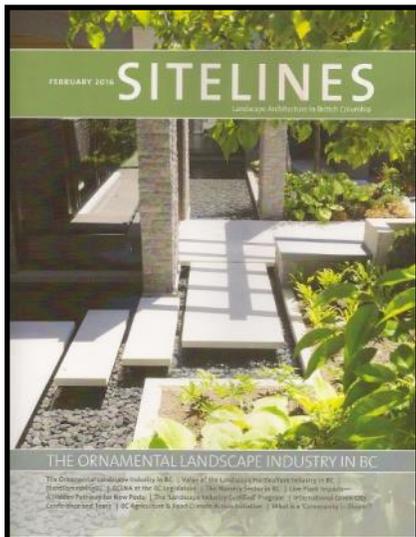
I was immediately struck by the concept of the program and its potential in assisting to draw various aspects of local government municipal organizations and the dedicated cores of community volunteers together under one umbrella.

Being actively involved in the Communities in Bloom Program since 2004 as a participating Community of the City of Parksville on Vancouver Island and as a judge I have had the privilege to travel to many BC communities and experience the wonderful things people do to enhance the livability of their towns and cities.

The commitment of many municipal governments to the Communities in Bloom concept has to me been one of the most encouraging aspects I have witnessed in my travels. To have success in the program it is essential to involve the municipal council, senior management, workforce and the abundant volunteer base within the community.

Forming a steering CiB committee of municipal officers, business and general volunteer groups is key to the success of local involvement.

To return to a community as a judge after it has been involved in the CiB program for a couple of years is both satisfying on a personal and professional level. To see how the program has drawn the community closer together is for me what makes it all worthwhile.



Ornamental Landscape Industry

Featured in the BC Society of Landscape Architects' Sitelines Magazine:

"What is a Community in Bloom" is on page 16.

Many thanks to Tara Culham, BCSLA Executive Director for this opportunity.



http://sitelines.org/sites/default/files/sitelines_issues/BCSLA_February2016_web_1.pdf

www.bcsla.org and www.sitelines.org

What's Growing On

Judges Workshop and AGM - April 23

It is that time of year when we gather our judges and board of directors to review our past efforts and plan for the future.

Workshop 9 - 3 and AGM 3pm - 4
SANDMAN SIGNATURE HOTEL & SUITES LANGLEY, 8828 - 201 Street, Langley BC, V2Y 0C8

EVALUATED PARTICIPANTS WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING:	
Getting Started Package with Community Profile & Municipal Info Form	April (sooner if possible)
Copy of the 2016 Evaluation Form/Link to Logo & Logo Use Guidelines	April
General Press Release & List of Provincial Participants	April
Proposed Evaluation Date (Usually within the third week of July)	Mid May (sooner if possible)
Confirmation of the Judges Arrival/Departure Times	Early June (sooner if possible)
Judges Contact Information & Biographies	Late June
Information on Provincial Awards & Conference	Early Summer
Survey of Program & Judges	September
13 th Annual Provincial Awards and Conference - District of Hope	Sept.30 - Oct. 1, 2016
National Awards Ceremonies - Symposium - Regina, Saskatchewan	Oct. 26 - 29, 2016
Results Press Release	Day after Awards Event
COMMUNITIES ARE REQUESTED TO SEND:	
Your Community Photo for BC CiB Website - 1 IMAGE	IMMEDIATELY PLEASE
Confirm accommodation for the Judges	Late June
6 High Resolution Photos for Awards PowerPoint	August or before