

PEOPLE, PLANTS AND PRIDE...

Growing Together

BC COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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GOLD SPONSORS:



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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

Suite 102 - 19289 Langley Bypass,
Surrey, BC V3S 6K1 (604) 576-6506

www.bccib.ca

[Friend us on Facebook](#)



Register for 2016



Photo Credit: Angie Bailey, District of Sooke



CONNECTION

Exchange ideas with other communities

PARTICIPATION

Engage citizens of all ages and abilities

BEAUTIFICATION

Enhance your community's quality of life

HOW TO GET STARTED

1. See what's growing on-line at www.bccib.ca
2. Connect with others passionate about community
3. Contact the Provincial Coordinator for more info
Catherine (604) 576-6506 or c.kennedy@telus.net

BC COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM

provides a framework for enhancing community liveability.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE MARCH 31

for Novice, Evaluated and Non-Evaluated Categories

Helping us Promote the 2016 Provincial Communities in Bloom Program:



- BC Society of Landscape Architects
- Civic Info BC News & Announcements
- UBCM Compass



DARLENE KALAWSKY As current CIB Volunteer Coordinator for Castlegar BC, a



Provincial Judge and present Chair for BC Communities in Bloom, I am a believer in the incredible successes of this program.

I love it. I live and breathe the values of this program, and as anyone will tell you, I advocate at every opportunity to share my experiences to all those who will listen. I sing the praises of anyone who does anything, large or small, to improve the LIVEABILITY of their community.

Castlegar BC has been a member of this National Program for ten years. It has literally changed the impression of those who haven't been back for a visit in a while. The reason; Volunteers have joined forces to support the principles of the National enhancement program, resulting in an unprecedented network of municipal government support, business partnerships, and school educational programs.

Community Involvement is a key element in all areas of the evaluation grid. Why? Largely, this demonstrates caring, which translates to changes, which translates to community engagement.

As a Provincial Judge, it is an honor to travel our beautiful Province, to witness the interpretations of the Program criteria by volunteers. As volunteer Judges, we offer our support for programs, answer questions, and in the process, giving an evaluation that will be beneficial

for those who are working in this program. You realize that during your travels, you have met some very amazing individuals.

It is about people. People, who care, people who want to make a difference in their communities. Volunteerism is an integral part of this Program, and while travelling the Province, and across Canada, you begin to understand the reasons for the success of Communities in Bloom.

As a member of the Board of Directors, I am constantly reminded of the expertise that sits at the helm of this wonderful group of volunteers. Professionals, from across the Province who are advocates, and who are transforming this program for the 21st Century. Thank you for your guidance, it is an incredible journey!

TERESA WILLIAMS from Hope, is continuing to inspire Kindergarten children



about the wonders of nature and gardening, until June, when she will retire after 45 years of teaching. Teresa has been an active

volunteer in Hope's CiB program since they joined in 2006; weeding and tidying, planting, and working on the judges' profile book. She volunteers with many community groups to make Hope a thriving district. A judge with the BC CiB since 2013, she loves the opportunity to meet with people who cherish their communities, and who are proud of their accomplishments. As President of the Hope Garden Club, she especially enjoys meet-

ing with the parks personnel and local gardeners.

In Hope she has seen flowering planters line the downtown street, tended by CiB volunteers every year. She sees more of the same in other communities, each group proud of their efforts to beautify their hometown. Hearing how many groups boast of their efforts to tidy their neighborhoods, to improve the parklands, and to make efforts to show environmental awareness, is so gratifying. Everyone likes to feel they are making their community a better place to live.

MYRNA MATTHEWS In 2004, Mission councillor Heather Stewart read about

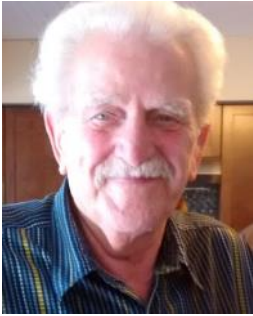


CiB on the internet and got intrigued. A group of Missionites learnt about the program and since that day they spent time

doing presentations about CiB to many organizations in town. The six categories message has been an incentive for many positive improvements in the downtown area. We now have a program called Street Scapes that encourages the residents and the business areas to spruce in the spring because they know the CiB group will be looking at their property. Part of the joy has been the involvement of city staff and because of that we have all benefitted by getting to know each other.

Communities in Bloom Mission hopes to "keep on blooming" and hope to "bloom" for years to come.

Continued on page 3...



Bert Pulles is involved as President of the Mission Communities in Bloom Society and as a Director for BC Communities in Bloom; the reason is simple; it has to do with the phrase "Love where you live".

The differences in cities that are participating in the CiB programme is overwhelming. All one needs to do is drive throughout BC. Some 25 years ago my wife and I did just that on a business trip. Years later we have gone to many of the same cities, the ones that have participated in the CiB programme shine like beauty queens.

It was one of our Mayors about 8 years ago that got my attention, when he spoke of communities well being by the people that volunteer their time to make our city a better place to live work and play. We have so many groups, like our Gardener Gorilla's, or our Adopt "A" Block, even our Junior anti litter club (over 600 members) and many more groups and clubs. That is Communities in Bloom, our Schools are also teaching the kids how to enhance our lives with recycling and growing food etc. Now "That is what I am talking about" and living it.

BC Recreation & Parks Spring Training - Horticultural Day Tradeshow Booth

It was a great opportunity to catch up with some familiar parks department faces and meet many new ones!

The speakers during the day covered topics from planting for pollinators to the challenges faced keeping new trees alive. Invasive knotweed and creating a community garden were some other interesting presentations.



New Bronze Bloom Sponsor

For over half a century, V.I.P. Soap Products has been creating quality environmentally friendly cleaning solutions for your home. With roots based on BC's West Coast, care for the environment has been a way of life here at V.I.P. since 1951. We are committed to the ongoing research and development of cleaning solutions that have little to no impact on the environment. V.I.P. is owned and operated by a local BC family and we are proud to contribute to BC's environmental and economic well-being through community support, local employment and environmentally responsible products and practices. <http://www.vipsoap.com/>

**Evaluated & Novice
Registration
Deadline
is March 31st**

[Download Form](#)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Communities Registered to date | 10. Sicamous, TBC |
| 1. Abbotsford | 11. Sooke |
| 2. Bowen Island, TBC | 12. Terrace |
| 3. Cache Creek | 13. Whitehorse, Yukon |
| 4. Chetwynd | Community Members |
| 5. Enderby, TBC | 1. Burnaby |
| 6. Fort St. John | 2. Castlegar |
| 7. Hope (Provincial Awards Host) | 3. Coquitlam |
| 8. Lumby | 4. Mission |
| 9. Salmon Arm | |

What's Growing On

Register Now for 2016

Deadline: March 31

Novice, Evaluated, Non-Evaluated Programs

Go to our [website](#) or contact Catherine at c.kennedy@telus.net

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



First One In!

Thanks Terrace, for your photo submission for the [BC Communities in Bloom Website](#).

Reminder to all participants that the photo will be linked to your community's website.

www.terrace.ca