

# PEOPLE, PLANTS AND PRIDE... Growing Together

## BC COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM NEWSLETTER

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

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



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### BC CiB Golf the Province Raffle Fundraiser Scores a Hole in One (or Two!)

Congratulations to First Prize Winner Mr. Kevin Freistadt and Second Prize Winner Mr. Wim Vanderzalm; a couple of very experienced golfers who were presented their prizes by BC CiB Director, Mr. Bert Pulles.

We raised over \$6400! Raffle proceeds will help to support our BC Communities in Bloom volunteers who give their time as specialists in horticulture, parks and recreation, community management and volunteer coordination. They are additionally trained to deliver the CiB evaluation program to the benefit of all British Columbian communities.

At the heart of our organization is our team of dedicated volunteers who bring a wealth of experience to our society. They represent the province as board members, judges and committee members in addition to representing their geographical regions. Our volunteers are the reason the society exists to deliver the Communities in Bloom program.

We are very proud of what the Communities in Bloom program accomplishes for our province. Thank you for helping us to continue to GROW in 2015.



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### 2015 Provincial Participants

- Hope
- Yale mentored by Hope (Novice)
- Barriere
- Coquitlam
- Cache Creek
- Lumby
- Salmon Arm
- Bowen Island (Novice)
- Sicamous (Novice)
- Fort St. John
- Whitehorse, Yukon

- Kelowna (Non Evaluated)
- Chetwynd (Non Evaluated)
- Sooke (Non Evaluated)

**National Participants:** Ashcroft, Sun Rivers  
Clinton, Kamloops, Castlegar, Trail,  
West Kelowna, Maple Ridge, Mission

**Information will be sent out shortly to participating communities regarding their evaluation dates, judging pairs and contact numbers.**

# Judges' Training Session a Success!

Many thanks to National & Alberta CiB Judge **Lorna McIlroy** who was invited to share her experiences and provide a little entertainment with a humorous skit of "what NOT to do"!



Left to Right Standing: Don Alberg, Catherine Dale, Shirley Culver, Shirley Fowler, Victoria Bentley, Heather Doheny, Peter Crawshaw, Karri Loadman, Ali Double. Sitting: Teresa Williams, Darlene Kalawsky, Rea Smith.



Left to Right Back Row Standing: Don Alberg (Past Chair), Heather Doheny, Edward Stanford.  
Middle Row: Myrna Matthews, Shirley Fowler, (Treasurer), Rea Smith, Peter Crawshaw, Karri Loadman (Vice Chair), Bert Pulles.  
Sitting: Teresa Williams (Secretary), Darlene Kalawsky (Chair), Catherine Kennedy (Executive Director).

# What's Growing On



## Clinton Entry Signage

We have been a member of CiB for 10 years. We didn't have any signage to show our CiB involvement. Integris Credit Union made it possible with the new signs to show everyone who drives into Clinton that we are part of Communities in Bloom. I also promised that we would show them off to the media and let everyone know Intergis has been very helpful to Clinton CiB with other projects like the Community Garden.



Our sincere thanks to Integris Credit Union for their ongoing support of CiB projects here in Clinton. Our latest triumph, Communities in Bloom signage at the north & south entrances to the Village, would not have been possible without Integris. Special thanks to Dan Wingham Manager, Partnership & Business Development, and to Jordon Conway, Marketing Designer, of Prince George who designed the CiB sign. Local branch manager Angie Cahill, and Evelyn Bell, of Integris Insurance Services continue to help to make it happen. The Village of Clinton Public Works built the frames for signs and installed them.

People in the picture: Evelyn Bell, Angie Cahill, and Chris Johnstone, Clinton CiB Chair.



## Castlegar Canadian Flag & Flag Pole Project Fundraiser

Castlegar will be commemorating 10 years in the CiB Program in 2015. Our theme for the year is "Celebrating Volunteerism". To recognize and salute all who have volunteered their time, we will have a Flag Raising Ceremony when our Judges Visit in July. All donors will be listed on a bronze plaque at the base of the flag pole. Our campaign is over half way to goal. Thanks to Kathy and Mac Gregory who have been leading this project.

Entrance to Castlegar from South Highway 3 at Blueberry subdivision entrance.

Hanging Basket seminars were welcomed by our community with great enthusiasm. We sold out! "It was fun and educational at the same time" said many of the attendees, We will be back next year! Forty individuals participated over a two day period.



## Invasive Plants in Your Garden:

### How 'Grow Me Instead' Can Help You Avoid an Invasion

Did you know that many invasive plants are so beautiful and low maintenance that we often feel compelled to obtain them? Invasive plants exhibit the very characteristics we often seek in plants, such as beauty, pleasant aroma, drought tolerance, high seed production, and rapid growth.

Without realizing a plant is invasive in our region, we often acquire it and add it to our garden. Once planted, our seemingly innocuous plant can establish and spread quickly, escape our gardens and property boundaries, cause damage and become costly, time consuming and difficult to control.

With few to none of its natural population controls (e.g. parasites, predators, diseases, climate controls), a newly established invasive plant is likely continue to spread and cause environmental, economic and social damage.

Unfortunately, invasive plants and seeds can be acquired through online, magazine and in-store purchasing, as well as at gardening-related events and venues across BC. Invasive plants are also common contaminants in compost, soil, wildflower seed mixes and other materials.

The Invasive Species Council of British Columbia (ISCBC) addresses the introduction and spread of invasive plants through horticulture with its province-wide PlantWise program and 'Grow Me Instead' resources. PlantWise, in concert with Grow Me instead, encourages consumers and industry to use only non-invasive plants. A key resource of PlantWise—the Grow Me Instead booklet—outlines 26 of BC's most "unwanted" horticulturally invasive plants and provides an excellent selection of similar but non-invasive alternatives to plant instead.

Watch out for these invasive plants and learn about expert-suggested alternatives in Grow Me Instead:

- Baby's Breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*)
- Bachelor's Buttons (*Centaurea cyanus*)
- Blueweed (*Echium vulgare*)
- Butterfly Bush (*Buddleja davidii*)
- Common Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*)
- Common Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*)



- Daphne (*Daphne laureola*)
- English Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)
- English Ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*)
- Flowering Rush (*Butomus umbellatus*)
- Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
- Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
- Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*)
- Knotweeds (*Falliopia japonica*, *F. sachalinensis*, *Polygonum polystachyum*)
- Mountain Bluet (*Centaurea montana*)
- Orange Hawkweed (*Hieracium aurantiacum*)
- Oxeye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*)
- Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Russian Olive (*Elaeagnus angustifolia*)
- Scotch Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*)
- Spurges (*Euphorbia esula*, *E. myrsinites*, *E. cyparissias*)
- Tamarisk (*Tamarix chinensis*, *T. ramosissima*)
- Toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*, *L. genistifolia* subsp. *dalmatica*)
- Yellow Flag Iris (*Iris pseudacorus*)
- Yellow Archangel (*Lamium* or *Lamiastrum galeobdolon*)

As long as the demand for horticulturally invasive plants prevails, the supply will unfortunately continue, but the good news is that more commercial businesses and consumers are committing to make a difference by becoming PlantWise and becoming pro-active in keeping their yard, community and region free of invasive plants. You can do the same! Get your copy of Grow Me Instead, find out which plants are invasive in your region and choose only non-invasive alternatives to create a beautiful, diverse and healthy garden free of invasive plants.

For more information, to get involved in PlantWise, or become a PlantWise Ambassador in your community, visit [www.bcinvasives.ca](http://www.bcinvasives.ca). You can purchase or freely download Grow Me Instead resources from our website. Thank you for practicing responsible gardening!

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Thank you for practicing responsible gardening!



PROVINCIAL | NATIONAL | INTERNATIONAL  
COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM 2015 SYMPOSIUM & AWARDS



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COMMUNITY REDEFINED

**KAMLOOPS**

COLLECTIVITÉ REDÉFINIE

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SEPT. 30 – OCT. 3, 2015

**SAVE THE DATE!**



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