



To the Mayor and Council,

It has been a few years since your community was active in the Communities in Bloom program, no doubt a few things have changed since that time!

I am reaching out to former participants to remind them that there are a number of ways to participate. Enclosed is the 2020 Provincial Registration Form, with an explanation of all our evaluated and non-evaluated options. Many communities start with the non-evaluated Novice category as the way to re-introduce the program to a new group of volunteers and supporters.

Participating in the Communities in Bloom program helps showcase how essential greenspaces and community engagements are to our society's health and happiness.

Hope to see your community back in the CiB family!

Kind regards,

Catherine Kennedy,
Executive Director

c.kennedy@telus.net

P.S. If you are curious about when your community was last evaluated, please go to our website www.bccib.ca under Participants Map & History.

19951 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4E2 | 604 576-6506 | www.bccib.ca

BC Communities in Bloom is part of the GardensBC marketing network promoting destination gardens and areas throughout the province.



2020 PROVINCIAL EDITION

BRITISH COLUMBIA COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM

EARLY REGISTRATION CONTEST:
Paid Registrations received before
Feb. 28, 2020 are eligible to WIN a pair
of Tickets to the
PROVINCIAL AWARDS DINNER
FINAL DEADLINE: March 31, 2020

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	
PARTICIPATION CATEGORIES (please indicate your level of participation)		REGISTRATION FEE Based on Population Size:	
<input type="checkbox"/> NOVICE WORKSHOP Introduce CiB to your community with a pair of trained BC CiB facilitators.	<input type="checkbox"/> FRIENDS NON-EVALUATED holds your bloom rating one-year (½ Registration Fee)	<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)
<input type="checkbox"/> PROVINCIAL EDITION EVALUATED Community receives a Bloom Rating Award and 18-page report ONLY CATEGORY ELIGIBLE TO WIN A CRITERIA AWARD Getting Started package of information sent upon registration.			

EVALUATED PARTICIPANTS should plan to:

- Create a local 'in Bloom' committee to build collaboration with citizens, business, service clubs and a municipal rep (Councillor, Public Works, Administrator, Parks/Recreation);
- Prepare for an **Evaluation** to take place in mid to late July;
- Create a **Community Profile Book** (CPB) outlining the community's achievements in the specific evaluation criteria;
- Develop a simple 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;
- Host 2- facilitators (judges) typically 3rd week of July. 2-nights maximum in separate rooms (Hotel, B&B or Billeting if certain conditions can be met); with meals during evaluation day.
- Budget for sending a couple of people to the BC CiB Provincial Awards and Conference Event in the fall. Recognize your volunteers by providing an opportunity to network with other participants and to learn how to maximize your CiB program.

COMMUNITY RECEIVES:

- Getting Started Package of Information;
- Evaluation by a pair of trained BC CiB facilitators for 1-2 days;
- Bloom Rating Certificate (1 to 5 blooms);
- 18+ page Evaluation Report with Comments & Suggestions;
- 5-Bloom Winners receive a special recognition Street Banner;
- Profile on www.bccib.ca and Gardens BC tourism website;
- Information about National Competition in future years.

BENEFITS to Community:

- **Involves People of all ages to be part of the Volunteer Effort**
- **CiB Program is a tool to encourage Tidiness & Beautification**
- **Promotes Excellence in Horticultural Best Practices**
- **Provides Focus & Deadline for new & ongoing Projects**
- **CPB and Evaluation Report showcases Community Assets**
- **Report is a Cost-Effective Measurement of Success**

Cheque payable to: BC Communities in Bloom NEW MAILING ADDRESS: 19951 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4E2	
AMOUNT ENCLOSED	\$ Population Fee + 5% GST = \$ GST # 8446 03670 RT0001
PLEASE INVOICE US AT:	<input type="checkbox"/> Above Address
CANCELLATION POLICY:	Before April 30 th a \$50.00 fee may be charged, after that, all registration fees are non-refundable.
Request more information: <input type="checkbox"/> Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsorship Catherine Kennedy (604) 576-6506 c.kennedy@telus.net	

Participation Options	COST
<p>1. NOVICE WORKSHOP – First Year Audit Get started growing your commUnity with an introduction to the CiB program!</p> <p>A pair of BC CiB Facilitators will meet with key stakeholders from your community to help create the framework for a future committee. Facilitators will present a PowerPoint and view 3 criteria of your choice: i.e. Floral Displays, Landscape and Tidiness Efforts offering comments and suggestions for future efforts. A recognition certificate and report will be presented at the fall Awards.</p> <p>There is no Evaluation Tour or Community Profile Book to organize but be prepared to host the BC CiB facilitators (meals with accommodation for 2-nights max.) and have 3 - 10 people ready to workshop.</p>	<p>Fee dependent upon population size - see Registration Form Front</p> <p>(Email a request for additional information)</p>
<p>2. PROVINCIAL EDITION EVALUATION - Awarding 1 to 5-Blooms Develop an 'In Bloom' action committee to build collaboration with residents, service groups, municipal staff and business owners.</p> <p>Organize an Evaluation Tour to view about 80% of your community to a pair of BC CiB judges. (What is Communities in Bloom)</p> <p>Create a Community Profile Book to summarize your community's assets, this is also used to supplement information not shown during the evaluation tour.</p> <p>Plan to host a pair of judges for meals with accommodation for 2-nights max.</p> <p>Recognizing your commUnity! Participants are awarded a Bloom Rating Certificate and receive a written report at the Provincial Awards & Conference in the fall. Evaluating six criteria, the report creates a benchmark score to celebrate successes and to help focus on future improvements.</p>	<p>Fee dependent upon population size – see Registration Form Front</p> <p>This is the ONLY CATEGORY eligible to win a CRITERIA TROPHY</p>
NON-EVALUATED	
<p>3. FRIENDS* For communities that want recognition for ongoing CiB initiatives but want to take time off from evaluation. Holds bloom rating one-year.</p> <p>*Bonus: this category is encouraged to provide a Showcase Project</p>	<p>½ Fee dependent upon population size - see Registration Form</p>
<p>4. PLACES & SPACES SHOWCASE PROJECT* (non-evaluated) Profile for a specific project or geographical segment within a community. Open to service groups, garden clubs, municipalities, electoral areas etc., submissions also accepted from National and International level CiB participants in British Columbia. Provide 100 words & 3 photos to be showcased in the provincial newsletter.</p>	<p>Fee: \$100 (go to www.bccib.ca to download form)</p>
All Participants will receive recognition on our Website, Map, Press Releases, Fall Awards, GardensBC	
<p>5. COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP As per the 2020 Membership Form www.bccib.ca Fee dependent on population size. (* also includes a Showcase Project entry)</p>	

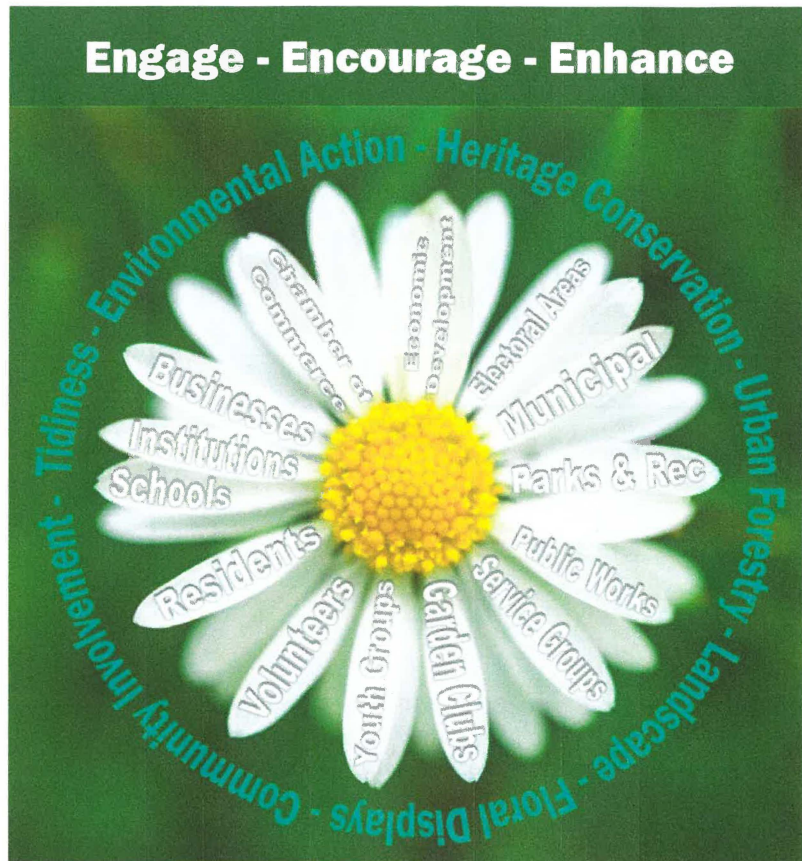
BC Communities in Bloom

OVERVIEW

BC Communities in Bloom (BC CiB) is a province-wide recognition and award program that provides a framework for Municipal participants to reinvigorate and enhance their community's liveability.

In annual surveys of our participants, Community Involvement and Beautification are always listed as the top benefits. Tidiness, Property Values and Green spaces, with Lifestyle, Environmental, Tourism and Safety round out the list of valued improvements.

Using the collaborative power of local government, business/institutions, service clubs and residents, it is this 'Growing Together' that stimulates civic pride and encourages tidiness, beautification and environmental initiatives throughout their area. The program inspires a 'transformation' process that can have lasting social, environmental and economic benefits.



BENEFITS OF EVALUATION

BC CiB trained volunteers evaluate specific criteria with a standardized scoring matrix. The purpose of the report is to provide feedback on the visual appeal of streetscapes, public green spaces, neighbourhoods, and to recognize efforts to preserve heritage and cultural assets. The report can then be used to celebrate excellence and areas for improvement year over year. Whether a community's objective is to enhance tourism experiences or improve liveability for their residents, the CiB program is a tool to achieve these goals.

Each year many communities in British Columbia participate in the 'in Bloom' program that involves hundreds of volunteers; on average these CiB action groups contribute over \$10,000 worth of time and in-kind donations to many meaningful projects within their hometowns.

Registration fees are kept reasonable so that funds can be used for local improvement projects. Participants will develop a budget from a blend of

sources such as municipal, fundraisers, sponsors and in-kind donations from local businesses for specific projects in the community.

It is important to note that evaluation components of the program are adjusted according to the community's population size and resources, while also appreciating local geographical challenges.

Evaluated Participants receive recognition through the BC CiB website, social media, newsletters, GardensBC, in addition to receiving a detailed **Report with a Bloom Rating Certificate** at the fall Provincial Awards. Non-evaluated participants also receive recognition at the awards and through ongoing promotions.

CONTACT

British Columbia Communities in Bloom,
19951 Fraser Highway, Langley, BC V3A 4E2
www.bccib.ca
Catherine Kennedy, BC CiB Executive Director
c.kennedy@telus.net (604) 576-6506



PURPOSE

BC Communities in Bloom (BC CiB) NFP Society supports our many Volunteers who give of their time as specialists in horticulture, parks and recreation, community management and volunteer coordination and who are additionally trained to deliver the CiB evaluation program to the benefit of all British Columbian communities.

BC CiB volunteer facilitators (judges) are in the community viewing, evaluating, suggesting improvements to the local volunteer committees to help them:

- Enhance BC's environment through our Environmental Action criteria
- Recognize local heritage and culture through our Heritage Conservation criteria
- Profiles quality of sustainable horticulture management in Landscaped Areas, Floral Displays, Urban Forestry
- Celebrates Tidiness Efforts of entire community; residential, municipal and business/institutions

- As well, the CiB program contributes to the quality of life in a community by encouraging the local CiB committee to work with and include; Service Groups (Rotary Clubs, Community Garden Groups, etc) Schools, Business, Residents and a Municipal representative; all coming together to improve the social and economic fabric of their community.
- Since 2005, BC Communities in Bloom (BC CiB) has delivered a province-wide enhancement program (tool) that has benefited the province and communities of all sizes. From tourist towns on the coast, rural interior and industrial towns in the north, our organization has provided guidance through the judges visits and evaluation reports to more than 100 volunteer groups. (Nationally CiB began in 1995.)
- Our organization operates on a modest budget while providing a service that participants value as a reasonable, cost efficient measurement of their success.
- 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, facilitator/judges and committee members in addition to representing their geographical regions. Our volunteers are the reason the BC CiB program exists.
- We are very proud of what the 'in Bloom' program accomplishes for the province of British Columbia!

INFORMATION DOCUMENTS UPON REQUEST

- Inspiring Civic & Citizen Involvement with Criteria Explanation Flyer;
- Novice Workshop - How to start a CiB program and develop a committee;
- Getting Started Info Package - how to create a tour and profile book (evaluated participants only);
- Registration Form and Participation Options;
- Membership form.

www.bccib.ca – Visit our website to see examples of CiB in action

Major Sponsors: Urban Systems, Teck

Supporters: Gardens British Columbia, BC Landscape & Nursery Association, BC Recreation & Parks Association, Invasive Species Council of BC, BC Agriculture in the Classroom