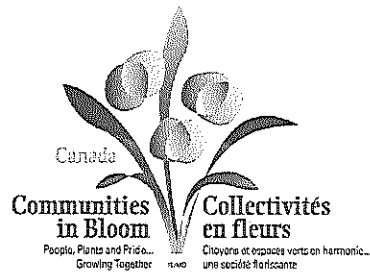


Evaluation
Form
VETERAN

2017



2017 Evaluation Form



Community: Veteran
 Province: Alberta
 Category: Competitive: 1 - 500

The evaluation is based on 8 criteria, divided into the 6 following sections, assessing 4 sectors of the community:

Tidiness	133.00	/	150.00
Environmental Action	115.50	/	150.00
Heritage Conservation	117.50	/	150.00
Urban Forestry	143.00	/	175.00
Landscape	172.00	/	200.00
Floral Displays	150.00	/	175.00
	Total		831.00 / 1000.00

Percentage: 83.10%

Bloom rating: 5 blooms

Bloom rating: Up to 55%: 1 bloom. 56% to 63%: 2 blooms. 64% to 72%: 3 blooms. 73% to 81%: 4 blooms. >82%: 5 blooms.

Mention: The V Project.

Representative (s) of Community

Name: Harriett Andrew Chair CiB Committee
 Name: Dianne Ulseth Treasurer: CiB Committee
 Name: _____ Function : _____

Judges

Name: Bob Cote Name: John Helder

Evaluation date: July 19, 2017

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- * Evaluation is adjusted to the climate and environmental conditions of the community.
- * Some aspects of the evaluation might not be applicable: scoring will be prorated.
- * The score will vary from the previous year based on the facts that the evaluation form is subject to modifications each year and that the evaluation is based on the perception of the current judges.

2017 Evaluation Form

SECTORS OF EVALUATION

Municipal:

- Municipal properties, parks and green spaces, streets, streetscapes
- Properties owned and run by municipality such as museums, historical sites

Business and Institutions:

Properties owned and managed by

- **Business:** commercial sector, shopping centres, commercial streets, industrial parks, manufacturing plants
- **Institutions:** schools, universities, churches, hospitals, service and community organization buildings (such as YMCA, Legion), private museums, government and crown corporations buildings (such as Canada Post)
- **Tourism bureaus and Chamber of Commerce offices**
- **Farms:** in rural communities, farms can be considered in this section

Residential:

- Citizens and citizen groups acting within their own properties
- Residential property owners, rate payer groups

Community Involvement:

The principle of community involvement is so fundamental to the program that it is considered in each segment of the evaluation.

- Individuals, community organizations and citizen groups – all contributing to various aspects of community improvement, including municipal spaces maintained through the efforts of volunteers and community
- Organized clubs such as horticultural societies, garden clubs, community associations
- Service clubs such as Rotary, Lions, and Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the municipality, businesses and institutions.

2017 Evaluation Form

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The judges were truly impressed with the tidiness of the Village and the expanse of mown open spaces as they first viewed the village on a sneak preview the evening before the evaluation. First impressions raised our expectations and set the tone for a most interesting tour and visit. We are very keen to provide feedback and recommendations to support Veteran on its continuing journey for improvement and community pride. It is our wish that you will find this evaluation a helpful tool as you move forward.

The judges appreciated the work and craftsmanship that went into the Community Profile Book and the grassroots involvement of a group of people in putting it together in a scrapbooking style. The downside however was that they were not able to peruse the book prior to judging. Judges like to take advantage of seeing all the community information as they prepare for judging. This also allows them to prepare questions prior to the evaluation to be asked as they tour.

The judges enjoyed the wagon ride and this was an effective way to show the judges the whole village. However it would be advantageous to have the features of the village pointed out, perhaps to stop and view some of the accomplishments of residents in the way of beautiful yards, vegetable gardens, shelter belts, composting activities, etc.

The judging team would have welcomed meeting a village representative of Council and/or the administration. They would have been able to answer questions in regards to the village vision, future direction, environmental goals and the more mundane matters regarding bylaws, maintenance practices and the like.

It is a good, even an important practice, when entering Communities in Bloom and in preparing for the evaluation to carefully review the Evaluation Form to ensure that information provided to the judges is comprehensive, covers the elements being judged and all the achievements of the community. Knowing the evaluation grid will guide the planning of the Community Profile Book and the tour and activities for evaluation day. The grid may be adjusted over time, for instance over the last few years there has been an increased emphasis on "natural Heritage Conservation", knowing this may raise the possibility of how a community can work to address this aspect of the evaluation grid.

The fundraising Community Spirit Calendar project is praise worthy in that it not only is a tool for raising money for CiB efforts but also serves to build community. Well done!

The judges were impressed with the size of the CiB Committee, however, they would encourage the Committee to work with others to accomplish community goals, whether that be by working with the Village, the Lions, the school and/or the churches. It is wonderful that you do reach out to businesses. Working with the wider community will spread the workload, increase ownership of the program and avoid burn out of volunteers.

The judges wish to acknowledge and congratulate you on the wonderful work being done in Veteran to enhance the quality of life in your community. The grass roots support for Communities in Bloom activities was wonderful to see. We regret that the Veteran Eagle is being discontinued. Without this local newspaper, it will be important to brainstorm alternate tools for communication in the Village and maintain the grass root support that was so obvious with more than 10% of Veteran's population attending the Communities in Bloom potluck luncheon. Such support and involvement is an incredible testimony of community involvement. Congratulations!

The judges very much enjoyed meeting residents and community leaders and learning about Veteran and its many achievements. Thank you very much for your gracious hospitality.

Project of Special Mention

The V Project is deserving of special mention. This pie shaped piece of land had been taken on as a personal initiative by a couple of individuals as a park project, changing an area that was somewhat of a "wasteland" and turning it into a village park. Volunteers have continued to plant and maintain it and this year updated the setting and replaced the deteriorating wooden barrels that had been used at the site with resin barrels. It is great to see that such a beautiful project is maintained and improved on an ongoing basis.

2017 Evaluation Form

TIDINESS		
<p>Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort by the municipality, businesses, institutions and the residents throughout the community. Elements for evaluation are parks and green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets; municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties; ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots, signs and buildings; weed control, litter clean-up (including cigarette butts and gum), graffiti prevention/removal and vandalism deterrent programs.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	9
Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	9
Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, graffiti prevention and eradication, graffiti removal kits to residents	10	8.5
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)	15	13.5
Visual appeal, and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including City Hall grounds)	15	14.5
Business & Institutions		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	14
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	14
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	3.5
Residential		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	17.5
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	13
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street tidiness, clean-up programs, activities and annual maintenance (including promotion, organization, innovations involving youth and seniors, etc.)	10	8.5
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs	10	8
Tidiness Total	150.00	133.00

2017 Evaluation Form

TIDINESS

Observations:

The judges were most impressed with the tidiness of the community. They did not see one bit of litter or graffiti. The mown green open spaces also contributed to a look of tidiness.

The judges learned about the spring cleanup efforts completed on May 6, which included cemetery cleanup, roadside ditch cleanup, by the Lions and the annual Highway Cleanup by 4H clubs. In addition there was the May 25 Clean-Up Bee and then the pre CiB evaluation activities led by the CiB committee. These activities obviously are effective in creating the tidy impression and image.

Well done!

Recommendations:

Obviously there are a number of activities in Veteran that successfully support the village's standing as a tidy community. As the judges look to make recommendations, they try to learn from casual conversation what challenges are faced.

They became aware that the school could be more supportive and students might, as a general practice, be encouraged to pick up litter on an ongoing basis. We recommend that CiB Committee reps meet with the school leadership to explore feasible programs that would raise student awareness about litter and tidiness. Any program whether intensive or minimal will have as spin off reduced litter and could possibly pass some of the litter management activities from the CiB Committee to youths and students.

As some (a few) properties have deteriorated with people leaving them, it would be great to have a discussion with the Village as to how these might be addressed both for the sake of village image and safety.

2017 Evaluation Form

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION		
Environmental action pertains to the impact of human activities on the environment and the subsequent efforts and achievements of the community with respect to: policies, by-laws, programs and best practices for waste reduction and landfill diversion, composting sites, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, energy conservation, and environmental stewardship activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning / vision; effective bylaws / policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities	20	16
Waste reduction to landfill and results (3-R : reduce, reuse and recycle), municipal composting programs, including activities such as composting sites, yard waste collections, mulching of wood debris (Christmas trees, hedge trimmings, etc.), reclamation of cut trees, and handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection and reuse of compost material	20	16
Water conservation and use-reduction programs: efficient appliance incentives or promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies and rainwater management	15	12
Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar), and initiatives such as: efficient appliances initiatives, shielding for night skies issues, efficient street lighting	15	11
Environmental initiatives, innovations and actions such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation network such as bike lanes and multi-used pathways; • Horticultural practices such as green roofs, green walls, green lanes, living fences, buffer zones; re-use of sites; engineered wetlands, bio-swales, permeable surfaces and rain water management • Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation • Air quality programs such as anti-idling, reduction of greenhouse gas emission (carbon reduction). 	10	7
Business & Institutions		
Participation in the environmental effort: such as waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management	10	7.5
Corporate environmental innovation / stewardship, initiatives, activities (ex. environmental clean-up activities)	10	8
Residential		
Participation in the 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle) initiatives and composting	10	8
Adoption of water conservation practices & policies including rainwater collection	15	12
Community Involvement		
Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	5	3
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership), etc.)	10	8
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	7
Environmental Action Total	150.00	115.50

2017 Evaluation Form

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Observations:

The judges noted a number of rain barrels on residential properties. They presume that the recommendations by previous judges may have influenced the introduction of rain barrels and congratulate you on using CiB evaluation to make improvements.

The recycling of paper and cardboard is fantastic. It is great that students are involved by packing paper to the bin.

Though residential composters were mentioned we did not see them. A question was raised during the evaluation tour about composters. There are websites about composting such as: <http://aep.alberta.ca/waste/composting-at-home/backyard-composting.aspx> and http://www.edmonton.ca/city_government/environmental_stewardship/composting.aspx. Experience suggests that a serviceable unit with few moving parts is usually more cost effective. Some are pegged to the ground but can easily be shifted and lifted to provide access to the composted materials. Many people have their favorite types so it is difficult to recommend one that will satisfy all. The most expensive is not necessarily the best, so price is certainly a consideration in making a choice.

The judges were interested in the "town wide" garage sale (June 3rd) as a wonderful way to encourage reuse of goods and materials... and to think that people from the surrounding communities came to this event. Using environmental action as a tourist attraction. Good work!

Recommendations:

Many activities related to Environmental Action may not be under the purview of a small community and may therefore not be considered in the presentation to CiB judges. There are however activities at other levels of government, or even larger neighboring communities, as well as, utility and service providers which influence and contribute to the community's standing. We recommend that the CiB Committee check out these type of contributions. One example would be the Toxic Round-up of Coronation/Consort, which can be used by Veteran residents. Another is water being charged for by volume used. This can be a strategy that influences general reduction of water use and implementation of water conservation strategies.

Judges would like to be made aware of activities by the municipality as well as local businesses, perhaps information on their activities could be included in the future. Again including a municipal representative in the tour may allow for the judges getting a better sense of municipal buy-in and support for Communities in Bloom goals and aspirations.

2017 Evaluation Form

HERITAGE CONSERVATION		
<p>Heritage conservation includes efforts to preserve natural and cultural heritage within the community. Preservation of natural heritage pertains to policies, plans and actions concerning all elements of biodiversity including flora and fauna ecosystems and associated geological structures and formations. Cultural conservation refers to the heritage that helps define the community including the legacy of tangible (built/hard assets) elements such as heritage buildings, monuments, memorials, cemeteries, artifacts, museums and intangible elements such as traditions, customs, festivals and celebrations. The participation of groups such as historical societies and conservation groups are considered.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Natural heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs	10	7.5
Natural heritage management plans and preservation initiatives: including eco systems, eco parks, protection of sensitive habitats, species at risk, support for at risk pollinators, grasslands, naturalization, wetlands, urban agriculture/farming, and wildlife	15	11
Management and promotion of natural heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development / tourism) including activities and programs (year-round) for education and use of natural heritage sites for and by the public	15	11.0
Cultural heritage polices, by-laws and plans and preservation initiatives for heritage buildings, cemeteries, artefacts, museums, monuments , heritage trees and gardens, including their integration with streetscapes and landscape	15	14
Cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	8
Business & Institutions		
Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.	15	12
Promotion of local heritage, including heritage gardens, native plants, and heritage trees	10	7.5
Residential		
Conservation / restoration and reuse of heritage buildings, artefacts on residential lands.	10	7.5
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual natural heritage programs including developing policies and plans, site improvements and management, conservation and education initiatives.	15	11
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions (including environmental groups) in community initiated natural heritage activities and programs.	15	11
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual cultural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	8.5
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions (including historical societies) in community initiated cultural heritage activities and programs.	10	8.5
Heritage Conservation Total	150.00	117.50

2017 Evaluation Form

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Observations:

The judges noted significant signs of heritage conservation. They were shown the well-maintained cemetery with numerous improvements in the way of tree plantings, new benches, and the impact of clean-up activities. They appreciated the number of murals that celebrate Veteran's heritage. They saw a monument at the campground commemorating Royal Canadian Mounted Police activities from the 1880's through to the present. The museum, a repurposed church, and the Village Office were two examples of preserved buildings.

Obviously, the achievements and interest in cultural heritage preservation is outstanding in Veteran.

Recommendations:

The judges would like to have visited the museum to see what it has to offer. Would the judges have learned more of how the 'dirty thirties' influenced Veteran history and whether the establishment of the Special Areas has had an impact for good or bad.

The judges did learn from the Community Profile Book about the challenges presented by weather, the Palliser Triangle and the 'dirty thirties' and we are pleased that modern farming practices and increased precipitation contribute to the surrounding area being an important agricultural region. The judges would however, have liked to learn about the community efforts in celebrating and raising local resident and visitor awareness about Veteran history and the original settlers. Our recommendation is that the museum be shown to judges in the future so that they can provide encouragement and recognize community efforts in this heritage conservation project.

It would also have been of interest to learn more about the restored Village office building. This structure certainly stands out as being one of great significance, especially where some older building have been destroyed by fire or have had to be demolished because of their being unsafe.

Natural heritage, which is also evaluated along with cultural heritage, appears to be somewhat lacking. The judges learned that native prairie was destroyed through agriculture and with the impact of drought in the dirty thirties. They also learned that native prairie is very challenging to re-establish. Be that as it may, a small native prairie planting would be an excellent way to celebrate the native vegetation and also raise awareness of the original plant communities of the region.

2017 Evaluation Form

URBAN FORESTRY		
<p>Urban Forestry includes the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree management (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, tree replacement policies, pollinator friendly tree selection, tree inventory, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest	10	8.5
Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	15	12
Urban forestry plan and design, including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots.	20	17.5
Plan of action: procurement, species diversity (including native trees), selection of hardy and pollinator habitat tree species, recommended tree list and tree planting standards.	10	8
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases	10	7
Public information program: good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs	15	12
Maintenance best practices and proven results	10	8
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	5	4
Business & Institutions		
Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by business and institutions.	15	12
Maintenance programs, best practices with proven results: watering, pruning, IPM	10	8
Residential		
Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees on residential properties	15	12.5
Maintenance best practices with proven results	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public participation in tree planting and conservation programs such as Green Streets Canada, Arbor Day, Maple Leaf Day, and other tree planting and maintenance programs and activities on public lands (including promotion, organization etc.)	20	17
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation or promotion by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community tree planting and conservation programs on public lands	10	8.5
Urban Forestry Total	175.00	143.00

2017 Evaluation Form

URBAN FORESTRY

Observations:

The judges noted that the vigorous tree planting program continued in 2017 with Village, cemetery and Communities in Bloom Committee participation. The judges are pleased that tree planting has been an ongoing activity over a number of years. Keep up the good work.

It was wonderful to see the fruit bearing trees planted at the school. Such plantings can contribute to food security in a meaningful way and be of benefit to residents and the wider community, especially as the trees mature and fruit production increases. Such projects can also become a means to build community as people work together to harvest, process and enjoy the fruit.

The placement of mulch around the fruit trees in the schoolyard will help keep the weeds away from the trees. It was also good to see that a perimeter edge was placed around the base of the fruit trees to contain the mulch. Ensure that the mulch is not mounded up against the base of tree trunks. This prevents the base of the tree from being constantly moist which could result in disease and decay. A well or depression should be created at the base of the tree to receive water, which can then filter down to the root system rather than flow away, and not benefitting the tree.

Continue to maintain the tree inventory that you have on file. This information will help in planning for tree care and maintaining the urban forest through asset management and determine priorities in further tree planting needs and tree replacement in the event of tree mortality.

It was great to learn that volunteers joined the Public Works staff to plant the trees at the ball diamond.

Recommendations:

We would recommend that you continue to plant trees and recommend that you apply for funding through programs as available through such organizations as Tree Canada. Their website: <https://treecanada.ca> provides information about a number of different funding opportunities and programs.

We did not learn about any ongoing tree maintenance activities or programs. We did note some dead branches on elms along the highway. Removal of dead wood is one "Integrated Pest Management" (IPM) strategy to keep trees healthy and extend their lives. Removal of dead wood in elms is particularly important to ward off Dutch Elm Disease (DED) eliminating dead wood habitat that attracts the elm bark beetle, the carrier of the DED virus. If the Village does not have the expertise to maintain trees, bringing in a qualified, International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist might be considered to protect and extend the life of the trees and maintain a healthy urban forest. Such an arborist might also be able to provide a tree-pruning workshop for the residents of the community.

As the fruit trees mature, judges will be interested in learning how the fruit is harvested and used. Perhaps a community project could be developed with fun events to ensure the produce is used and does not go to waste.

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LANDSCAPE		
Landscape includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of parks and green spaces suitable for the intended use and location on a year-round basis. Elements for evaluation include: native and introduced materials; balance of plants, materials and constructed elements; appropriate integration of hard surfaces and art elements, use of turf and groundcovers. Landscape design should harmonize the interests of all sectors of the community. Standards of execution and maintenance should demonstrate best practices, including quality of naturalization, use of groundcovers and wildflowers along with turf management.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
First impressions of the community including gateway / entrance treatments	10	9
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties (including pollinator friendly) , traffic calming, bank stabilisation	10	7.5
Urban and civic design standards for streetscape and public places: flags, banners, public art, fountains, site furnishings, signage, seasonal design and décor, walkways and paving materials	10	8.5
Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	8
Turf management programs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, increased naturalization and adapted maintenance programs	10	8
Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs	10	8
Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specifications and best practices	5	4
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	10	8
Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (urban agriculture, community gardens, parks and recreation programs)	10	8.5
Business & Institutions		
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture	10	8.5
Contribution to urban and civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design	15	13.5
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement) of all landscape elements	10	9
Residential		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	13.5
Maintenance of properties: lawn care and shrub maintenance (with proven results)	15	13.5
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible and pollinator friendly plants)	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community programs such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (promotion, organization, etc.)	20	18
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom Program including activities in all evaluated criteria	20	18.5
Landscape Total	200.00	172.00

2017 Evaluation Form

LANDSCAPE

Observations:

The Communities in Bloom signage displayed at the entrance to Veteran proudly announces that you are a CIB community.

The Welcome to Veteran Signs were landscaped with shrubs, trees and flowers and were well maintained. These signs and surrounding area defined the gateway to a tidy and inviting community.

The Village Campground is well maintained and provides excellent accommodation to visitors.

The judges noticed the well maintained turf areas throughout the Village and were impressed that 30% of the Village area is open green space.

The "V-Project" along the main residential roadway was very attractive and a good use of the previously vacant space.

The Lions Playground and Millennium Park are attractive and well cared for by the Lions Club members.

The business properties were well maintained and landscaped with grass and trees.

Sports fields also appeared to be well maintained and also well used. Great to have Veteran host sports activities bringing people to the village from many surrounding and even relatively distant communities.

Recommendations:

Though a number of flags were seen on the main street, adding more flags and including banners would add additional interest and colour.

As mentioned under Heritage Conservation, adding some native plants in the landscape would enhance the landscape, as well as, increase biodiversity, support pollinator insects, and encourage native plant use by residents.

Next year, you might want to consider including visits to some of the residential gardens as part of the judges tour to show landscape achievements that were difficult to take in or appreciate as we toured the village this year.

2017 Evaluation Form

FLORAL DISPLAYS		
<p>Floral displays evaluates efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents to design, plan, execute, and maintain floral displays of high quality standards. Evaluation includes the design and arrangements of flowers and plants (annuals, perennials, bulbs, ornamental grasses, edible plants, water efficient and pollinator friendly plants) in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, colour, and harmony This pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	13
Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	20	17.5
Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants	10	8
Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	18
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	10	8
Business & Institutions		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	13
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	8
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	10	8.5
Residential		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties Pollinator gardens and/or inclusion of pollinator plants in gardens	20	17
Quality of planting and maintenance with proven results	15	12
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.)	15	13.5
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community floral displays activities	15	13.5
Floral Displays Total	175.00	150.00

2017 Evaluation Form

FLORAL DISPLAYS

Observations:

The floral displays were bright, visible and well cared for. Floral colour at the 'V Project', the Millennium Park and the entrance plantings were particularly attractive.

It was great to see that a number of businesses have flower planters on display. This demonstrates business support for beautification.

The use of flower containers with water reservoirs is commendable. This reduces the frequency of watering.

The planters at the school are visually attractive and maintained by the Community in Bloom volunteers.
Good work!

Recommendations:

The judges would recommend that the Village start a recognition program for gardens and plantings that contribute to the image of the Village. It could be a "Yard of the Week" program where one outstanding yard could be recognized and ask the resident to pass the recognition sign on and place it on another deserving yard after one week's time and so on.

Having neighbours nominate worthy yards is another possible recognition program. Any such program will generate pride in the community and get many people involved in beautification. Any recognition program encourages residents as well as institutions such as churches, and businesses to get on the beautification bandwagon.

Taking a cue from the successful sharing of plants with the development of Millennium Park, a plant-sharing event could be organized in the spring. People who start their own flowers or vegetable plants and have in excess of their needs might be prevailed upon to make them available for others. People accepting plants from this type of event could be encouraged to give a donation to support Communities in Bloom activities.

Any new programs and activities should be designed to be sustainable so they do not add to the 'burden' of the CiB Committee if at all possible.

2017 Evaluation Form



THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT

“Within the context of climate change and environmental concerns, communities involved in the Communities in Bloom program can be proud of their efforts, which provide real and meaningful environmental solutions and benefit all of society.”

COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM IS MADE POSSIBLE BY

The commitment of local, provincial and national volunteers.

The support of elected officials and of staff in municipalities.

The dedication of our judges, staff and organizations.

The contributions of our sponsors and partners.

