

Communities in Bloom Committee

Conducted Electronically Via MS Teams

Thursday, July 23, 2020 6:00 PM

Agenda

Public Participation for July 23, 2020 Communities in Bloom Meeting

Communities in Bloom Committee (Committee) will be conducting the July 23, 2020 meeting through electronic communications in accordance with the Meeting Procedures (COVID-19 Suppression) Regulation, Order in Council 99/2020.

- Anyone wishing to participate in the meeting is encouraged to do so by registering to speak as a delegate by way of teleconference or by submitting their delegation comments by email.
- To participate by teleconference:
 - Anyone wishing to speak by teleconference to an item on the July 23, 2020 Communities in Bloom Meeting Agenda must pre-register by 12:00pm, July 23, 2020.
 - To register to speak via teleconference, please email <u>boardsandcommittees@rmwb.ca</u> or call 780-743-7001 with your name, the phone number that you will be dialing in from and an email address that you can be reached at prior to and during the meeting.
 - You must provide the name of the agenda item that you wish to speak to.
 - All registrants will be emailed the details on how to participate prior to the start of the meeting.
 - Each registrant will be given a maximum of 5 minutes to address the Committee.
- To make written submissions as a delegation before or during the live meeting:
 - o Please email boardsandcommittees@rmwb.ca You must include your name for the record.
 - You must provide the name of the agenda item that you wish to speak to in the subject line.
 - Please note that email comments for an agenda item must be received prior to the start of that item during the meeting. <u>Emails that are received after the agenda item has been introduced or are not relevant to an agenda item, will not become part of the record of this meeting.</u>
 - All written submissions are public and will be shared with the Committee verbally on the record during the course of the meeting.
 - Each submission will be shared verbally with the Committee for a maximum of 5 minutes.

The personal information on this form is collected under the authority of Section 33 (a) & (c) of the Alberta Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The personal information will be used as contact information. If you have any questions about the collection or use of this information contact the Chief Legislative Officer, Legislative Services, 7th Floor Jubilee Building, 9909 Franklin Ave. T9H 2K4, or call (780) 743-7001

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Adoption of Agenda
- 3. Minutes of Previous Meetings
 - 3.1. Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting June 16, 2020
- 4. New Business
 - 4.1. Council Presentation End of Year Review
 - 4.2. 2020 Outstanding Achievement Awards
 - 4.3. Social Media Strategy / Communications Plan
 - 4.4. Communities in Bloom "Hope" Tulip Donation
 - 4.5. 2020 Communities in Bloom Virtual Symposium and Seminars
 - 4.6. Committee Recommendation Hosting 2022 Communities in Bloom Symposium

5. <u>Unfinished Business</u>

5.1. Nominate Your Neighbour

<u>Adjournment</u>

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Communities in Bloom Committee held via Electronic Communications on Tuesday, June 16, 2020, commencing at 6:00 PM.

Present:

Ayesha Tariq
Adeline Azangue
Johnny Dulku
Darcy Enns
Destiny Jefferies
Helen Meyer

Absent:

Sheila Lalonde, Councillor

Administration:

Matthew Harrison, Acting Director, Communications and Stakeholder Relations Nadia Power, Acting Manager, Communications and Stakeholder Relations Seville Kwan, Coordinator, Recreation and Culture Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer Caitlin Sheaves, Legislative Coordinator

1. <u>Call to Order</u>

Johnny Dulku, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Entrance:

Destiny Jefferies joined the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Ayesha Tariq joined the meeting at 6:04 p.m.

2. **Programs and Events**

2.1. Flower of the Year Distribution

Administration proposed that Flower of the Year seed packets be distributed at the Canada Day Pop-up Shops during the week of June 22, 2020. It was noted that the committee is not required to assist with distribution at these events as they are adhering to COVID-19 precautionary measures. Administration indicated that these packets will not only be distributed in the Urban Service Area, but also in the rural communities across the region. The Committee determined that any left-over packets from the Canada Day distribution should be added to the Nominate your Neighbour Packages.

MOTION:

THAT the Flower of the Year seeds be distributed at the Canada Day Pop-Up Shops, during the week of June 22-25, 2020

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Johnny Dulku SECONDER: Helen Meyer

FOR: Tariq, Azangue, Dulku, Enns, Jefferies, Meyer

2.2. Nominate Your Neighbour

Administration requested that the Committee reconsider the course of action for the Nominate Your Neighbour Program, as the typical start date of June 15 has passed. Adding that the Committee had previously decided to rebrand the program in 2020, however due to the on going pandemic that time has now elapsed.

Following discussions the Committee decided that the program would be pushed back to begin in July as it is anticipated that there will be an increase to the number of nominations received this year, as many residents in the region are putting more time into gardening due to the COVID-19 restrictions. The Committee decided that it will prepare for approximately 150 nominations and continue the 2020 program as it was in 2019.

MOTION:

THAT Nominate Your Neighbor Program continue for 2020 similar to 2019 - with 150 packages distributed evenly to each committee member.

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Helen Meyer SECONDER: Johnny Dulku

FOR: Tariq, Azangue, Dulku, Enns, Jefferies, Meyer

2.3. Miracle Gro Best Garden Selection Program

Administration provided an update stating that the National Communities in Bloom Office has cancelled the Miracle Gro Contest this year and will not be distributing any awards. This presents an opportunity to make an addition to the Nominate Your Neighbor Program, should the Committee wish to do so.

Administration advised that if the Committee chose to add this to Nominate Your Neighbour Program, it could be accommodated within the current budget.

The Committee considered options to replace the Miracle Gro Program. Helen Meyer suggested a program in addition to the Nominate Your Neighbour Program, with a new name.

MOTION:

THAT the Miracle Gro Best Garden Selection Program be continued in 2020 as a local program and;

THAT the program be renamed to Nominate Your Neighbor Special Recognition Program

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Helen Meyer SECONDER: Destiny Jefferies

FOR: Tariq, Azangue, Dulku, Enns, Jefferies, Meyer

2.4. Snye Park Garden

Administration provided an update on the Snye Park Garden indicating that the Parks Department has confirmed the plants and materials are still available.

The Committee discussed the best time for members to participate and it was determined that it would be best to start planting as soon as possible.

Action item:

• Administration committed to getting a list of plants that are still available so the layout and design process can begin.

MOTION:

THAT the Communities in Bloom Committee proceed with the planting of the Snye Garden before end of June 2020.

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Johnny Dulku SECONDER: Darcy Enns

FOR: Tariq, Azangue, Dulku, Enns, Jefferies, Meyer

2.5. 2020 Communities in Bloom Symposium

Administration advised that the 2020 Communities in Bloom Symposium previously scheduled to be held in the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, has been cancelled for this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 Symposium will be held virtually, to allow registered communities to take part in webinars and virtual tours of various

communities. The National Office has invited the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to host the Symposium in either 2021 or 2022.

The Committee considered the pros and cons of hosting in either 2021 or 2022. It was proposed that 2022 would be a better option as this would allow for more preparation and planning for the event.

MOTION:

THAT The Communities in Bloom Committee bring forward a recommendation to Council to host the Communities in Bloom Symposium in 2022, and

THAT the required funding be incorporated into the Operating Budget for the applicable year

RESULT: CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Destiny Jefferies SECONDER: Johnny Dulku

FOR: Tariq, Azangue, Dulku, Enns, Jefferies, Meyer

2.6. End of Year Report

Administration advised that due to setbacks caused by the COVID-19 pandemic a written presentation to Council would be the best course of action to providing the report for 2019.

Action Item:

Helen Meyer and Johnny Dulku committed to working together on the report.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Chair		

Wood Buffalo Communities in Bloom Committee 2019 Annual Report

Submitted by: Helen Meyer, Johnny Dulku July 2020

Introduction

The Wood Buffalo Communities in Bloom Committee (CIB) served the organization in 2019 by encouraging environmental responsibility and celebrating outdoor beautification throughout the community. Community engagement activities and hosting national events were methods used by the members and volunteers to achieve their goals. The members of the 2019 Wood Buffalo Communities in Bloom Committee were Joanne Fisher, Chair; Johnny Dulku, Vice-Chair; and members Adeline Azangue, Funke Banjoko, Qasim Malik, Cathy Steeves and Ayesha Mailk.

Community Engagement Activities

Community engagement is significant for the committee to share information, promote the committee's purpose and to develop volunteer interest and community participation. The engagement activities organized by the committee in 2019 were:

Spring Trade Show (April 26-28): Members shared shifts throughout the weekend at the Spring Trade Show to promote the committee's work and introduce the 2019 Flower of the Year (Pansy). Flower of the Year seed packets, and Wood Buffalo Communities in Bloom stickers and tattoos were distributed to interested patrons. There was also a draw for trade show patrons to win a prize of garden tools and supplies.



• Snye Park Community Garden (June 1):

The Snye Park Community Garden was planted by volunteers, and community members on a chilly Saturday morning. The activity provided an opportunity for volunteers and community members to participate in a community beautification project. Members also provided a seed buffet table for community members to collect different types of seeds to plant in their home gardens.



Party in the Park (July 30):

Party in the Park was a volunteer appreciation event for community members who participated in the Nominate Your Neighbour program and various beautification programs, such as Community Clean Up and Community gardening. The event took place from 6 to 8 pm at the Heritage Shipyard. The activities included live entertainment, a barbeque dinner provided by Waste Management and an open tour of the Shipyard. RMWB Council members, MP David Yurdiga, MLA Tany Yao and MLA Laila Goodridge attended and provided support to the organization and give thanks to the community volunteers. Judges from the National Communities in Bloom organization, John Lohuis and Alex Pearl, also attended as special guests for the event.

• Winter Trade Show (November 29-December 1):

The Winter Trade Show provided another opportunity for the committee to share its purpose with the community, promote the Winter Nominate Your Neighbour program and introduce the National and International Communities in Bloom Symposium, originally planned to be hosted by the municipality and committee in September 2020.

Communities in Bloom Programs

The 2019 Communities in Bloom programs are known locally and nationally. The programs create a local interest for community gardening and establish a national interest for outstanding community gardening efforts. The programs organized by the committee in 2019 were:

- Nominate Your Neighbour (June 15 August 15):
 Nominate Your Neighbour celebrates the gardeners in our community for their contributions in beautifying their homes and neighbourhoods with vibrant landscapes and beautiful floral displays. Committee members and volunteers assists with dropping off garden signs and recognition packages to the many green thumbs in our community.
- Business Beautification (June 15 August 15):
 Business Beautification encouraged businesses to beautify their place of business through flowers and landscaping. The successful business winner for 2019 was the Clearwater Suite Hotel.



• National CIB Judges Visit (July 29 – 31):

Communities in Bloom Judges John Lohuis and Alex Pearl visited Fort McMurray to meet committee members and collaborate for the 2020 Symposium program. The visit included a meet and greet with the committee and a tour of Fort McMurray, including trails and outdoor facilities.

Winter Nominate Your Neighbour (November 15 – December 15):
 The Winter Nominate Your Neighbour focused on winter décor including landscape and lighting.

Closing

2019 was a very successful year filled with many engaging and thought-provoking events for community members. It closed with returning and newly appointed committee members, holding a full capacity committee. Past committee members rejoined us as volunteers and one of our volunteers even became a member of the committee. We look forward to future community engagement opportunities and participating in upcoming events as it becomes safe to do so in our region.





CALL FOR ENTRIES

Outstanding Achievement Awards will be given to participants in the National 2020 Special Edition of Communities in Bloom.

Outstanding Achievement Awards for National Edition are only open for Communities in Canada.

- Best Blooming Community Award, by Communities in Bloom **NEW**
- **Community Appearance (formerly Tidiness),** by Communities in Bloom
- Environmental Action, by the Canadian Nursery and Landscape Association
- Heritage Conservation, by Communities in Bloom
- **Urban Forestry,** by Communities in Bloom
- **Landscape,** by Scotts Turf Builder
- Floral Displays, by the National Capital Commission
- Youth Involvement, by Scotts
- **Community of Gardeners,** by Scotts
- The Butchart Gardens **Land Reclamation** Award (for the National and Provincial participants)
- **WinterLife** Award, by Municipal World (for the National and Provincial participants)

WHO CAN ENTER?

Outstanding Achievement Awards are opened to all communities participating in the **National 2020 Special Edition** of Communities in Bloom

- Communities may submit entries for one or all of the awards listed
- There is no additional fee to enter

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Fill out the registration form at www.communitiesinbloom.ca in the Members Area by 5pm, August 14, 2020. Entries received after this date will not be accepted.

The winners will be announced on October 9th during the Communities in Bloom Virtual Awards Ceremonies.



WHAT ARE SUPPORTING MATERIALS?

A maximum of 3 supporting material (5 MB / each) can be uploaded in your application. These documents should best represent the award that your community is applying for. This could include:

- Photos
- Newspaper clippings [photo and print which include the source, date and page];
- Newsletters or other community communication documents;
- A copy of the <u>related section</u> of the Community Profile;
- Copies of promotional materials;
- Website/page URL
- Videos
- o Etc.

JUDGING PROCESS

An independent panel will adjudicate all entries.

All entries will be adjudicated on the following:

- thoroughness of the submission activity in meeting the criteria identified for each award;
- ability to effectively describe those items indicated in the "entries should address" section outlined for each award; and
- relevance and quality of the supporting materials

ENTRIES ARE DUE BY 5 PM AUGUST 14, 2020



2020 Special Award – Best Blooming Community (by Communities in Bloom)

Community initiatives by the municipal, business, institution, private sector and residents in various programs and projects to meet the challenges of 2020. Areas to be addressed include Community appearance (formerly Tidiness), Environmental Action, Natural Heritage, Cultural heritage, Floral Displays, Urban Forestry and Landscapes.

- Overall description of how the community met the challenges of 2020
- Identification of stakeholder participation and support (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.) including good news stories for community spirit
- Examples of initiatives in the areas of the evaluation to overcome the challenges of 2020



Community Appearance (formerly Tidiness) (by Communities in Bloom)

Community Appearance includes an overall tidiness effort. Elements for evaluation are parks and green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets; municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties; ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots and buildings; weed control, litter clean-up (including cigarette butts and gum), graffiti and vandalism programs.

Entries should address:

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in the **Community Appearance (formerly Tidiness)** category
- Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation and support (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Examples of special Tidiness initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020

Environmental Action (by the Canadian Nursery and Landscape Association)

Environmental action includes efforts and achievement with respect to: policies, by-laws, programs and best practices, diversion from landfill and waste reduction, composting sites, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, naturalization, and environmental stewardship activities under the quiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in the **Environmental Action** category
- Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation and support (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Examples of Environmental Action initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020



<u>Heritage Conservation</u> (by Communities in Bloom)

Heritage Conservation includes efforts to preserve natural heritage within the community with focus on the integration of landscape and streetscapes in built heritage: preservation of cultural heritage pertaining to monuments, memorials, artifacts, museums and history, archives, traditions, customs, festivals and celebrations in relation to parks and green spaces in the community. The participation of groups such as Historical Societies and Conservation Groups are considered.

Entries should address:

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in the **Heritage Conservation** category
- Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation and support (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Examples of Natural & Cultural Heritage Preservation initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020

<u>Urban Forestry</u> (by Communities in Bloom)

Urban Forestry includes the efforts, of the municipality, businesses, institutions and citizens with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree management (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, tree replacement policies, tree inventory, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees.

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in **Urban Forestry** in the municipality
- Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation and support (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Examples of Urban Forestry initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020



Landscape (by Scotts Turf Builder)

Landscape includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of parks and green spaces suitable for the intended use 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.

Entries should address:

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in the **Landscape** category
- Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Examples of Landscape initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020

<u>Floral Displays</u> (by the National Capital Commission)

Floral Displays evaluates the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and citizens 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) in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, colour, and harmony. This pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in **Floral Displays** throughout the community
- Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Examples of Floral Displays initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020



Youth Involvement (by Scotts)

The objective of this award is to recognize community involvement in projects which engage youth. Initiatives should demonstrate the relationship of youth involvement and Communities in Bloom community initiatives. Entries should relate the measurable impact of Youth Involvement on the community.

Entries should include:

- Identification of the names of the youth group or groups involved, and should indicate the level of participation.
- Specific project/event/activities where youth involvement is identified;
- Identification of plans to sustain the involvement of youth
- Identification of challenges encountered in the youth involvement and means used to resolve these.
- Demonstration of Youth Involvement initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020

Community of Gardeners (by Scotts)

The objective for the **Community of Gardeners** Award is to recognize broad Community Involvement in gardening and horticulture projects. To qualify for this Award, involvement from all stakeholders within the community must be quite evident and a success factor of the municipality's participation in Communities in Bloom. It must also demonstrate how best practices in horticulture are an important part of the community involvement initiatives.

Entries should include key indicators from the perspective of each of the following:

- Overall description of how the community demonstrates excellence in gardening in all aspects of the community
- Identification of stakeholder participation and support (municipal, business and institutional, residential, and community groups/organizations/clubs etc.)
- Quality of maintenance
- Beautification elements and goals
- Examples of Community Gardening initiatives to overcome the challenges of 2020



<u>Land Reclamation</u> (by the Butchart Gardens)

Eligibility

Open to all Canadian communities that have a park/garden/green space for which the community was looking for new perspectives. Such as, but not limited to:

- Reclaimed land such as a former quarry, dumpsite, or mine transformed to parkland for recreation or education purposes;
- Industrial land, such as brownfields, that have been decontaminated and developed as a park
- Waterfront park developed on industrial land
- Vacant wasteland or underutilized open space

Prize

- A two night stay at The Sidney Pier Hotel and Spa in Sidney, BC
- Two adult tickets for entrance and Afternoon Tea for two at The Butchart Gardens
- Both prizes, non-exchange for cash, will need to be used simultaneously and will be valid until September 30th, 2021
- The winner will have the liberty of giving the prize to anyone of his/her choice

History

The submission must present the history of the site and the garden / park / green space:

- What was the land use prior to reclamation?
- Why did it need reclamation?
- What were the challenges in the reclamation?

Sustainability

The submission must demonstrate how this reclamation will be sustainable. Design

- What was the design intent?
- Is it inclusive and accessible for all ages and abilities?

Horticulture

- Existing and new vegetation such as native plants
- Water conservation considerations such as xeriscape gardens or use of reclaimed water

Effect on the community

- Potential of use after reclamation such as natural park, sports complex, nature centre, etc.
- Interface with public and private areas.
- Explain community participation (municipal, commercial/industrial, service groups/citizens)
- Discuss economic benefits



WinterLife (by Municipal World)

The objective of this award is to recognize efforts and involvement in projects and initiatives which engage the community with indoor and outdoor activities from November through March.

Eligibility

Open to all Canadian communities.

Submissions will be evaluated under 3 primary criteria:

- Holiday Celebrations (Nov / Dec 2019)

Information should include:

- Visual programs (lighting events, competitions)
- Holiday events (parades, festivals, entertainment)
- Public programming

Winter Activities (Nov 2019 – Mar 2020)

Information should include:

- Festivals and events celebrating the community in winter
- Sports and other programming
- Use of public spaces

Community Outreach (Nov 2019 – Mar 2020)

Information should include:

- Programs and initiatives which improve quality of live in the community (such as goodwill programs)
- Programs and initiatives which encourage community engagement, including participation of seniors, youth, new residents

Supporting material should include:

- Identification of the programs and initiatives included in the submission
- Indication of multiple sector involvement:
 - Municipal leadership and participation
 - Corporate support
 - o Participation of service groups where appropriate
 - o Citizen engagement and participation
- Visual support (media/press clippings, promotional materials)
- Time duration of the initiatives
- Outline of means planned to sustain the initiatives

As part of the recognition for this award, a photo of the winning community will be featured on the cover of Municipal World Magazine in December 2020.

Planting "Hope" for 2021

PLANTING 'HOPE' FOR 2021



Complimentary "Hope" Tulip bulbs will be provided to each **nationally**registered community, sponsored by:

DE VROOMEN BULB CANADA INC.

Plant them in autumn for a show of spring flowers! Be sure to send us your photos next year, in 2021 and we'll take a vote for our favourite spring tulip display.

Webinars

2020 SUMMER WEBINAR SERIES

JULY: Landscape & Floral Displays



Thursday July 30th, 1pm EDT

Join CiB experts Paul Brydges, Tina Liu and Bob Ivison as they provide Outstanding Community Examples and Best Practices on Landscape & Floral Displays to **all Canadian & International Communities**. Have your questions ready so we can answer them during this interactive webinar!

REGISTER HERE

SAVE THE DATES – ADDITIONAL WEBINARS AUGUST:

Urban Forestry & Environmental Action

Thursday August 20th, 1pm EDT

Advice, Q+A on Urban Forestry & Environmental Action Open to **registered CiB National Communities**

Thursday August 27th, 1pm EDT

Outstanding Community Examples and Best Practices Urban Forestry & Environmental Action

Open to all Canadian & International Communities

Symposium & Awards

2020 VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM "Healthy Communities in Bloom"



Wednesday, September 23, 1pm EDT Symposium Kick-Off!

Sponsored by Scotts Canada

Join us for our first Webinar featuring Canada's most popular and trusted gardening expert and weatherman **Frankie Flowers**! This 30-minute webinar will be followed by a live Q&A with Frankie!

To learn more about Frank Ferragine AKA "Frankie Flowers", visit Frankieflowers.com
SYMPOSIUM WEBINAR DATES:

September 23 & 24, 1 – 3pm EDT,
September 30 & October 1, 1 – 3pm EDT
October 7 & 8, 1 – 3pm EDT
October 9: Virtual Town Hall, 1pm EDT

FREE – for all registered CiB National Communities \$75 – per non-registered community (up to 10 people) \$10 – per non-registered individual More Info & Registration links coming soon!