



NEWS RELEASE

Abbotsford Receives ‘5 Blooms’ in British Columbia Communities in Bloom Program

ABBOTSFORD – September 18, 2018 – The City of Abbotsford has been awarded the ‘5 Bloom Community’ rating for the 2018 Communities in Bloom Program announced Mayor Henry Braun.

This was the second year that the City of Abbotsford competed in the competitive edition of the Provincial Communities in Bloom program. The rating of ‘5 blooms’ is the prerequisite to entering the national version of the contest which Abbotsford will be looking forward to in 2019. .

Abbotsford also received a special mention for the Co-op Community Viewing Platform at Willband Creek, a partnership with the Abbotsford-Mission Nature Club and the “Co-op Community Spaces Program.

To build awareness about the CIB program and to gain community involvement for the competition, the City hosted a “Get Your Bloom On” and “Your Bloomin’ Wonderful” campaign in the spring. The Communities in Bloom Committee also created a “Get Your Bloom On” garden tour fundraiser, raising money for both the Abbotsford Community Services “Urban Garden”, and the school garden at Auguston Elementary School. Many Abbotsford businesses and residents participated in the local contests, and helped ensure that our community was in full bloom when the CIB judges came to town.

The British Columbia Communities in Bloom is a program that inspires communities to enhance and sustain the visual appeal of neighbourhoods, public spaces, parks and streetscapes through the imaginative use of regionally-appropriate plants and landscaping with attention to environmental stewardship and to preserve heritage and cultural assets. Communities in Bloom ratings are based on 8 criteria:

1. Heritage Conservation
2. Urban Forestry
3. Landscape
4. Turf & Groundcovers
5. Floral Displays
6. Tidiness
7. Environmental Action
8. Community Involvement

Communities in Bloom is a Canadian non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification. Communities of all sizes and from every region of British Columbia participate in the BC Communities in Bloom program , and each year only a handful are invited to compete nationally.

Quotes:

“The Communities in Bloom program is an excellent way of enhancing green spaces and encouraging environmental stewardship in our community. I’m particularly proud that the City of Abbotsford received the highest provincial achievement, and on behalf of City Council, I would like to acknowledge and thank everyone

involved. This award was achieved by our entire community – from businesses, volunteers and residents, you all helped showcase our great city.”

*Henry Braun
Mayor, City of Abbotsford*

“This CIB award of 5 blooms recognizes how seamlessly the committee, municipal staff, and Abbotsford residents worked together to showcase our great and diverse community to the judges. Our municipal government, including Mayor and Council, together with residents, businesses, and volunteers showed great commitment, participation, and passion for Abbotsford throughout all sectors of the evaluation. Thank you to all who were involved.”

*Mike Adkins
Community Chair, Abbotsford Communities in Bloom*

Associated Links:

National Communities in Bloom website - <http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca/>
Abbotsford Communities in Bloom Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/abbycommunitiesinbloom/>

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