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# NEWS RELEASE

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## Abbotsford Receives ‘4 Blooms’ in Communities in Bloom Contest

**ABBOTSFORD – October 3, 2017** – The City of Abbotsford has been awarded the ‘4 blooms’ rating with special mention for the International Friendship Garden from the British Columbia Communities in Bloom program (BC CIB), as well as a Criteria Award for outstanding effort in this year’s special CIB Canada 150 trophy, announced Mayor Henry Braun today.

This was the first year that the City of Abbotsford competed in the competitive edition of the Provincial Communities in Bloom program. To build awareness about the CIB program and to gain community involvement for the competition, the City launched a “Get Your Bloom On” and “Your Bloomin Wonderful” campaign in the spring. 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 judges look for results 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 through community involvement and the challenge of a national contest. Communities of all sizes and from every region of British Columbia participate in the BC Communities in Bloom program.

### **Quotes:**

“Achieving 4 Blooms is a significant accomplishment, and on behalf of City Council, I would like to acknowledge and thank everyone involved. This was our first year entering the Communities in Bloom competitive program, and we are extremely pleased with the results. 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*

**Associated Links:**

Communities in Bloom website - <http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca/>

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