

Evaluation Form

Competitive,
Evaluated Friends, and
Novice Categories

2023



**Communities
in Bloom**

**Collectivités
en fleurs**

Saskatchewan

Program Disclaimer

Saskatchewan Parks and Recreation Association (SPRA) staff, volunteer judges and all personnel associated with Communities in Bloom (CiB) will not be held liable for any observations, suggestions, or recommendations made in this Evaluation Document or at any time during the delivery of the CiB program. This will also include any resulting activity or events related to participation in the CiB program.



Community: Outlook
Province: Saskatchewan
Category: Evaluated Friends

CiB recognizes efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change which is reflected in several criteria including:

Environmental Action; Preservation of Natural Heritage; Tree Management and Landscape

Community Appearance	122.0	/	150.00
Environmental Action	115.25	/	150.00
Heritage Conservation	117.50	/	150.00
Tree Management	118.5	/	175.00
Landscape	141.50	/	200.00
Plant and Floral Displays	116.75	/	175.00
	Total		731.50 / 1000.00

Percentage: 73 %

Bloom rating: 4 Blooms

Bloom rating: Provincial, National and International Participants

Up to 55% 1 bloom	56% to 63% 2 blooms	64% to 72% 3 blooms	73% to 81% 4 blooms	>82% 5 blooms
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Mention: War Memorial with Three Plinths and Flanders Field Poppies

Representative (s) of Community

Name: Kevin Trew Function: Chief Administration Officer
 Name: Maureen Weiterman Function: Mayor
 Name: Megan Anthony Function: Recreation Director

Judges

Name: Larry Hall Name: Elaine Schreiner

Evaluation date: July 26, 2023

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- Evaluation is adjusted to the climate and environmental conditions of the community.
- Evaluation is also adjusted to match the capacity of a community population to the achievements in all criteria – i.e. evaluate what they do (achieve) with what they have (population/ resources).
- 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 scores are based on the perception of the current judges.

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, Business Improvement Areas (BIA), 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, provincial and federal parks, etc.)
- **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 including condos and co-ops

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, citizen groups (includes youth programs) – 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, school groups
- Service clubs such as Rotary, Lions, Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the municipality, businesses and institutions.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

We'd like to thank the Town of Outlook, the CIB Committee and all the staff for a wonderful welcome. Many employees and volunteers took time out of their day to explain and answer any questions about the facility that they were responsible for. It was a very well organized and informative tour. It is good to see Outlook back in the CIB program and we are very pleased to say that you have achieved 73%, and 4 Blooms. Well done.



Our first unforgettable stop was the War Memorial situated kitty corner from the Town Office. What a peaceful site, it was like we were being serenaded in with the tall stately clumps of grass swaying in the gentle breeze and the glorious red poppies smiling and nodding in the sunlight. We walked through the large cement arch to view a very well laid out memorial. It has the large monument in the centre with 3 plinths behind and 3 tall lighted flag poles at the back. All of which have up lighting for a very dramatic effect during the evening. We were told that the beautiful poppies were grown from the seed of the poppies that grew in Flanders Field. What a treasure, save some seeds to put in the Town vault in case of a bad year.

The CSIDC tour was very good. We appreciated the research being conducted there, and the beautiful grounds that can be used by residents.

The food truck outside of the museum along with benches is a nice place for visitors to sit and enjoy food and the outdoors. This is an especially nice when the farmers market or other activities are happening at the museum.

Congratulations on taking part in the CIB program this year. Please consider being competitive next year.

Larry Hall and Elaine Schreiner

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

Community appearance reflects an overall effort by the municipality, businesses, institutions and the residents throughout the community to create great first impressions and a sense that there is continuous attention and upkeep to critical elements of a community that benefit quality of life and economic vitality. 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.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Gateway Impressions First impressions of the community including gateway/entrance landscape treatments	10	8
Overall Impressions Order, cleanliness, curb appeal and first impressions	10	8
Anti-litter/Graffiti Prevention and Removal Community anti-litter/graffiti awareness programs	10	8
Regulations Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, private property maintenance by-laws, vandalism, graffiti prevention and eradication, graffiti removal kits to residents	10	8
Asset Appearance Including public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage, and furniture such as benches, litter, and recycling containers etc.)	10	7.5
Municipal Properties Appearance Visual appeal and condition of municipal buildings and municipal owned properties	10	8.5
Business and Institutions		
Overall Impressions Curb appeal, order, and cleanliness	15	12
Site Conditions Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks, and parking lots	15	12.5
Furniture/Amenities Appearance Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter, and recycling containers	5	3
Residential		
Overall Impressions Curb Appeal, order, and cleanliness	20	17
Property Conditions Condition of buildings, grounds, and yards	15	13
Community Involvement		
Public Participation In community, neighbourhood or individual streets, clean-up programs, activities, and annual maintenance (including promotion, organization, innovations involving youth and seniors, etc.)	10	8
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses service groups, and institutions for community clean-up programs.	10	8.5
Community Appearance Total	150.00	122.0

COMMUNITY APPEARANCE

Observations:

Upon entering the Town of Outlook we noticed the grass cut around each sign in the sign corridor, this gives an excellent first impression.

The gateway sign was striking with the new logo saying Irrigation Capital of Saskatchewan and powered by solar lights.

The Town Office building had lovely shrubs and large pots around its perimeter. A xeriscape row had 3 flags, Saskatchewan, Canada and Indigenous and tall clumps of grass between each flagpole. Very neat and tidy, great first impression.

Some facilities such as the swim pool were well landscaped while some facilities not so much.

The Lutheran College Bible Institute aka LCBI, is a boarding school which was started in 1911, and the Canada Saskatchewan Irrigation Diversification Centre aka CSIDC, is a government funded research centre, were both very interesting and a great part of the community. Outlook is very fortunate to have both facilities.

The combination of brick and concrete on the town sidewalks was attractive.

Recommendations:

The town sidewalks were attractive but could use a good weeding, you may want to investigate the use of a weed torch to burn the weeds in the cracks.

Once Franklin Street and Saskatchewan Ave are open consider landscaping these areas with large pots of flowers or hanging baskets or both. Another thought is to promote your theme of irrigation Capital by use of banners along the street. The banners could promote the theme of irrigation or celebrate the veterans of Outlook. Of course, benches with garbage and recycle containers are always a nice touch.

The banners could be funded by family members, used for a few years and then returned to the family that sponsored them.

The Civic Centre and Hospital properties both need something around the buildings, shrubs, trees and plantings as they appear lonely in a large open space. A mural painting on the wall or a statue of a hockey player or someone recognizable in the community would work also.

The playground behind the town office could benefit from frequent rototilling to keep the sand soft and weed free.

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: environmental stewardship, 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 activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Sustainable Development Strategies Policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning/vision; effective bylaws/policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities. This includes activities such as: the creation of Active Transportation networks, fleet management, and recognition of the importance of biodiversity to mitigate and adapt to climate change.	20	16
Waste Reduction Reduction of waste going to landfill and results (3-R: reduce, reuse and recycle), municipal composting programs, including activities such as composting sites, yard waste collections, plastics reduction programs, mulching of wood debris (Christmas trees, hedge trimmings, etc.) and reclamation of cut trees. Handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection and reuse of compost material. Officially mandating the greening of public events such as on-site recycling bins, biodegradable drink containers, food service dishes, utensils, etc to minimize the use of plastic.	20	17
Water Conservation Use-reduction programs such as promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies	15	11
Energy Conservation Programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar) and initiatives such as: energy-efficient appliances, shielding for night skies, efficient street lighting	15	12
Environmental Initiatives, Innovations and Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation networks such as bike lanes, multi-use commuter pathways, and recreational trails - Horticultural practices such as planned biodiversity, green roofs, green walls, green lanes, living fences, buffer zones; re-use of sites; engineered wetlands, bioswales, permeable surfaces and rain water management - Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation - Air quality programs such as alternate energy sources, sustainable design of facilities, sustainable fleet management, reduction of greenhouse gas emission (carbon reduction), anti-idling by-laws. 	10	6
Business & Institutions		
Participation in The Environmental Effort Waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), water conservation, energy conservation and audits (fleet management, electric conservation), brownfield management	10	8
Corporate Environmental Initiatives and Action Innovation/stewardship, initiatives, activities (for example: environmental clean-up activities, plastic reduction) carbon emissions, green roofs	10	7.25
Residential		
Participation in Environmental Initiatives 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle), composting	10	8
Water & Energy Conservation Practices such as water use reduction, rainwater collection and rain gardens, alternate forms of energy, thermostat reduction	15	11.5
Community Involvement		
Public Participation – Civil Action Participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues, such as climate change adaptation and mitigation	5	3
Public Participation in Activities Community (including children/youth), neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership, etc.)	10	7.5
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	8
Environmental Action Total	150.00	115.25

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Observations:

The implementation of solar lighting in various places and on the crosswalks is good.

Reclaiming of the landfill and the mulching and recycling of the natural products is a good example for all communities to follow.

The CSIDC site make good use of the sun with solar lighting on their signs and to operate some of the pivots.

Recommendations:

Consider a rain barrel program for the residents so that untreated water can be used for the gardens, pots, etc. You may even consider selling them so as to pay for the barrels.

Consider options to conserve water by capturing the back wash water at the pool and using it to water the turf in the recreation park.

The roof of the swimming pool is ideally sloped for the use of solar water heating panels. These would pay for themselves by conserving energy costs by preheating the pool water. It was good to see the use of LED lights at the pool.

Use self watering flowerpots whenever possible.

Consider repositioning the bright lights at the swim pool so that it won't bother the homeowners in the area.

It could be beneficial to test the finished compost to make certain it is healthy. At times compost can develop high salinity so soil testing before use is always a good idea.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Heritage conservation includes efforts to preserve and protect both 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 represents the "persona" of a community and 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, traditional cultural groups, and conservation groups is considered.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Natural Heritage Plans Management and preservation policies, plans, programs and initiatives, including eco systems, eco parks, trail networks, grasslands, naturalization, wetlands, urban agriculture/farming, wildlife and wildlife corridors, protection of sensitive habitats, species at risk and support for at risk pollinators.	20	15.5
Natural Heritage Promotion Management and promotion of natural heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development/tourism) including year-around activities and programs for education and use of natural heritage sites (including trail networks) for and by the public.	15	11.5
Cultural Heritage Plans Policies, by-laws, plans, and preservation initiatives for heritage buildings, cemeteries, artifacts, museums, monuments, heritage trees and gardens, including their integration with streetscapes and landscape	15	13
Cultural Heritage Activities Initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	15	13
Business and Institutions		
Natural Heritage Assets Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, trails, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.	10	7
Cultural Heritage Assets Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and artifacts including their integration with the built/hard streetscapes and green landscapes	10	7
Residential		
Cultural Heritage Initiatives Conservation/restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and artifacts on residential lands	10	6.5
Community Involvement		
Natural Heritage Public Participation Participation in community (including children/youth), neighbourhood or individual natural heritage programs and initiatives including developing policies and plans, site improvements (including trails, eco parks, reforestation and management, maintenance, conservation and education initiatives	20	15
Natural Heritage - Community 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	10	7
Cultural Heritage - Public Participation Participation in community (including children/youth), neighbourhood or individual cultural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	15	13.5
Cultural Heritage - Community 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

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Observations:

The Museum is housed in the old train station and is nicely laid out. It is great to be able to touch the museum exhibits as it brings back many memories of years past. It is also open regular hours so that it is available for visitors to enjoy.

The Bounty Hall has been moved in and refurbished with new wiring which was quite a challenge to hide the wire behind the walls. The hardwood remains the same, just as it was, worn by all the dancers. Many romances blossomed in this building. The general overall upkeep and use of heritage buildings is nice to see.

The memorial site is very special, not only a high light for heritage but also landscape and floral. A great example of a volunteer organization (legion) and municipality working together for the betterment of the community.

The LCBI site is also noteworthy. Not only are these heritage buildings being conserved but are continuing to serve their original purpose. The old plow at the entrance to the school is a nice tribute to the agricultural history of the area. Well done.

Not as noticeable but on the town map was an image of an irrigation pivot arm. This is good recognition of the research being conducted at CSIDC.

Recommendations:

When landscaping the front of the Bounty Hall we'd recommend a plaque explaining the history and significance of the building.

Consider placing a plaque at the Memorial site letting the public know that the poppies are from the originals grown in Flanders Field. We liked the idea of letting the poppies continue to self sow. You might end up with a field of poppies as in Flanders. It might be worth saving some of the seed in case you were to lose the poppies that you have.

You could consider installing a directory of sites at the cemetery to assist visitors finding past family members. The office might not be open when someone is there and looking. You have a large area for the cemetery but individuals might look for other options for family members, so as discussed, consider other types of final resting places, a scattering garden being one of many alternatives.

Consider the possibility of walking tours of all your historic buildings. This would be a good project for high school students. They can decide which buildings; create a map, giving distances. All with staff and municipal cooperation.

TREE MANAGEMENT		
Woodlands, Canopy Management, Urban and Rural Forestry includes the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree management protection (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, tree replacement policies, pollinator-friendly tree selection, tree inventory including heritage, memorial, and commemorative trees, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programs.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Overall Impression Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest	10	8
Strategic Plans Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	15	9.5
Urban Forestry Plan Plan, design and inventory management including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots and managed forests	20	12.5
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	6
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases	10	6.5
Public Information Programs Provision of information on good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs	15	8.5
Maintenance Quality Best practices with demonstrated results	10	6.5
Qualified Resources Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff and/or qualified experienced contractors) and/or in place training programs	5	3
Business and Institutions		
Tree inventory Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory and canopy, management of hedgerows and forests, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by businesses and institutions.	15	10
Maintenance Quality Programs, best practices with demonstrated results: watering, pruning, IPM	10	6
Residential		
Tree Planting 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 Quality Best practices with demonstrated results	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public Participation Participation (including children/youth) 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	14.5
Community 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	7
Tree Management Total	175.00	118.50

TREE MANAGEMENT

Observations:

The tree canopy in some of the older areas was impressive. The street entering the town has a lack of trees. Hopefully once construction is completed the planting of some trees will be considered.

There is a significant amount of deadwood throughout your community both in residential and park areas.

It was nice to see the Regional Park planting different varieties of trees.

Having a tree company come in to inspect the elm trees is a good thing although there are a couple that are rotting on the inside. We noticed this in the tree that had been struck by lightning at the LCBI location and in the regional park. This needs to be monitored on an ongoing basis.

Recommendations:

Consider a tree planting program for the residents where possibly the Town could supply the trees. The planting of the fruit trees is a very good initiative and will be enjoyed by everyone in a few years.

The Town could benefit from a couple of staff taking a tree pruning course. There are some offered by SPRA through partners which you could take advantage of. Dead and damaged trees are hazardous and can cause accidents, as well they carry disease that can be spread to other trees.

There are five dead elms, all in a row at the CSIDC location. It appears that they might have Dutch elm disease. Consider having the "Living Tree Environmental Company" do a second check of these trees. The disease will spread from tree to tree so this is mighty suspicious.

Develop a tree pruning program to get all trees pruned on a 5-year cycle.

It would be beneficial to have a tree inventory. Consider starting with all the new plantings.

LANDSCAPE		
Landscape includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of parks, green spaces and cemeteries suitable for the intended use and location on a year-round basis. Elements for evaluation include native and introduced materials; biodiversity, 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 and provide safe and secure public spaces. 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		
Sustainable Designs – Soft Landscape Sustainable designs: energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties (including pollinator friendly), traffic calming, bank stabilization	15	10
Sustainable Designs - Hard Landscape Urban and civic design standards for streetscape and public places including considerations for public safety: flags, banners, public art, fountains, site furnishings, signage including wayfinding and directional, seasonal design and décor, walkways and paving materials including use of artificial turf and its protocols	15	11
Landscape Plan Integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	6
Landscape Management Programs Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, Invasive Species Management, increased naturalization and adapted maintenance programs	10	7
Landscape Maintenance Policies, standards, best practices and programs including irrigation water management	10	7
Landscape Quality Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specifications and best practices, as an example as shown in the Canadian Landscape Standards	5	3.5
Qualified Resources Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs and/or qualified experienced contractors	10	7
Year-round use Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and people being active and using parks and green spaces (urban agriculture, community gardens, parks and recreation programs and accessible public washrooms)	10	7
Business and Institutions		
Sustainable Designs Energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture	10	6
Integrated Plan Contribution to urban and civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains and innovation in concept and design	15	10
Maintenance Quality Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground and asset management, rehabilitation and replacement) of all landscape elements	10	6
Residential		
Streetscape Appeal Residential yards (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	12
Maintenance Quality Lawn care, trees and shrub maintenance (with demonstrated results)	15	12
Plant Selection Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible and pollinator friendly plants)	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public Participation Participation in community programs (including children/youth) such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination and decoration (promotion, organization, etc.)	20	15
Volunteer Succession Plan and Recognition Succession Plan and Recognition (by municipality and/or volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom program including activities in all evaluated criteria	20	14
Landscape Total	200.00	141.50

LANDSCAPE

Observations:

The map and the irrigation symbol on your entrance sign is well done, it gives a good first impression of the town and places emphasis on your theme of Saskatchewan's irrigation capital.

Flowers planted to prevent tripping over the children's painted rocks at the swim pool is a good safety feature.

The traffic calming boulevard in front of the War Memorial is excellent and the newer areas might benefit from the same.

Tufts Crescent Park is rather bare. This is a nice piece of property and could use some attention.

The mural we saw was in good condition.

Recommendations:

The park on Tufts Crescent could use some props for landscaping. Low features like large rocks, boulders would break up the large space and would not block residences views.

Consider hiring a professional landscape architect when developing the sports grounds. Having a development plan will save dollars and aggravation in the long run.

The cemetery is an important part of any town, so it is essential to keep it looking good. Possibly a survey sent out to the residents asking how they want their cemetery designed and what they'd like to see done would be beneficial.

Outlook has a boulevard with great potential on Franklin Street. The definition of a Xeriscape (as per Merriam-Webster) is: a landscaping method developed especially for arid and semiarid climates that utilizes water-conserving techniques (such as the use of drought-tolerant plants, mulch, and efficient irrigation). We saw a boulevard that might be described as zero-scaped (not a word in the dictionary, but a newer term to describe a landscape that is mainly dirt, rock or paving with very few to no plants.) Paving is not considered to be xeriscaping. This large boulevard has great potential to be developed into a Xeriscape if the pavement was removed and a landscape plan was developed. It would be stunning!

The Sky Trail is an important feature of Outlook, consider making the reopening of this trail a priority.

PLANT AND FLORAL DISPLAYS		
This category evaluates the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents to design, plan, execute, and maintain plant and 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. It also pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets, and window boxes.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Floral Display Plan of Action Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design, including sustainable design	15	8.5
Diversity of Displays Flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	20	12.75
Diversity of Plants Annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants	10	6.5
Maintenance Quality Maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	14.25
Qualified Resources Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs and/or qualified experienced contractors	10	7
Business and Institutions		
Design Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	10
Overall Plan Contribution to, and integration with, overall community plant and floral program	10	6
Maintenance Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc. with demonstrated results.	10	7
Residential		
Concept and Design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties including Pollinator gardens and/or inclusion of pollinator plants in gardens	20	15.25
Maintenance Quality of planting and maintenance with demonstrated results.	15	11
Community Involvement		
Public Participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives (including children/youth), outreach programs in plant and floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.)	15	8.5
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community plant and floral displays activities	15	10
Plant and Floral Displays Total	175.00	116.75

PLANT AND FLORAL DISPLAYS

Observations:

The Town Office and The War Memorial are both very nicely landscaped with clumps of Carl Forrester grass using the practice of xeriscaping.

The community gardens are very lush and well kept, they also give minority groups a way to get involved, learn, and socialize at the same time. We hope you can find a permanent spot for this garden.

The planting of hundreds of lily bulbs in the CSIDC garden beds were extremely impressive and would be lovely in full bloom. To see the already large watermelons and cantaloupe growing was exciting.

The golf course was nicely landscaped with foundation shrubs along the club house and shrubs along the fairways.

Recommendations:

The use of hardy flowers like tidal wave petunias in high traffic areas are good because they can stand the heat and are almost maintenance free.

All flowerpots look better when implementing the thriller, filler, spiller method. Spikes, canna lilies, palms, grasses, could be used as the thriller, use petunias, million bells, geraniums just to mention a few, as your filler, and trailing plants like creeping jenny, ivy, lobelia, as your spiller.

Using the same color theme throughout your town unifies the landscape and gives it the wow factor. Each year CIB has their color of the year, maybe use that color for your pots. It is also possible to declare a town color and see how many residents would jump on board.

If there are plant containers at facilities, ensure that they are potted with flowers and not left bare.

Next year see if you could include the Broderick Garden Center (in Outlook) as part of your tour. Encourage this centre to keep is premises tidy or install screens to prevent storage areas from being seen. This could be a great site for green walls.

The regional park could also install a green wall behind their planter at the base of the hill (where the road forks) to hide the water tank that is placed there. Virginia Creeper is great for this use and green walls are already being used between some of the campsites.



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