



## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **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](http://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 9<sup>th</sup> during the Communities in Bloom Virtual Awards Ceremonies.



## **2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

### ***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 related section of the Community Profile;
- Copies of promotional materials;
- Website/page URL
- Videos
- 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 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

### **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.

Entries should address:

- 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



## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **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 guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.

Entries should address:

- 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



## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **Heritage Conservation** (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

### **Urban Forestry** (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.

Entries should address:

- 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



## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **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

### **Floral Displays** (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.

Entries should address:

- 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



## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **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



## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **Land Reclamation** (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 30<sup>th</sup>, 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





## 2020 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### **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 life 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
  - Participation of service groups where appropriate
  - 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.**