



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

CALL FOR ENTRIES

Outstanding Achievement Awards will be given to participants in the National 2021 Virtual Edition of Communities in Bloom.

Outstanding Achievement Awards for National Edition are only open for Communities in Canada. Here is the list of available awards :

- **Community Appearance**, by Teck
- **Environmental Action**, by the Canadian Nursery and Landscape Association
- **Heritage Conservation**, by Communities in Bloom
- **Tree Management (formerly Urban Forestry)**, by Communities in Bloom
- **Landscape**, by Scotts Turf Builder
- **Plant & Floral Displays**, by the National Capital Commission
- **Youth Involvement**, by Scotts
- **Community of Gardeners**, by Scotts
- **Community Involvement**, by Communities in Bloom
- 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 2021 Virtual 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, September 3rd, 2021**. Entries received after this date will not be accepted.

The winners will be announced on October 8th during the Communities in Bloom Virtual Awards Ceremonies.



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

WHAT ARE SUPPORTING MATERIALS?

A maximum of 5 supporting material (2 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 SEPTEMBER 3, 2021



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Community Appearance *(by Teck)*

Community Appearance	MAX POINTS
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 & 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 POINTS
Entries should :	
Describe the Gateways as a first impression to the community (include pictures)	10
Give example(s) of initiatives & regulations that contribute to the overall community appearance (plans, bylaws, policies such as anti-graffiti, littering etc)	10
Give example(s) of activities by businesses, institutions, organization etc. that contribute to overall community appearance	10
Give example(s) of public participation in tidiness and clean-up programs, projects and activities throughout the community	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in community appearance that deserve special recognition	5
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Environmental Action *(by the Canadian Nursery and Landscape Association)*

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION	MAX POINTS
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, 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 POINTS
Entries should:	
Identify community plans, policies, bylaws etc. for environmental stewardship	10
Describe the community programs for waste reduction (3-R) and water and energy conservation	10
Give example(s) of environmental initiatives & innovations (bike lanes, green roofs, brownfield development, air quality programs, etc)	10
Describe environmental action by the businesses, institutions and organizations	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in environmental action that deserve special recognition	5
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Heritage Conservation *(by Communities in Bloom)*

HERITAGE CONSERVATION	MAX POINTS
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 POINTS
Entries should:	
Identify plans, policies and actions to protect & preserve natural ecosystems	10
Give examples of community involvement and activity in natural heritage areas including trail networks, wildlife protection, wetlands, etc.	10
Identify plans, policies and actions to protect, preserve, demonstrate and promote built cultural heritage including heritage buildings, museums, monuments heritage trees, streetscapes, etc.	10
Identify activities and community involvement that celebrate the cultural heritage year-round	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in natural or cultural heritage that deserve special recognition	5
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Tree Management *(formerly Urban Forestry)* *(by Communities in Bloom)*

TREE MANAGEMENT	MAX POINTS
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 POINTS
Entries should:	
Describe the urban forest as one of the first impressions of the community (include pictures)	10
Identify overall community tree management plan to expand, protect and maintain the urban forest	10
Identify participation and support of businesses , institutions, and community groups / organizations / clubs etc in enhancing the urban forest	10
Give example(s) of public participation in tree planning & conservation programs	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in urban forestry that deserve special recognition	5
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Landscape *(by Scotts Turf Builder)*

LANDSCAPE	MAX POINTS
<p>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.</p> <p>Entries should:</p>	MAX POINTS
Describe landscape plans throughout the community and identify practices to achieve sustainable designs for both soft & hard landscapes	10
Describe landscape management activities and best practices utilized to ensure healthy and appropriately maintained landscapes	10
Identify how business, institutions and organizations are contributing to the overall landscape of the community	10
Give example(s) of public participation in community programs such as community gardens, yard of the week, volunteer park maintenance, etc	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in Landscape that deserve special recognition	5
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Plant and Floral Displays *(by the National Capital Commission)*

PLANT AND FLORAL DISPLAYS	
<p>This award 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.</p> <p>Entries should:</p>	MAX POINTS
Describe community floral display action plan including diversity of plants and displays	10
Identify how business, institutions and organizations are contributing to the overall floral display of the community	10
Identify how residents are contributing to the overall floral display of the community	10
Give example(s) of public participation and volunteering in the floral displays throughout the community	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in urban floral displays that deserve special recognition	5
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Youth Involvement *(by Scotts)*

YOUTH INVOLVEMENT	
The objective of this award is to recognize community involvement in projects which engage youth. Initiatives should demonstrate the relationship of youth involvement and CiB community initiatives. Entries should relate the measurable impact of youth involvement on the community.	MAX POINTS
Entries should:	
Provide specific projects/events/activities where youth involvement are identified and names of the youth groups involved and level of participation are clearly identified	15
Identify plans to sustain the involvement of youth	10
Identify challenges encountered in the youth involvement and means used to resolve these	10
Demonstrate the positive impact on both the community and its youth population (education, engagement, skill-building, etc.)	10
Demonstrate completeness of information provided including relevant supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Community of Gardeners *(by Scotts)*

COMMUNITY OF GARDENERS	MAX POINTS
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.	MAX POINTS
Entries should:	
Include an overall description of how community demonstrates excellence in gardening	5
Scope of programming and plan of action as distributed throughout the community including diversity of types of gardens, diversity of plants , means of implementation (volunteers ?), etc.	10
Identify participation and support of municipality, businesses, institutions and community groups/organizations/clubs etc. in gardening efforts.	10
Activities throughout the community to promote and encourage the creation and expansion of gardens	10
Give examples of initiatives improved by or implemented as a result of participation in Communities in Bloom that have made a positive impact on the community	10
Demonstrate completeness of information provided and relevance of supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Community Involvement *(by Communities in Bloom)*

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT	MAX POINTS
Public involvement in various community programs and projects; recognition of volunteers; support, financial, in-kind or via participation toward community initiatives by the municipal, business and private sector; participation in community, neighborhood or individual initiatives (including promotion, organization etc.) in tidiness initiatives; participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues; cultural and natural heritage programs; tree planting and conservation programs; volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays etc.	MAX POINTS
Entries should:	
Identify community programs and projects in which the public are involved in the delivery such as clean-up, cultural events and activities, tree planting, trail & fixtures development and maintenance , floral and landscape projects including maintenance	15
Identify participation and support (financial, in-kind or via participation) of municipality, businesses and institutions, and community groups, organizations, clubs etc. in various community programs and projects	10
Give example(s) of outstanding initiatives/innovation in community involvement that deserve special recognition	10
Identify succession plan & recognition (by municipality and/or volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of community programs, activities, events etc.	10
Demonstrate completeness of information provided and relevance of supporting material	5
TOTAL	50



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Land Reclamation *(by the Butchart Gardens)*

LAND RECLAMATION	MAX POINTS
<p>The objective of this award is to recognize a community project that has reclaimed land for a park/garden/green space.</p> <p>The land will have been an area for which the community was looking for new perspectives. Such as, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. <p>Entries should :</p>	
<p>Provide a description of the history of the site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What was the land use prior to reclamation? - Why did it need reclamation? - Describe the finished use of the reclaimed site (natural park , garden , green space) - What were the challenges in the reclamation? 	15
<p>Design</p> <p>What was the design intent?</p> <p>Identify use of existing and new vegetation such as native plants; water conservation considerations such as xeriscape gardens or use of reclaimed water, quality of maintenance and beautification elements and goals</p> <p>Is it inclusive and accessible for all ages and abilities?</p>	10
<p>Demonstrate how this reclamation will be sustainable</p>	10
<p>Identify participation and support of municipal, business and institutional, residents and community groups/organizations/clubs etc. in completing the reclamation</p>	10
<p>Demonstrate completeness of information provided and relevance of supporting material</p>	5
TOTAL	50

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 October 30th, 2022
- The winner will have the liberty of giving the prize to anyone of his/her choice



2021 OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

WinterLife *(by Municipal World)*

WINTERLIFE	MAX POINTS
<p>The objective of this award is to recognize efforts and involvement in projects and initiatives which engage the community with indoor and outdoor activities to celebrate the Canadian Winter.</p> <p>In each of the following sections describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Programs and initiatives -Involvement of entire community including municipal, businesses, service groups and residents -Time duration of initiatives -Outline of plans & means to sustain initiatives 	MAX POINTS
<p>Holiday Celebrations (Nov/Dec 2020)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Visual programs (lighting events, competitions) -Holiday events (parades, festivals, entertainment) -Public programming 	15
<p>Overall Winter Activities: (Nov 2020 – Mar 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Range of events/activities clearly identified -Broad stakeholder involvement -Events to further community economic development 	15
<p>Community Outreach (Nov 2020/Mar 2021)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Programs and initiatives which improve quality of life in the community (eg. Goodwill programs) -Programs and initiatives which encourage community engagement, including participation of seniors, youth, new residents 	15
<p>Completeness of information provided and relevance of supporting material</p>	5
TOTAL	50

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 2021.