

News Release



For Immediate Release

Tuesday, Oct 24, 2023

Communities in Bloom Provincial Edition Salutes Participants

EDMONTON, AB – The Alberta Recreation & Parks Association (ARPA) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2023 Alberta edition of the Communities in Bloom Program and to recognize all 26 Alberta communities after another very successful year.

CiB participants enhance their communities in relation to the six criteria: Community Appearance, Environmental Action, Heritage Conservation, Tree Management, Landscape, and Plant & Floral Displays. Participants are recognized with a Bloom Rating through the program’s evaluation process.

Population Category 2,001 – 6,000

Athabasca* - 5 blooms

Sexsmith – 4 blooms

Friends – Evaluated Category

Bon Accord – Non-Competitive

Didsbury – Non-Competitive

Novice Category

Elk Point – Non-Competitive

Non-Evaluated Category

Coronation

Devon

Gibbons

Mundare

Strathmore

Swan Hills

Taber

Thorsby

Wainwright

Whitecourt

National CiB Participants

Brooks

Bruderheim

Cold Lake

Forestburg

Leduc

Millet

Pincher Creek

Provost

Stettler

Strathcona County

Wood Buffalo

**denotes category winner*

Evaluated communities will receive formal recognition for their achievements at locally based presentations in Oct-Dec.

“On behalf of the Alberta Recreation & Parks Association, I wish to congratulate the 2023 Communities in Bloom Alberta participants,” says Steve Allan, ARPA CEO. “Your dedication to the CiB Program enhances the quality of life in your communities and, at the same time, grows the recreation and parks sector. Thank you for your contribution to the well-being of individuals, communities and to our natural and built environments.”

ARPA is a provincial, not-for-profit, charitable organization made up of volunteers committed to building healthy citizens and communities in Alberta through recreation and parks. Serving Albertans since 1952, ARPA members include community and public recreation agencies, educators, corporate, elected members, volunteers, and student members.

For more information on Alberta’s Provincial Edition of Communities in Bloom, please refer to the attached backgrounder or visit arpaonline.ca/program/communities-in-bloom/.

Media inquiries may be directed to:

Karen Snethun

Provincial Coordinator, Communities in Bloom Alberta

Phone: (780) 415-1745 (Ext 108)

Email: ksnethun@arpaonline.ca

Backgrounder

Communities in Bloom – Provincial Edition

People, Plants & Pride, Growing Together

Communities in Bloom is a volunteer based, non-profit Canadian organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility, and beautification through community participation and the challenge of participating in an internationally recognized Quality of Life program.

National beautification programs have flourished in countries throughout Europe including England, France, and Ireland for decades, and have provided the inspiration for Communities in Bloom in Canada. It began in 1995 with 29 Canadian communities and has grown to more than 100 national participants and hundreds of municipalities registered in the provincial editions. The Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) has coordinated Alberta's provincial edition for the past 15 years.

More Than Beautiful Flowers

Communities in Bloom promotes involvement and action by citizens of all ages, the municipal government, local organizations, and businesses. The program strives to improve the tidiness, appearance, and visual appeal of Canada's neighbourhoods, parks, open spaces, and streets through the imaginative use of flowers, plants, and trees. A focus on environmental action and heritage conservation is also an integral part of its success, resulting in improved quality of life. Above all, Communities in Bloom Alberta is a community-development program.

Every summer, volunteer judges travel across Alberta to evaluate municipalities on six key criteria:

- Community Appearance
- Environmental Action
- Heritage Conservation
- Tree Management
- Landscape
- Plant and Floral Displays

The principle of community involvement is so fundamental to the program that it is evaluated in each of the above criteria.

Alberta's Provincial Edition of the Communities in Bloom program is coordinated by the Alberta Recreation & Parks Association.

For additional program information, please visit the provincial website at arpaonline.ca/program/communities-in-bloom/.

For more information, please contact:

Karen Snethun Provincial Coordinator
Communities in Bloom Alberta
Phone: (780) 415-1745 (Ext 108)
Email: ksnethun@arpaonline.ca