Welcome to

Communities in Bloom
2018 National Symposium on Parks & Grounds,
Alberta Provincial Awards
— and —
National & International Awards Ceremonies
September 26 to 29, 2018

On-site Guide
September 26, 2018

We are so excited to welcome you to the Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks & Grounds, Alberta Provincial Awards and the National & International Awards Ceremonies in Strathcona County.

A few reminders:

• You can get to the Community Centre, which is also where the conference is being held, via shuttle bus service. The free shuttle bus service will be offered on a continuous loop from the Clarion Hotel (host hotel) to the Community Centre during the symposium and for special events. Transportation is not included from other hotels. The daily transportation schedule will be posted at the pick-up and drop-off locations, at the Symposium Information Booth in the Community Centre and sent via daily e-newsletter.

• You are requested to wear your accreditation at all times throughout the week as it will serve as identification during the symposium, and will indicate to photographers if you have agreed to have your photo taken during the event.

• For those guests who are staying at the Clarion Hotel, please note that a complimentary breakfast will be served at the hotel starting at 6 a.m.

• Another option for breakfast is at Tutti Frutti - Sherwood Park, located at 350, 220 Lakeland Drive, who are offering a breakfast discount to delegates. Please see the ticket included in this package for more information. There will also be coffee, muffins and assorted pastries at the Community Centre each morning.

The following dress code is recommended:

• Symposium and technical visits on Thursday and Friday: casual/active wear (walking shoes with comfortable clothing as there is a lot of walking and/or sitting on the bus)

• Welcome Reception on Wednesday: business casual

• Community Showcase on Friday night: business casual

• National Awards Ceremonies (awards, cocktails and dinner) on Saturday night: semi-formal (dinner or cocktail dress, national costume, business suit and tie, black-tie optional)

If you have any questions, please see us in the Registration Room (Meeting Room 1) or at the Symposium Information Booth in the Community Centre.
September 26–29, 2018

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to extend my warmest greetings to everyone attending the 2018 Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards.

This annual event offers a wonderful opportunity for participants from across Canada and around the world to learn more about horticulture and gardening, and to share their experiences. I am certain that everyone in attendance will benefit from the presentations, workshops and other activities planned for this conference, and will leave inspired to put what they have learned into practice.

I would like to congratulate everyone receiving an award this year for their efforts to enhance the beauty of their communities. I would also like to thank the organizers for putting together an engaging and informative program, and for promoting environmental responsibility and community involvement.

Please accept my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event in Strathcona County, Alberta.

Sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Du 26 au 29 septembre 2018

Chères amies, chers amis,

Je suis heureux de présenter mes salutations les plus chaleureuses à celles et ceux qui assistent au Symposium et à la remise de prix de 2018 de Collectivités en fleurs.

Cet événement annuel est une merveilleuse occasion pour les participants venus d’un bout à l’autre du Canada et de partout dans le monde d’en apprendre davantage sur l’horticulture et le jardinage et de parler de leurs expériences. Je suis convaincu que tous les participants tireront avantage des exposés, des ateliers et des autres activités prévues dans le cadre de ce colloque, et qu’ils seront inspirés et voudront mettre en pratique ce qu’ils ont appris.

Je tiens à féliciter tous les lauréats de cette année pour les efforts qu’ils déploient à embellir leurs communautés. Je remercie aussi les organisateurs d’avoir mis sur pied un programme intéressant et informatif et de faire la promotion de la responsabilité environnementale et de l’action communautaire.

Je vous souhaite un événement des plus agréables et mémorables dans le comté de Strathcona, en Alberta.

Cordialement,

Le très hon. Justin P.J. Trudeau, C.P., député
Premier ministre du Canada
On behalf of the Government of Canada, a warm welcome to delegates from Canada and around the world to Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks and Grounds, and the national and international awards ceremonies in beautiful Strathcona County, Alberta.

In keeping with this year’s theme “Seeds for the future”, Communities in Bloom is helping to grow a greener future for Canada through environmental stewardship, conservation and horticultural excellence in communities across the country. I applaud your focus this year on Indigenous relationships with the land.

As someone who spent many years in the horticultural industry, I know the hard work and dedication it takes to grow a world-class product. I thank you for your support of Canada’s ornamental horticulture growers, who beautify Canada’s green spaces, and drive our economy with $1.5 billion in annual sales. Beyond production, the Canadian ornamental horticulture industry also provides a wide range of services to support community and private efforts that make our communities more sustainable and liveable.

The Government of Canada is proud to support a vibrant horticulture industry in Canada by helping our farmers grow products that lead the world in innovation, beauty and environmental sustainability. Congratulations to all award winners, and I wish you a successful symposium and a memorable stay in Alberta.

Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food / Ministre de l’Agriculture et de l’Agroalimentaire
Bienvenue au Symposium sur les parcs et espaces verts et aux Cérémonies de remise des prix des Collectivités en fleurs.

Notre gouvernement croit que la qualité de vie des Canadiennes et des Canadiens est étroitement liée à l'environnement où ils vivent. Voilà pourquoi nous sommes fiers d'appuyer le Symposium sur les parcs et espaces verts, qui permet aux élus, professionnels des parcs et bénévoles d'enrichir leurs connaissances et de se pencher sur des questions et enjeux liés à l'horticulture, aux espaces verts et à l'environnement. En explorant de nouvelles façons de faire, ils mettent en commun leurs idées et leurs forces et c'est toute la société qui en bénéficie.

À titre de ministre du Patrimoine canadien et du Multiculturalisme, je félicite les finalistes et les lauréats des prix des Collectivités en fleurs. J'en profite pour remercier la Fondation Collectivités en fleurs, qui donne aux Canadiennes et Canadiens la chance de participer à la vie de leur communauté, d'embellir leur environnement et de protéger leur patrimoine naturel et culturel.

Welcome to the National Symposium on Parks and Green Spaces and the Communities in Bloom Awards Ceremonies.

Our government believes that Canadians’ quality of life is closely linked to the environment they live in. That’s why we are proud to support the National Symposium on Parks and Green Spaces, which allows elected officials, park professionals and volunteers to enrich their understanding and consider issues related to horticulture, green spaces and the environment. By exploring new ways of doing things, they combine their ideas and their strengths, and the entire society benefits.

As Minister of Canadian Heritage and Multiculturalism, I congratulate the Communities in Bloom Award-winners and finalists. I would also like to thank the Communities in Bloom Foundation for giving Canadians an opportunity to participate in the life of their community, beautify their surroundings and protect their natural and cultural heritage.

L'honorable / The Honourable Pablo Rodriguez
Welcome to the 2018 Communities in Bloom Symposium!

It is with excitement that I welcome delegates to the Communities in Bloom 2018 Symposium being held in beautiful Strathcona County, Alberta.

Communities in Bloom is a not-for-profit Canadian organization committed to promoting civic pride, environmental responsibility and improving quality of life through community involvement. The development of green spaces within communities is at the heart of its mission. In light of our government’s mandate priority on clean growth and climate change, I am exceptionally proud to hear about the work of Communities in Bloom.

In 2018, Communities in Bloom will welcome over 300 delegates from cities and towns across Canada, and from the United States of America, Wales, Ireland, Italy, Belgium, Croatia, and Hungary. Together at this symposium, participants have a unique opportunity to enrich their knowledge and share information on innovations and best practices in horticulture and green spaces. Participants also will explore topics of tourism and environmental protection, while also celebrating achievements within the profession.

I extend my warmest greetings to all the participants from home and around the world. I also want to congratulate the winners of the Alberta Provincial program, and the winners of the National and International challenges.

Thank you to everyone who works so hard to keep our communities in bloom.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna
Minister Environment and Climate Change Canada
Member of Parliament, Ottawa Centre
A SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM HON. AMARJEET SOHI, P.C., MP

As Member of Parliament for Edmonton Mill Woods and on behalf of the Government of Canada, I am pleased to extend my best wishes and warmest greetings in recognizing the joint efforts of the Strathcona County to promote Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks and Grounds.

Through your dedication in representing and ensuring that all parks and outdoor spaces reflect our citizens’ pride in their community, you have contributed to the livelihood and richness of Alberta. With your commitment to foster environmental stewardship and improve quality of life of citizens, you have played a significant role in becoming Canada’s most livable community. Thank you for your continuous efforts and commitment in connecting the unique blend of communities by providing quality recreation, parks and cultural opportunities, as it has truly helped us nurture unity through our diversity.

On the important occasion of celebrating the achievements of all communities, I am delighted to congratulate the Strathcona County on their successful efforts.

Hon. Amarjeet Sohi
M.P. for Edmonton Mill Woods

House of Commons
707, Confederation Building
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
Tel: 613-992-1013
Fax: 613-992-1026

Constituency
9225 28 Avenue NW
Edmonton, AB T6N 1N1
Tel: 780-497-3524
Fax: 780-497-3511
Greetings on behalf of the Province of Alberta!

As the Member of the Legislative Assembly for Sherwood Park, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2018 Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks & Grounds, Alberta Provincial Awards and the National and International Awards Ceremonies.

Sherwood Park is located in the Municipality of Strathcona County. I am very proud of our community and hope that while you are here, you are able to take in its natural beauty and atmosphere while enjoying our many parks and cultural amenities.

In my walks around my neighbourhood I have enjoyed the wonderful gardens recognized by Communities in Bloom. Thank you to all residents who plant such beautiful gardens for everyone to enjoy.

Strathcona County has certainly benefited from being part of Communities in Bloom and I hope that after this symposium, you feel inspired and encouraged to continue with your own community beautification efforts.

Sincerely,

Annie McKitrick
MLA for Sherwood Park &
Parliamentary Secretary to
the Minister of Education

Constituency Office
116B, 937 Fir St
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 4N6
Phone: 780-417-4747
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Edmonton, AB T5K 1E4
Phone: 780-427-9567
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email: Sherwood.Park@assembly.ab.ca
Welcome to Strathcona County

On behalf of Strathcona County Council, it is my privilege to welcome you to our community. We are grateful to have you as a participant of the 2018 Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks and Grounds, and the National and International Awards Ceremonies, taking place in Strathcona County from September 26 to 29.

We are proud of the relationship Strathcona County has had with the Communities in Bloom National Committee over the past 19 years. Our municipality strongly endorses and supports Communities in Bloom’s efforts in environmental stewardship by enhancing green spaces in communities. This sentiment is reflected through Communities in Blooms awards we have received, including the prestigious Grand Champion. Under the spirit of collaboration, we look forward to providing delegates with opportunities to share ideas, learn from others and find inspiration under this year’s theme of Seeds for the Future.

Volunteerism plays an important role in our community, especially with our Strathcona in Bloom committee. We look forward to exploring our green spaces with you, while sharing the success of our partnered approach between volunteers and municipal staff.

While you are here, we encourage you to enjoy a stroll along our beautiful River Valley, eat in one of our many restaurants and get active in one of our fantastic recreation facilities.

Enjoy your stay in Strathcona County!

Rod Frank

Mayor of Strathcona County
Delegates to the National Symposium on Parks and Grounds and the Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards

Dear Delegates:

Last year, Ottawa had the honour of welcoming the Communities in Bloom Symposium, as part of the celebrations for the 150th anniversary of Confederation. The National Capital Commission (NCC) is delighted to pass the torch to Strathcona County, Alberta, where the 24th edition will be taking place this year.

Communities in Bloom is an inspiring program that rewards communities involved in beautifying their surroundings. Similarly, the NCC’s work is to build a capital that is a source of pride for Canadians. The NCC was a founding partner of the Communities in Bloom program in 1995, and has continued to offer its support ever since. Today, the Communities in Bloom Symposium has become an international event that welcomes over 250 delegates from communities in Canada, the United States and Europe.

On behalf of the NCC, I wish you an excellent symposium, and invite you to take advantage of the interesting program it offers, as well as this magnificent time of year in which our gardens and green spaces are in full bloom, adding to the beauty of our communities.

Sincerely,

Mark Kristmanson, Ph. D.
Chief Executive Officer | Le premier dirigeant

Délégués et déléguées au Symposium sur les parcs et espaces verts et aux Cérémonies nationale et internationale de remise des prix de Collectivités en fleurs

Chers délégués,
Chères déléguées,

Ottawa a eu l’honneur d’accueillir le symposium de Collectivités en fleurs l’année dernière, dans le cadre des célébrations du 150e anniversaire de la Confédération, et la Commission de la capitale nationale (CCN) est ravie de voir le flambeau passer à Strathcona County, en Alberta, où se déroule cette année sa 24e édition.

L’inspirant programme Collectivités en fleurs récompense les collectivités qui s’appliquent à embellir leur milieu, tout comme la CCN s’emploie à bâtir une capitale qui soit source de fierté pour la population canadienne. La CCN s’est jointe au programme en tant que partenaire fondateur en 1995, et elle continue de le soutenir depuis.

Aujourd’hui, le symposium de Collectivités en fleurs est devenu un événement international qui accueille plus de 250 délégués et déléguées de collectivités du Canada, des États-Unis et de l’Europe.

Au nom de la CCN, je vous souhaite un excellent symposium et vous invite à profiter de son intéressant programme, ainsi que de cette magnifique période de l’année où nos espaces verts sont en fleurs et embellissent nos collectivités.

Cordialement,

Mark Kristmanson, Ph. D.
Chief Executive Officer | Le premier dirigeant

Canada
Fellow Bloomers,

On behalf of the National Committee, congratulations to all the Provincial participants and National and International finalists for their achievements in the 2018 Edition of Communities in Bloom and thank you to all those involved in helping making our communities greener and improving the places in which we live, work, play and visit.

Welcome to Strathcona County and Sherwood Park for the 24th Communities in Bloom Symposium & Awards. The Strathcona Symposium Committee has put together a great program that we hope everyone will enjoy and that has something for everyone including: presentations on volunteers, pollinators, fruit trees, finding sponsors, success stories, parasitoids and cannabis; visits to a Botanical Garden, a conservatory or botanical garden, a winery, and the world-famous West Edmonton Mall; and various activities such as golf, great dining and social receptions. As always, the finale are the 2018 Awards.

On behalf of the communities, I would also like to sincerely thank our volunteer judges, our Provincial Organizations, our sponsors and our partners: their dedication and support contributes significantly towards making this program a success.

Enjoy and thank you for your involvement.

Bob Lewis
National Chair
Communities in Bloom
Chers Délégués:

Au nom du Comité national, félicitations à tous les participants provinciaux et aux finalistes nationaux et internationaux pour leurs réalisations dans l'édition 2018 de Collectivités en fleurs et merci à tous ceux qui ont contribué à rendre nos collectivités plus vertes et plus agréables à y vivre, à y travailler et à visiter.

Bienvenue à Strathcona County et à Sherwood Park pour le 24e Symposium et Cérémonies de remise des prix de Collectivités en fleurs. Le comité organisateur de Strathcona County nous a préparé un programme formidable qui, nous l’espérons, plaira à tous et à toutes: présentations sur le bénévolat, la pollinisation, les arbres fruitiers, la recherche de commandite, les bonnes pratiques, les parasitoïdes et le cannabis; des visites d'un jardin botanique, d'un jardin d'hiver ou d'un jardin botanique, d'un vignoble et du célèbre West Edmonton Mall; et diverses activités comme le golf, les grands restaurants et les rencontres sociales. Évidemment, en finale, les Cérémonies de remise de prix 2018.

Au nom des collectivités, nous tenons à remercier sincèrement nos juges bénévoles, nos organisations provinciales, nos commanditaires et nos partenaires: leur dévouement et leur soutien contribuent grandement à la réussite du programme.

En vous remerciant pour votre implication, nous vous souhaitons un agréable séjour à Strathcona County.

Raymond Carrière,
Président fondateur
Welcome to Strathcona County and I hope you find our unique community warm, hospitable and very beautiful.

I have the privilege of being the Strathcona in Bloom Chairperson and Front Yard Recognition Coordinator. Strathcona in Bloom is an enthusiastic group of over 100 volunteers who believe in doing our part to make the community beautiful.

As you tour around, you may notice our efforts with the many planters and beds we plant and maintain. We work cooperatively with Strathcona County in support of the Communities in Bloom pillars of floral displays and community involvement.

As you participate in this year’s Symposium, it is our hope that you will come away rejuvenated with new ideas, perspectives and connections.

Thank you for being part of our Seeds for the Future Symposium. Enjoy the journey and happy gardening.

Beth Hunt
Chairperson Strathcona in Bloom

Strathcona in Bloom Story

Four generations of family bring joy to the community through flowers

A desire to brighten someone’s day, to help support a sense of community and to spend quality time with family are some of the reasons why Isabel Hanlan and her family have volunteered for more than 15 years to plant and maintain the flower beds at the Strathcona County Museum and Archives.

“This year, four generations of our family now help with the flower beds at the museum,” says Pat Hanlan, Isabel’s daughter. “We spend the winters anticipating what the next growing season will be like, and enjoy deciding what plants we’ll grow the following year.”

Isabel Hanlan (Ronaghan) moved to Sherwood Park in 1959 and became an active member of the community league. “It was a wonderful way to connect with your neighbours, support local endeavours and projects and feel like you belonged,” says Pat. “Later on, my mom and her husband Harvey started volunteering at the museum and at some point in the early 2000’s, our family started to plant and maintain the flower bed there. We are now responsible for 10 planters at the same location.”

In addition to Isabel and her daughter Pat, eldest daughter Lois Branham, her daughter Heather Bader and Heather’s 18 year old daughter Janaya can often be found at the museum. “We volunteer approximately two hours a week maintaining the beds during the growing season, but it’s not all work. We get to visit with whoever is walking by at the time, and often share a number of giggles as well. As I’ve gotten older, I’ve come to really appreciate the support structure of our community and the need to connect with people.”

Pat and her family are volunteers with the Strathcona in Bloom Society, who in partnership with Strathcona County, endeavor to beautify our community through the efforts of volunteers, businesses, and private home owners.
Bus departs from Clarion Hotel, starting at 11 a.m. A bus loop from the Clarion Hotel to the Community Centre is scheduled to run every 30 minutes until 5:15 p.m.

At 1 p.m., a bus will pick up guests at the Clarion Hotel for the pre-conference tour to Barr Estate Winery and Greenland Garden Centre. The bus will return to the hotel at 4 p.m.

From 5:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., the bus loop will include the Clarion Hotel and Festival Place, running every 30 minutes. Bus schedules can be found at the Clarion Hotel, and the registration room or information booth, located in the Community Centre.

11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Community Centre
Registration, set up community exhibits and silent auction
Inscription, installation des kiosques et encan silencieux
1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Pre-conference tour
Visites pré-congrès

Pre-registration was required for this tour/Pré-inscription requise

On this tour, you will visit two local gems; the Barr Estate Winery and Greenland Garden Centre. Barr Estate Winery is a working sheep and fruit farm where they use scientific training to create fruit wines of impeccable quality. The Winery produces three fruit wines: The Other Red™ (made from raspberries), The Barb™ (made from rhubarb) and The Rhuby™ (made from rhubarb and strawberries). Have your senses enticed!

Celebrating over 50 years, Greenland Garden Centre is Alberta’s premier gift and garden centre. Their outstanding plant selection, garden décor and supplies make them a one-stop shop for gardeners while their award winning selection of giftware, fashion and home decor is beyond compare. Greenland will take you on a guided tour through their beautiful botanical garden. This three acre garden is filled with thousands of trees, shrubs and perennials, providing a stunning display of colour and texture year round. After the tour, we’ll take time to enjoy tea and handmade scones in the garden.

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Strathcona County Welcome Reception
Réception d’accueil de Strathcona County

Join us for an evening of appetizers, fun and entertainment, featuring Jazz singer Shelley Jones in A Touch of Cole (music featuring Natalie and Nat King Cole). Plenty of complimentary appetizers will be served and a cash bar will be available. As an added bonus, the Farmer’s Market will be taking place just outside of Festival Place in the Broadmoor Lake Plaza from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m., weather dependent.

Pre-registration for the Welcome Reception was required.
Pré-inscription pour la réception d’accueil était requise.
Bus departs from Clarion Hotel, starting at 8 a.m. A bus loop from the Clarion Hotel to the Community Centre is scheduled to run every 30 minutes until 5 p.m.

At 5:45 p.m., buses will leave from the Clarion Hotel for the Broadmoor Public Golf Course for the social evening (pre-registration required). The last bus will leave for the Clarion Hotel at 9 p.m. Bus schedules can be found at the Clarion Hotel, and the registration room or information booth, located in the Community Centre.

8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Registation, community exhibits and silent auction
Community Centre
Inscription, exposition des collectivités et encan silencieux

8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.
Coffee, muffins and assorted pastries and networking
Café, muffins et pâtisseries assorties et réseautage

9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.
Symposium opening plenary sessions
Community Centre
Seances d’ouverture du symposium

Bernadette Solon, Tidy Towns of Ireland;
Mauro Paradisi, Comuni Fioriti, Italy;
Karin Rindall, America in Bloom;
Andrea Bocsi, Communities in Bloom representative in Hungary
(international judges)

World in Bloom
In this session, you will learn how the “In Bloom” program works around the world. Representatives from these organizations will make a brief presentation on their respective programs.

Did you register? Companion tour to West Edmonton Mall 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Pick-up at the Clarion Hotel at 9:30 a.m. and drop off at 4 p.m.
Visit West Edmonton Mall from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

You don’t need to love to shop in order to enjoy a day at West Edmonton Mall. Not only does the indoor mall have over 800 shops and services, but it also boasts a casino, movie theatres, mini golf courses, ice rink, indoor entertainment complex, waterpark and more. The Mall spans the equivalent of 48 city blocks so wear comfortable shoes.
For more information: wem.ca
9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Pam Sparklingeyes, Beaver Hills Cree Nation John Seenum Band
Community Centre Agora

People and the Beaver Hills.

In her presentation, Pam Sparklingeyes will share a reflection of the cultural history of the local land and the people who were here pre-contact. The land is called Amiskwaciy, which is Cree for “The Beaver Hills” and is one of 18 biospheres in Canada designated by UNESCO. In her talk, Pam will explore our relationships with the land and how contact changed land use. She will discuss the significance of Treaty signing, the responsibilities of all Treaty members (settlers and First Nations), and the current Indigenous issues.

10:30 a.m. Refreshment break/Pause-café
Community Centre Agora

Enjoy coffee, tea and cold beverages courtesy of the following sponsors.
Venez déguster un café, thé ou boissons froides, gracieuseté de ces commanditaires

Be sure to check out the silent auction and community exhibits.
N’oubliez-pas de visiter l’encan silencieux et l’exposition des collectivités

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Dr. Michelle Kilborn, Alberta Health Services
Community Centre Agora

Cannabis in our Communities: Insights from Public Health

Since the federal government proposed legislation to legalize cannabis, there has been much debate about how to legalize responsibly and just what the consequences of legalization may be. How did we get here, where are we now and how will communities be able to navigate this new landscape as we move forward? We will examine the many layers of legalization from a public health perspective and explore how a public health approach helps to minimize potential harms and protect the health and safety of citizens.
11:30 a.m. - 12 noon
Community Centre
Agora

**Raymond Carriere, Communities in Bloom and Karen Stephenson, Scotts Canada Limited**

**GRO1000...Mission Accomplished and So Many Great Gardens!**

ScottsMiracle-Gro launched GRO1000 in 2011 to create 1,000 gardens and green spaces across Canada, the United States and Europe by 2018.

Karen and Raymond will take us on a tour of 67 gardens to present best practices and innovative gardens that have involved youth, provided healthy food to the less fortunate and allowed communities to share ideas and to learn from each other.

You will also hear about Scotts Canada’s new community garden and green space grant program to support the love of gardens and gardening in our communities.

12 Noon - 1 p.m.
Community Centre
Agora

**Lunch and greetings**

*Dejeuner du symposium*

1 p.m. - 2 p.m.

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Session 1:**
**Carol Maier, Country Road Greenhouses**

**Zone 2 and 3 Fruit Trees**

Growing in zones 2 and 3 can be very challenging, especially for fruit gardeners. Carol will talk about hardy fruit, showing slides of fruiting trees and shrubs, from spring bloom all the way to harvest. You will be surprised what we can grow in these zones, including table grapes.

**Session 2:**
**Mike Jenkins, City of Edmonton**

**The 3 P's: Predators, Parasitoids and Pollinators**

The three most beneficial types of insects to have in your garden are predators, parasitoids and pollinators. This session will cover tips on encouraging their presence and the benefits of having these insects in your backyard.
2 p.m.  
**Refreshment break/Pause-café**  
Community Centre  
Agora  
Enjoy coffee, tea and cold beverages courtesy of the following sponsors.  
**Venez déguster un café, thé ou boissons froides, gracieuseté de ces commanditaires**  
Be sure to check out the silent auction and community exhibits.  
**N’oubliez-pas de visiter l’encan silencieux et l’exposition des collectivités**

2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.  
**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Session 1:**  
*Dora Berry, Nature’s Element*  
Community Centre  
Council Chambers  
*Gardening and Well-Being*  
The way you garden can nurture your whole-health: mentally, emotionally, physically, and spiritually. Gardening can greatly improve your health in body and mind, but also in your relationships with family, community, nature, and even your faith. It is proven to prevent illness and prolong life. Join Dora to learn how you can garden in ways that benefit your well-being, and as the greatest act of self-care and empowerment, and community-enrichment!

**Session 2:**  
Strathcona County Corporate Initiatives  
Community Centre  
Meeting Room 2/3/4  
*12 Practical Tips for Engaging and Recruiting Volunteers*  
Strathcona County Information Volunteer Centre  
Attracting volunteers is hard enough for most organizations but keeping them can be equally as challenging. This session will be tailored to Communities in Bloom organizations, and will include tips on what are important first steps in recruitment and how having a well thought out plan is imperative for a successful volunteer program.
Melisa Zapisocky, Strathcona County

Growing Opportunities for Urban Agriculture

The Urban Agriculture Strategy - a living document, built using a robust framework for action - was developed for Strathcona County in 2016. Informed by resident engagement and best practices, the document makes recommendations on seven strategy areas. Learn how staff are turning the document into a plan with the goal to make urban agriculture easily accessed and seen in the County.

Merril Lasby, Strathcona County

Attracting Pollinators to Our Gardens

Anyone can support native pollinators by adding flowering plants to their gardens and landscapes. By carefully selecting flowers that are full of nectar and pollen, native bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinators will be attracted and have them coming back to your garden for more! Learn which plants are most attractive to pollinators from early spring until late fall.

Gareth Swinnerton, Strathcona County

FireSmart in Strathcona County

Preparing for the threat of a wildfire is a shared responsibility. Strathcona County’s Recreation, Parks and Culture department incorporates FireSmart practices into daily operations and works with Emergency Services to assess parks and proactively reduce the impact that a fire would have on neighboring properties. This presentation will explore how public education, departmental cooperation, and community involvement can reduce the risk of wildfires in your community.
3:15 p.m. Refreshment break/Pause-café

Enjoy coffee, tea and cold beverages courtesy of the following sponsors.
Venez déguster un café, thé ou boissons froides, gracieuseté de ces commanditaires

Be sure to check out the silent auction and community exhibits.
N’oubliez-pas de visiter l’encan silencieux et l’exposition des collectivités

3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Session 1: Brent Collingwood, River Valley Alliance. 
Regional Partnerships - One Trail at a Time

Have you ever wondered what it is like to plan a river valley park system with multiple stakeholders? Come learn how the vision of the River Valley Alliance and one of their seven member municipalities, Strathcona County, have successfully completed Phase I of their Plan of Action.

Session 2: Karey Steil, City of Edmonton
Natural Yards

Learn what to expect if you plan to, or are currently, working on a natural yard, the differences between native plants and typical greenhouse plants and native plant recommendations for a range of site conditions.

Session 3: Lyle Douglas, Janet Guthrie and Carley Graham, City of Leduc
Leduc’s Communities in Bloom Success Story

The City of Leduc is located in the heart of Canada’s economic engine, just south of Edmonton, Alberta. Learn how the City of Leduc has worked hard at enhancing their parks, sporting events and operational initiatives in support of Communities in Bloom’s vision.
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Social evening/optional dinner:
Soiree libre - Événement social facultatif pour le diner

Pre-registration required/Pré-inscription requise

Sprite Social Night - A Blooming Fiesta

Pick-up at the Clarion Hotel at 5:45 p.m.; return for the Clarion at 9 p.m. for networking activities, courtesy of Yarmouth, Wood Buffalo and Butchart Gardens.

Join us for a Spanish-infused evening of food and entertainment. The evening will start with a flight sampling and signature cocktail sampling by local spirits distillery Elk Island Spirits. Enjoy a buffet, red and white sangria cocktails by order and a fantastic view of the lush greens. Entertainment will be provided by soloist and musician Brett Leibham. Ole!

Broadmoor Public Golf Course is also pleased to extend complimentary driving range and putting green privileges for those who wish to participate. Clubs and golf balls will be provided.

9 p.m.

Networking event - hosted by Yarmouth, Wood Buffalo and Butchart Gardens

Networking event - hosted by Yarmouth, Wood Buffalo and Butchart Gardens.
Bus departs from Clarion Hotel, starting at 8 a.m. A bus loop from the Clarion Hotel to the Community Centre is scheduled to run every 30 minutes until 11:45 a.m.

Buses will leave for the Technical Visits from the Community Centre at 11:30 a.m. Buses will return to the Clarion Hotel by 4 p.m. An additional stop will be made at the Community Centre.

Buses will start to leave the Clarion Hotel at 5 p.m. for the Community Showcase. The last bus from the Community Centre will leave at 11:15 p.m. The bus will run every 30 minutes. Bus schedules can be found at the Clarion Hotel, and the registration room or information booth, located in the Community Centre.

8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Registration/Inscription

Community Centre

8:30 a.m. - Noon Community exhibits and silent auction
Inscription, exposition des collectivités et encan silencieux

Community Centre

8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m. Coffee, muffins and assorted pastries and networking
Café, muffins et pâtisseries assorties et réseautage

9 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. Symposium closing plenary session
Séance de clôture du symposium

Community Centre

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Keynote speaker Brenda Robinson, The Robcan Group
Effective Volunteer Management

Today’s volunteers are different. This can present you with a challenge or a chore - the choice is yours. What are the strategies needed to effectively manage volunteers in our fast paced, busy world? Join Brenda to explore 12 strategies to help you become a positive and effective volunteer manager.
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.  

**CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

**Session 1:**
Community Centre  
Council Chambers

**Kevin Napora, Salisbury Greenhouse**

*Plan a Garden, Landscape a Dream*

It can be difficult to develop a dream landscaping plan, even with all of the resources available at our fingertips. In this session, we will tour three poplar garden styles and look at locally available landscape materials that will help you realize that dream.

**Session 2:**
Community Centre  
Meeting Room 3/4

**Strathcona County Corporate Initiatives Tied to Volunteer Organizations**

4, 15 minute presentations in one

**Merril Lasby, Strathcona County**

*Thrillers, Fillers & Spillers: How to Fill Your Planters with Colour*

No matter where your planters are located, you can fill them full of colorful plants by using a focal point, filler plants and those that flow over the edge. Whether you want long-blooming and low maintenance plants, exotic looking tropicales or vegetables and herbs, there are options available. In this session, you will learn about the different options you have to bring your planters alive.

**Dennis Franklin, Strathcona County**

*FUNding 101: Engaging Local Sponsors*

Funding strategies for non-profits, municipalities, community groups and more, often involve local business support through sponsorship. This presentation will look at taking sponsorship to a new level by finding ways to build off more traditional sponsorship models to create greater value for your sponsors, your organization, and your volunteers/members. Let’s explore putting the FUN, in FUNding.
Sue Hutton, Strathcona County

*What the Tweet? Just Post That.*

The effective use of social media is an important element in any marketing strategy to help increase awareness, create community buy-in for a project and to inform. Facebook, Twitter and Instagram are immediate ways to directly communicate with your audience, and one of the benefits of this medium is you can measure how effective your information sharing was. In this session you will learn at a high level how Facebook, Twitter and Instagram can be used to effectively get your message out and what potential consequences you need to be aware of before you venture into the world of social media.

Beth Hunt, Strathcona in Bloom

*Cultivating Community Through the Front Yard Recognition Program*

Finding ways to bring communities together and get neighbours talking to each other can be a challenge in our fast paced culture. Strathcona in Bloom Front Yard Recognition Program has grown immensely by mobilizing volunteers, using print media, revamping promotional materials, making use of local activities and social media. Join us as we share our ideas.

11:15 a.m.

**Refreshment break/Pause-café**

Enjoy coffee, tea and cold beverages courtesy of the following sponsors.

*Venez déguster un café, thé ou boissons froides, gracieuseté de ces commanditaires*

Be sure to check out the silent auction and community exhibits. *N’oubliez-pas de visiter l’encan silencieux et l’exposition des collectivités*
11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.  **Technical visits with bagged lunch**  
*Visites techniques avec déjeuner sac à lunch*

**Pre-registration required**/**Pré-inscription requise**

Hop on the bus at the Community Centre, and head to your pre-chosen technical visits. Drop offs are both at the Community Centre and the Clarion Hotel. Shuttles will leave on time.

**Technical Visit 1:**  **University of Alberta Botanical Gardens**

The University of Alberta Botanic Garden (formerly the Devonian Botanic Garden) boasts a stunning 240-acre property with cultivated gardens and plant collections, indoor show houses, and an extensive nature trail system. Highlights of the garden include the Kurimoto Japanese Garden, a tropical show house with exotic butterflies, an Indigenous Garden plus much more. The University of Alberta Botanic Garden is an award-winning attraction, a research site and home to year-round education programs.

This year, construction of the new Aga Khan Garden has been completed. With a $25 million gift from His Highness the Aga Khan, a 4.8 hectare Moghul-inspired garden has been built, featuring secluded forest paths, wide, stepped terraces that change with the seasons, geometric water features that stream into wetlands and a spectacular orchard of local plants.

Tour the Garden’s 80 acres of display beds and plant collections via a comfortable, covered tram golf cart, with stops along the way to get out and ‘smell the flowers’. This is an excellent choice for those with limited movement to view the Garden.

**Technical Visit 2:**  **Urban tour of Sherwood Park**

Enjoy a light walking tour on a paved trail around Broadmoor Lake Park, located in the heart of Strathcona County. During this tour, you will learn about storm water lakes, wetlands and ponds as well as the Parkland Memorial tree program and Strathcona County’s festival HUB.

Next, you will head to Smeltzer House, an original 1920s Canadian 4-square-style brick home. Period specific flower beds act as a perimeter around Smeltzer House, which showcases only plants that could have been purchased via a seed catalogue, at an
Edmonton greenhouse, or traded among other residents in the 1920s. The rest of the Smeltzer land has been transformed into a small botanical garden which features many beds such as “Blue Bed”, “Shade Bed” and “Butterfly Bed”.

Your next stop is Centennial Park surrounded by a natural native stand of trees, small edible shrubs and premier soccer fields. At Centennial Park, you will visit the pollinator habitat which is home to 370 native plants.

After a stop at Fire Station #6, your tour will continue to Broadview Enviroservice Station. The site accepts electronics, household hazardous waste, and appliances for free and proper disposal or recycling. It is also home to the Hodge Podge Lodge.

The last stop is Ball Island, home to many connecting pedestrian trails, a natural oasis for plants and animals and a quiet place to reflect and connect with nature.

Strathcona County has many initiatives that support the Communities in Bloom program! Please wear comfortable walking shoes for this tour.

Technical Visit 3: Rural tour of Strathcona County in an UNESCO biosphere

In 2016, the Beaver Hills Biosphere (a collaboration project with four municipalities including Strathcona County) received UNESCO biosphere designation. This is one of only two UNESCO biospheres in Alberta. The Beaver Hills is an extensively treed, upland area consisting of rolling hummocky terrain rich in native wetlands and aspen dominated Boreal mixedwood forest habitat.

During this tour, you will visit a number of unique locations in rural Strathcona County located within the Beaver Hills Biosphere.

At Elk Island National Park, you will learn about the history of Elk Island National Park, the bison handling facility and how bison were brought back from near extinction. Elk Island National Park is not only an important refuge for bison and elk, but is home to 250 bird species. The Park also has day-use areas for picnickers and overnight campers.

The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village is an open-air museum where you will learn about the stories of hardships and triumphs.
in Canada’s oldest, and at one time largest, settlement of Ukrainian pioneers. Explore more than 35 relocated and restored structures including a burdei (sod house), a one-room and two-room school, grain elevator, blacksmith shop and three churches. (Scooters available at this location if required)

The Strathcona Wilderness Centre is a four-season outdoor adventure centre. From camping in a lodge or in a tent, to hiking and cross-country skiing, to geocaching and disc golf, there’s always something to see and do at the Wilderness Centre.

Your tour will conclude with a drive by the historic Bremner House, where you will learn about the local agriculture industry.

**Technical Visit 4: Muttart Conservatory, John Janzen Nature Centre, City of Edmonton**

The River Valley is the largest urban park in Canada with more than 160 kilometres of maintained pathways and 20 major parks. The parks, trails and attraction facilities in the River Valley offer Edmontonians unparalledled opportunities to connect to nature, get outside and play.

Your first stop is the Muttart Conservatory, an innovative botanical garden housed inside of four glass pyramids. Inside the pyramids, three biomes are in the Conservatory year-round, and the fourth pyramid houses a creative feature changing up to eight times a year. As an accredited museum, the Muttart Conservatory preserves and grows one of Canada’s largest botanical collections, and shares knowledge and enthusiasm with visitors.

At the John Janzen Nature Centre, staff will take visitors for a walk on the wild side to promote awareness and engagement with nature in an urban setting. Explore the Exhibit Room, (featuring Seasonal Changes exhibit and activities), the Native Plant Demonstration Garden (view examples of wildflowers and native plant species in season) and learn about a variety of programs offered by the John Janzen Nature Centre.

This is a good choice for those with limited mobility to view each location, however some walking is required.
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.  **Free time/Temps libre**

5:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.  **Cocktail, Dinner and Community Showcase event**  
*Cocktail, dîner et célébrations des collectivités présentés en partenariat avec Yarmouth, N.-E., hôte du Symposium national et Cérémonies de remise des prix 2019*

**Pre-registration required/Pré-inscription requise**

Special recognition will be made to all national and international finalists, where participants will learn about the achievements of all participating communities. This evening is presented in partnership with Yarmouth, Nova Scotia (host of the 2019 Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks & Grounds and the National & International Awards Ceremonies.)

5:30 p.m.  **Cocktails**

6 p.m. - 11 p.m.  **Community showcase, dinner and entertainment**  
*Célébrations des collectivités, dîner et divertissement*

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**the Edible Fruit Garden**

strathcona.ca/edibleplants

In support of this year’s Communities in Bloom National Symposium on Parks & Grounds and the National & International Awards Ceremonies, Shell Canada has graciously partnered with Strathcona County to develop this year’s legacy project – an edible fruit garden to be used and enjoyed by residents and guests, as well as a public art display.

Thank you, Shell Canada, for your continued support in Strathcona County.
Bus departs from Clarion Hotel, starting at 8 a.m. A bus loop from the Clarion Hotel to the Community Centre is scheduled to run every 30 minutes until 11:45 a.m.

To get to:

**Alberta Communities in Bloom Provincial Awards Luncheon** (pre-registration required). Buses from the Clarion Hotel will leave at 12:40 p.m. for the Community Centre. The bus will return for the Clarion Hotel at 3:15 p.m. with a stop at Festival Place.

**The National and International Awards Ceremonies** Buses start to leave the Clarion Hotel at 2:45 p.m. for Festival Place. The last bus from Festival Place will leave at 9 p.m. The bus will run every 30 minutes.

Bus schedules can be found at the Clarion Hotel, and the registration room or information booth, located in the Community Centre.

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**8 a.m. - 12 noon**

**Community Centre**

**Registration, community exhibits and silent auction**

_Inscription, exposition des collectivités et encan silencieux_

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**8:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.**

**Coffee, muffins and assorted pastries and networking**

_Café, muffins et pâtisseries assorties et réseautage_

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**9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

**Community Centre**

**Agora**

**Town Hall Meeting with Mark Cullen, Canada’s Garden Expert**

_Forum de discussion_

An exchange between international and Canadian communities.
11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  **Free time**  
*Après-midi libre*

1 p.m. - 3 p.m.  **Alberta Communities in Bloom Provincial Awards Luncheon**  
Community Centre  
Agora  
*Déjeuner et cérémonies de remise des prix provinciaux de Collectivités en fleurs Alberta*  
**Pre-registration required/Pré-inscription requise**

3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  **Communities in Bloom National and International Awards Ceremonies**  
Festival Place  
*Cérémonies de remise des prix nationaux et internationaux*  
“And the winner is…” will be announced at the National and International Awards Ceremonies, which includes the Outstanding Achievement Awards.

5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.  **Cocktails**

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.  **Communities in Bloom Awards Ceremonies Banquet**  
*Cocktail, banquet et divertissement*  
**Pre-registration required/Pré-inscription requise**

*Saturday, September 29 / Samedi - 29 Septembre*  
*Aperçu du programme*
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