

Evaluation
Form

2016



2016 Evaluation Form

Program Disclaimer

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 including any resulting activity or events related to participation in the CiB program.

2016 Evaluation Form



Community: RM of Three Lakes/Lucien Lake Area

Province: Saskatchewan

Category: Competitive

The evaluation is based on 8 criteria, divided into the 6 following sections, assessing 4 sectors of the community:

Tidiness	108.5	/	150.00
Environmental Action	97.5	/	150.00
Heritage Conservation	111.5	/	150.00
Urban Forestry	115.0	/	175.00
Landscape	131.0	/	200.00
Floral Displays	111.5	/	175.00
	Total		675.0 / 1000.00

Percentage: 68%

Bloom rating: 3 blooms

Bloom rating: Up to 55%: 1 bloom. 56% to 63%: 2 blooms. 64% to 72%: 3 blooms. 73% to 81%: 4 blooms. >82%: 5 blooms.

Mention: Anniversary Celebrations for Bethany Pioneer Village

Representative (s) of Community

Name: Lorraine Forster Function: Chairperson CiB (Water's Edge)

Name: Betty Ann Godardt Function: CiB committee (Bethany)

Name: Sharon Carter Function: CiB committee (Bethany)

Judges

Name: Arlene Janzen Name: Lauren Mentiplay

Evaluation

date: July 26, 2016

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IMPORTANT NOTES:

Evaluation is adjusted to the climate and environmental conditions of the community.

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 evaluation is 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, commercial streets, 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)
- **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

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

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GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Thank you for a well-organized tour. Special thanks to Bethany Pioneer Village for providing our transportation. It was a delight to have people from a variety of walks of life on the tour. Lorraine Foster did a wonderful job in coordinating the tour and locating personnel at various locations to discuss their projects and activities. Thank you to the CiB Committee for putting together the community profile book and sharing your area with us. Thank you to Saskatchewan MLA Mr. Delbert Kirsch for answering questions related to the area. Thank you to Dr. Kondzielewski, an enjoyable person with lots of great info and lots of terrific ideas. Thank you to Mr. Tim Schmidt, Administrator of the RM of Three Lakes, for taking time out of his schedule to answer our questions.

The RM of Three Lakes #400, has a population of approximately 620 people, including a senior care facility that provides for the transitions as one grows older (Bethany Pioneer Village), a very well used regional park, Lucien Lake Regional Park, and a new development with a marina, Water's Edge (Prairie Skies Resort and Marina). The area is not only noted for farming, but also for fishing and hunting. There are wonderful historical cemeteries/sites maintained by volunteers and a large number of multi-generation family farms. It was certainly noticeable from our drive to the RM and on our tour of the area that there is a lot of water, including lakes joining up, and roads and fields being swallowed up by this additional water, which makes for a number of challenges.

Churches are an important part of the way of life and of the RM's history and continue to be regarded as such. Cemetery sites are treated with reverence.

The profile book was very good and it is impressive that you took the suggestions of the 2013 evaluation and responded with actions. Evaluating an RM is rather difficult in that bylaws and regulations relate to the rural areas, yet have urban municipalities within the RM with their own set of policies and bylaws, their own festivals and both are important in the support of each other. New developments within an RM can be a challenge since it requires more urbanized strategic planning, infrastructure, different zoning bylaws and appropriate policies/regulations. If we were only evaluating Middle Lake, facilities such as Bethany Pioneer Village and the Lucien Lake Regional Park would have likely been included in the Middle Lake's evaluation, due to their proximity to Middle Lake.

Congratulations to Bethany Pioneer Village celebrating their 60th year of providing care to seniors. A description from Bethany Pioneer Village's website "Bethany Pioneer Village, nestled in a park-like setting beside Lucien Lake Regional Park offers [independent living units](#), assisted living ([Birch Manor](#)) and long term care ([Aspen Manor](#)). Bethany offers aging in place with a home-like country living setting for seniors. This campus-of-care model for seniors' housing ensures that most residents can transition through a variety of housing and care options, and remain living in the vibrant Bethany community throughout their retirement years. It is understandable why there is a waiting list for these lovely facilities.

While many of the initiatives we saw encompass the objectives of CiB, it would seem that the RM itself does not have any official plan, policies or bylaws in place to deal with less exemplary future developments and development controls/standards that must be met. These would be addressed in your Official Community Plan (OCP) and in your zoning bylaws, adopted in 2014.

The annual RM municipal newsletter is very informative, something that might be beneficial to issue on a semi-annual or quarterly basis.

Signage is important for all and do not be afraid to promote your community. There are a lot of great things happening!

In the future it would be good to know the specific initiatives or recommendations that the CiB Committee has proposed, what has been implemented and items waiting, (i.e. the priority list) to meet their goal of revitalizing the region surrounding Lucien Lake, a very worthwhile and laudable goal.

Please note that although the total marks are lower than last time, you are in the same bloom category and having 3 blooms is very good for the second year of being in the CiB program. It is noticeable that the CiB committee is working hard and your efforts are commendable. We look forward to hearing more great things coming from the Lucien Lake region.

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TIDINESS		
<p>Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort by the municipality, businesses, institutions and the residents throughout the community. 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.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	6
Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	5.5
Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, unsightly private property maintenance by-laws, graffiti prevention and eradication, graffiti removal kits to residents	10	7
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)	15	9
Visual appeal, and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including City Hall grounds),	15	9
Business and Institutions		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	12
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	12
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	3
Residential		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	17
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	12
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street tidiness, clean-up programs, activities and annual maintenance (including promotion, organization, innovations involving youth and seniors, etc.)	10	8.5
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs	10	7.5
Tidiness Total	150.00	108.5

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TIDINESS

Observations:

The RM mows the ditches twice a year, which is much appreciated by all.

The two rural cemetery sites that we visited were neatly mowed and maintained, all done by volunteers - well done!

During the past year the Bethany Pioneer Village maintenance crew along with contracted personnel cleaned up a pile of disposed items, including vehicles, glass, etc., that had been tossed in an area over a number of years. Having that rubbish removed has improved the aesthetics of the area, especially along the walking trail that is near Bethany Pioneer Village.

Having the community involved in spring cleanup is a great way of getting to know your neighbour and make the place better for everyone. The spring cleanup bees at Lucien Lake Regional Park and at Water's Edge continue to be effective. There was not much litter at the Regional Park and Water's Edge was well maintained. The playgrounds at both sites were very clean and maintained.

Recommendations:

The bleachers at the baseball diamonds at Lucien Lake Regional Park need to be either replaced or repaired and repainted.

It is difficult to keep a maintenance yard organized and tidy and takes time away from other tasks. As time allows this could be an area for improvement.

With the 90th anniversary of Lucien Lake Regional Park coming up, this may be an opportune time to get some extra cleaning, especially of dead brush and trees and give some areas of the park a face lift. The playground equipment, including the faded painted tires at the beach area, needs some attention.

Continue to have community clean ups involving everyone, including the school children.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION		
<p>Environmental action pertains to the impact of human activities on the environment and the subsequent efforts and achievements of the community with respect to: 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 environmental stewardship activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning/vision; effective bylaws/policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities	20	14
Waste reduction to landfill and results (3-R : reduce, reuse and recycle), municipal composting programs, including activities such as composting sites, yard waste collections, mulching of wood debris (Christmas trees, hedge trimmings, etc.), reclamation of cut trees, and handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection and reuse of compost material	20	12
Water conservation and use-reduction programs such as or promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies	15	9.5
Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar), and initiatives such as: efficient appliances initiatives, shielding for night skies issues, efficient street lighting	15	9
Environmental initiatives, innovations and actions such as: - Development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation network such as bike lanes and multi-used pathways; Horticultural practices such as green roofs, green walls, green lanes, living fences, buffer zones; re-use of sites; engineered wetlands, bio-swales, permeable surfaces and rain water management - Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation - Air quality programs such as anti-idling, reduction of greenhouse gas emission (carbon reduction)	10	7
Business and Institutions		
Participation in the environmental effort : such as waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management	10	7
Corporate environmental innovation/stewardship, initiatives, activities (ex. environmental clean-up activities)	10	7
Residential		
Participation in the 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle) initiatives and composting	10	6
Adoption of water conservation practices such as rainwater collection and rain gardens	15	9
Community Involvement		
Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	5	4
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership, etc.)	10	6
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	7
Environmental Action Total	150.00	97.5

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Observations:

The walking trail near the Pioneer Village is a great opportunity for people to go for a walk on mulch, and experience the natural forest. It has been used by school groups, residents of the Pioneer Village and many other residents - another hidden gem.

The naturalization and significant evergreen tree planting of an area in the RM done by the Sask. Wildlife Federation/Nature Saskatchewan is wonderful to see and, if possible, to be encouraged to replicate it.

It is commendable to know that waste trees were mulched for landscaping throughout Water's Edge. The rocks for ditch/shore stabilization are valuable and planting trees and shrubs for ground stabilization in the riparian zones at Lucien Lake shoreline also adds to the aesthetics of this naturally forested area.

If possible church buildings are reused, either as another church in a more urban setting or as a residence.

It is not known if there are any current incentives provided by the RM or energy businesses for ratepayers to consider alternative forms of energy including solar power and wind power, or whether it has been considered by the RM Council.

Thank you for taking us to the REACT landfill site where items are segregated and, based on quantity collected, eventually picked up. Unpainted wood/brush/trees are kept separate and have a controlled burn. There is no composting done at the landfill site or anywhere else on a large scale. In the Village of Middle Lake are the recycling bins.

Fire protection is done by volunteer fire departments, including Middle Lake, Lake Lenore, St. Brieux and Yellow Creek. Having volunteer fire departments is critical in rural areas.

The RM has an Emergency Measures Organization, which is important to have, including a plan(s) depending on the type of emergency, especially given the increased overall water levels and the havoc that flooding creates.

The elevated lookout built around a tree gives one a great sense of the beauty of the local forest and the lake.

Recommendations:

A project to consider is making the walking trail near Bethany Pioneer Village a year round trail to be used by cross country skiers during the winter and walkers during the summer. This could include signage since the trail might be expanded with alternative routes and seating potential for areas closer to the Pioneer Village.

Compost is valuable and efficient in the reuse of materials. Consider researching the pros and cons of initiating a composting program on a larger scale including a retail aspect. Also consider mulching the trees and shrubs to be used at various locations in the RM including the trail near Bethany Pioneer Village.

Continue to explore ways of incorporating alternative energy/energy efficiencies in your various projects and the promotion of reduce/reuse/recycle. The "free library" program is an excellent example of reuse of books.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION		
<p>Heritage conservation includes efforts to preserve 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 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 and conservation groups are considered.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Natural heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs	10	6.5
Natural heritage management plans and preservation initiatives: including eco systems, eco parks, protection of sensitive habitats, species at risk, support for at risk pollinators, grasslands, naturalization, wetlands, urban agriculture/farming, and wildlife	15	11
Management and promotion of natural heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development/tourism) including activities and programs (year-round) for education and use of natural heritage sites for and by the public	15	9
Cultural heritage polices, by-laws and plans and preservation initiatives for heritage buildings, cemeteries, artefacts, museums, monuments, heritage trees and gardens, including their integration with streetscapes and landscape	15	11
Cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	6
Business and Institutions		
Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.	15	10
Conservation, restoration and, reuse of heritage buildings and artefacts including their integration with the built/hard, streetscapes and green landscapes	10	8
Residential		
Conservation/restoration and reuse of heritage buildings, artefacts on residential lands.	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual natural heritage programs including developing policies and plans, site improvements and management, conservation and education initiatives.	15	13
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.	15	12
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual cultural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	8.5
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	111.5

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Observations:

The RM has bylaws regarding the designation of various properties to be heritage properties, including the Little Moose Church and the Marcel Vey Farm. It would be good to know what the prerequisites or rationale that is used in determining the designation of a heritage property.

It was a pleasure to have Dr. Kondziewlewski on the tour, providing humour throughout the trip along with wonderful historical anecdotes. He is a talented artist, having painted some important local founders, such as the founder of Bethany Pioneer Village, and being integrally involved in the planting of the grapes, their supporting structures and other trees and plants at Bethany Pioneer Village.

Thank you for taking us to a 5 generations heritage farm, Triple H Farm, established in 1910, it is great that it is still a working farm and continues to support the local 4-H clubs.

Festivities at Bethany Pioneer Village happen year round, including the Christmas light display (Candy Cane Lane) and a Summer Fest that includes volunteer appreciation. This August 14, 2016 they are having their 60th anniversary celebration of providing care to seniors. The celebration includes a church service and the grand unveiling of the new history book "Bethany Pioneer Village: A History of Caring! 1956 - 2016", with numerous pictures and stories of how this village came to be and its' progression to current. This was a huge undertaking done by a lot of volunteers - Congratulations!

There are a number of cairns in the RM from an historical perspective, such as the Mont Calvary Church and cemetery site, the Trinity Lutheran Church Historical Site and Cemetery, a significant rock with info regarding a local school district, that are hidden gems.

It is not known whether the RM office should be considered a heritage property given the age of the building and the interesting historical aspects that are a part of the building.

The RM of Three Lakes is blessed with a deposit of large stones. A number of people have moved single rocks to their residential property for hardscaping. These stones are impressive and have also been used to display historical information.

What a treat to tour Heinz Schuler's property with his very unique entrance of painted stones that included characters from "The Flintstones" and many others. The community is fortunate to have someone with so much engineering and creative/inventive skills and is willing for people to come visit his place. His vast garden includes a variety of labeled apple and other fruit trees plus numerous other plants that he is experimenting with, a treasure for gardeners to view. His very well organized heritage tool shop is a marvel to behold.

The "Free Little Library" project at Prairie's Edge Park is innovative (a grain elevator design) and appears to be well used. This could also be replicated at Lucien Lake Regional Park.

The trails developed as part of Prairie Skies Recreational Trails Project and at Bethany Pioneer Village are important for not only exercise but for the enjoyment of nature and its preservation. Continue the good work and promote their use.

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Recommendations:

Consider, if not done already, having a taping session with Dr. Kondziewlewski, regarding his myriad of experiences as a family doctor in the area. He provides a lot of wonderful, enjoyable and historical information and stories that you may wish to record to enable documentation. The RM of Three Lakes and Bethany Pioneer Village are very fortunate to have someone with his expertise, knowledge and willingness to help.

It would be a good idea to promote the various historical sites and create a u-drive tour brochure of the various locales that are being maintained by dedicated volunteers, including the St. Johns German Lutheran Church and the Grace Lutheran Church site (on the Cudworth grid). Another option is to create a directory of the various cairns and historical sites with a short description and map that people could use to visit them.

Given the abundance of the large stones, a theme could be developed using them to display historical information in the RM and promote this historical tour in a variety of media forms. A starting point could be the RM office (with their own large rock).

Something to consider for the Lucien Lake Regional Park is to commission Mr. Heinz Schuler to do a rock/metal piece for the park, given that 2017 is the 90th anniversary for this park and Canada's 150th anniversary.

Consider doing nature hikes with groups of school children at the Saskatchewan Wildlife Property with a conservation officer providing the guided tour.

The RM could consider having a volunteer recognition evening along with their annual taxpayers' supper meeting.

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URBAN FORESTRY		
<p>Urban Forestry includes the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree management (selection, planting, and maintenance), long and short-term management plans, tree replacement policies, pollinator friendly tree selection, tree inventory, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest	10	7.5
Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	15	8
Urban forestry plan and design, including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots	20	10.5
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
Public information programs: good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs	15	8
Maintenance best practices with proven results	10	6
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	5	3
Business and Institutions		
Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by business and institutions.	15	11.5
Maintenance programs, best practices with proven results: watering, pruning, IPM	10	7
Residential		
Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees on residential properties	15	11.5
Maintenance best practices with proven results	10	7
Community Involvement		
Public participation 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	16
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
Urban Forestry Total	175.00	115.00

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URBAN FORESTRY

Observations:

Congratulations again on the planting of so many trees at Water's Edge. Several fruiting trees and shrubs were planted around the playground and trees continue to be planted.

We saw a variety of trees throughout the community on private property, at Water's Edge, Bethany Pioneer Village and at the Regional Park. Notable were the evergreens planted around Trinity Lutheran Cemetery.

We saw substantial plantings, including a significant planting of evergreens, on Nature Saskatchewan/Saskatchewan Wildlife property as well, that appeared to be growing very well.

The planted trees at Bethany Pioneer Village appear well cared for. New grape vines with trellises and several fruit bearing trees have also been planted.

New trees have been planted at Prairie Skies Resort this spring.

On all properties visited we saw a variety of tree species, including fruit trees, and trees were generally healthy. There had been a large infestation of tent caterpillars this past spring but most trees seemed to recover.

Recommendations:

New residents could be presented with recommended tree species, planting instructions and purchasing guide.

At Bethany Pioneer Village consider planting more trees near the picnic table areas and where people gather, providing future shade.

The Lucien Lake Regional Park would benefit from some clearing of dead trees and shrubs and some pruning.

Consider holding an education session on proper pruning for the public.

The RM yard site could possibly benefit from some tree planting along the property lines, making the location more aesthetically pleasing.

With regards to developments, consider having a bylaw that includes the planting of so many trees within a certain timeframe of ownership of the property, be it by the new resident or by the developer. You will want to ensure that there are a variety of trees planted so that if a disease comes in that the whole population of trees is not wiped out.

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LANDSCAPE		
<p>Landscape includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of parks and green spaces suitable for the intended use and location 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.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
First impressions of the community including gateway/entrance treatments	10	6
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties (including pollinator friendly) , traffic calming, bank stabilisation	10	6
Urban and civic design standards for streetscape and public places: flags, banners, public art, fountains, site furnishings, signage, seasonal design and décor, walkways and paving materials	10	5
Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	5
Turf management programs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, increased naturalization and adapted maintenance programs	10	6
Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs	10	6
Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specifications and best practices	5	3
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	10	7
Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (urban agriculture, community gardens, parks and recreation programs)	10	5
Business and Institutions		
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture	10	7
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	12
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground and asset management, rehabilitation and replacement) of all landscape elements	10	7
Residential		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	11
Maintenance of properties: lawn care, trees and shrub maintenance (with proven results)	15	11
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible and pollinator friendly plants)	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community programs such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination and decoration (promotion, organization, etc.)	20	15
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom Program including activities in all evaluated criteria	20	11
Landscape Total	200.00	131.00

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LANDSCAPE

Observations:

Congratulations on the new playground and mini golf area at the Regional Park. A sign thanking the contributors is good to see. Having different companies sponsor a hole is a good idea. Good luck developing the old mini golf grounds into an eating area for the snack bar. Great idea! Using an old boat as a planter is a fun way to repurpose it.

There is a new fishing pier at the regional park since the last evaluation.

New this year is the marina at Water's Edge. That is a project that took a lot of vision and effort, and the results are well worth it. The little Free Library, designed as a grain elevator, combines cultural heritage and public art and provides a valuable service.

The new pergola and surrounding Annie Stauker Memorial Garden are welcome additions to Bethany. The garden will be planted with lilies from her garden on Aug 14th, Annie's birthday, but currently include some inappropriate plantings for the area and type of plant (e.g. shade loving plants in full sun)

Private yards were nicely landscaped and tidy.

Recommendations:

The entrance way always provides the first impression. At one of the entrances to Bethany Pioneer Village is older equipment. If they could be somehow presented more interestingly, possibly fewer of them, and maybe a discer planted with annuals and surrounded in a maintained bed with more annuals, that may improve the entrance. Bethany Pioneer Village has access to a gardener/landscape person who may have some great ideas regarding this also.

The landscape designer/gardener will also want to do some replanting at the new pergola area to ensure that the plants are in the appropriate locations and that they will survive to be enjoyed by all. A water feature near the pergola would be a welcome addition.

The new mini golf course at the Regional Park would benefit from plantings of low maintenance shrubs and other perennials. Landscape designs that are low maintenance might include a concept for celebrating Canada's 150th and at the Regional Park recognizing their 90th anniversary.

Consider doing a farm yard of the month/week to recognize the significant efforts done by these individuals and ensure that appropriate recognition, with consent, is done in the local newspaper. Recognition could also be done at the new developments on a similar format and, possibly, applicable to the individual units at Bethany Pioneer Village. This could also apply to the spaces that people rent at the Regional Park with a different theme each time, making it fun as well as somewhat competitive.

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FLORAL DISPLAYS		
<p>Floral displays evaluates efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents 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, edible plants, water efficient and pollinator friendly plants) in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, colour, and harmony This pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	8
Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	20	10
Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants	10	5
Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	10
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	10	5
Business and Institutions		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	12
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	7.5
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	10	7
Residential		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties Pollinator gardens and/or inclusion of pollinator plants in gardens	20	14
Quality of planting and maintenance with proven results.	15	11
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.)	15	12
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community floral displays activities	15	10
Floral Displays Total	175.00	111.50

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FLORAL DISPLAYS

Observations:

The floral displays were attractive and well maintained at Bethany Pioneer Village and the floral garden at the playground at Prairie Skies/Water's Edge. The planters at the Regional Park were lovely, including the canoe filled with annuals.

Recommendations:

Consider using some high impact flowers and plants, like cannas, tall grasses, dracaenas, etc., in your plantings. With the Regional Park's 90th anniversary, a large planting to commemorate the anniversary might be part of the plans. A combination of florals and grasses at the sign(s) for the various developments would make a stronger first impression.

There are some farmyards that are absolutely glorious in their landscaping and floral work. Consider including 1 - 2 of them in your next tour.

The front of the RM office would benefit from a planter or two. This could be part of a landscaping plan for the RM office area.

2016 Evaluation Form



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

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