

# 2024 Communities in Bloom Ontario Provincial Edition Invitation

January 2024

### Honourable Mayor and Council,

Communities in Bloom is a non-profit Canadian organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community participation and the challenge of friendly competition.

The program promotes involvement and action by citizens of all ages, municipal governments, local organizations, not for profits and businesses. It strives to improve the tidiness, appearance and visual appeal of our neighborhoods, parks, open spaces and streets through the imaginative use of flowers, plants and trees.

A focus on environmental awareness, the preservation of heritage and cultural landscapes is also an integral part of the success of the program.

We invite your community to explore the program, experience Canadian community pride, and enjoy the benefits of people, plants and pride... growing together, by participating in the 2024 program.

In the past few years, we have seen significant changes in society's expectations for, and usage of, our outdoor environments. We encourage you to join communities across Ontario and Canada to develop civic pride, mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, enhance green spaces, strengthen neighborhoods, and increase investment opportunities and tourism. Your community will receive valuable feedback from the judges and a template for continuous improvement.

Your community will also be invited to submit for special achievement awards and to apply for grants offered by our sponsors and partners.

Your community has the option to participate in one of the following categories (please see the **How to Participate** guide for more information):

### Population Category (community is evaluated):

Two volunteer judges visit and evaluates the community to provide a report, mention and bloom rating The evaluation will be planned to be scheduled for two days with accommodation provided by the host community.

Registration fees are as follows, by Population size:

Population Size	Price
Up to 5,000	\$ 400.00 CAD
5,001 to 10,000	\$ 575.00 CAD
10,001 to 20,000	\$ 700.00 CAD
20,001 to 50,000	\$ 850.00 CAD
Over 50,001	\$ 1,000.00 CAD

or

#### Friends Category (community is not evaluated):

Community is not evaluated : becomes part of the Communities in Bloom network. The registration fee is \$250.00 CAD

Participating in the CiB program has proven, **positive benefits!** While impacting all sectors of your municipality, CiB will help to encourage and enhance community involvement, improve green infrastructure, and become more environmentally sustainable. The very high Return on Investment that has been noted by other communities make CiB **one of the best investments** you can make for your hometown!

Check out the video below that features information and testimonials from Mayors, community leaders and partners who have seen the benefits of participating in Communities in Bloom.



# CiB Ontario is Challenging and Inviting your community to act early and REGISTER for the 2024 Provincial Edition!

The registration form can be completed directly on-line, click below

### **CIB ONTARIO ONLINE REGISTRATION FORM**



## 2024 Colour of the Year

At the request of our communities, we decided to continue with a **colour theme for 2024**. This year's colour will be **ORANGE**. We invite everyone to plant orange in honour of our Indigenous communities as we celebrate all the ways Plants Love You.

Again, please visit our website at <u>cibontario.ca</u> for more complete details and call us if further information is needed. Let us all work together for a <u>Greener and Healthier</u> Ontario.

### Martin Quinn, Chair

CiB Ontario

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