

December 6th, 2023

Warden Danny Muise
Municipality of the District of Argyle
PO Box 10
Tusket, Nova Scotia B0W 3M0

Honourable Mayor and Council,

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

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

A focus on environmental awareness and the preservation and conservation of the cultural, natural, and built heritage elements are also an integral pillars to 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 great places together, by participating in the 2024 Communities in Bloom program.

In the past few years, significant changes have occurred in society's expectations for, and usage of, our outdoor environments. We encourage you to join communities across the Atlantic provinces 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 **invaluable feedback from a professional team of experienced, volunteer judges** who will provide you with a comprehensive report of observations and recommendations to serve as a **template for continuous improvement** following their visit.

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Site Internet : www.collectivitesenfleurs.ca

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Your community has the option to participate in one of the following categories:

- **Population Category (community is evaluated):**

Two volunteer judges visit and evaluate the community to provide a detailed report, including any special mentions and an overall bloom rating (from 1 to 5 blooms) The evaluation visit will be scheduled for two days with accommodation provided by the host community.

Or

- **Friends Category (community is not evaluated):**

Community is not evaluated: becomes part of the Communities in Bloom network, able to access educational, idea sharing for community improvement, and an invitation to attend the annual symposium.

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!

CiB Atlantic is challenging and inviting your community to act early and REGISTER for the 2024 Atlantic Provincial Edition!

The deadline to register is **February 29th, 2024**. The registration form can be completed directly on-line, by following this link: <http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca/cib2024>

Also, at the request of our communities, we decided to continue with a **colour theme for 2024**. Next 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.

The National Symposium on Parks & Grounds and National & International Awards Ceremonies will be held in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island from October 17-20, 2024. We would be pleased to showcase your achievements and to celebrate your bloom rating and level.

For more information about how Communities in Bloom can **help your community** become a **Greener and Healthier** community, please contact:

Sonia Parrino - CiB Program Specialist

Phone: (514) 694-8871 email: bloom@cib-cef.com

Sincerely,

Susan Ellis,
B.A., B. Ed., Ec.D.
CiB National Chairperson