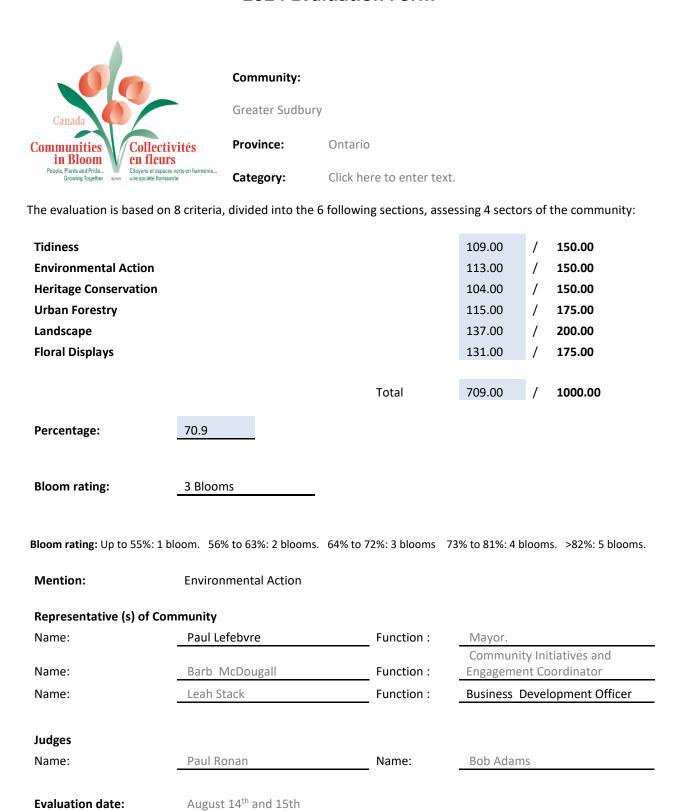
2024

Greater Sudbury





Evaluation date:

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- * Evaluation is adjusted to the climate and environmental conditions of the community.
- * Some aspects of the evaluation might not be applicable: scoring will be prorated.
- * 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, and Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the municipality, businesses and institutions.

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The understated beauty of the area surprised me as I once thought of Sudbury as a barren remote destination that I did not want to spend time in. I was surprised at the actual beauty in and around the area, noting that they had in excess of 300 lakes in and around the area. The community has certainly spent numerous hours over the course of years to improve the once barren land. Reforestation, revitalization, community programs are all to recognized for their efforts.

The Greater Sudbury community was very welcoming and educational. People welcomed you with open arms and enthusiasm. They wanted you to experience their proud accomplishments since their last entry to the CIB program

Upon first arriving in Sudbury we passed the Toyota dealership which set the standard of what we might be judging in the area. The colourful vibrant planters along the boulevard clearly displayed pride of ownership and a sense of welcome.

A great time was had meeting numerous participants and officials while learning where the community had originated from.

The hospitality at the Sugar Shack was excellent, both educational and enjoyable. Great lunch experience, including a Black Bear sighting.

Suggestions:

Signage is required when entering the City stating the Greater Sudbury area is a "Community in Blooms" participant. Use of the CIB logo is recommended.

City needs to see an increase in the staffing budget to different departments (specifically forestry/maintenance) to complete the necessary work to ensure a safe and accessible community. Develop / create succession planning for key knowledgeable staff in all areas to ensure that qualified personnel are available to continue with the goals/ plans set out.

Community involvement signs – residential garden of the week signs to be provided to community participants who have demonstrated their support for the program.

Signage throughout the town needs to be increased to further promote and create awareness of the program in the community. The signs can be provided to both commercial and residential gardens.

Increased signage for the education of best practises – compost for gardens, pruning methods, drought tolerant, native plant materials, etc.

TIDINESS

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.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	7
Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	7
Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, 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, liter and recycling containers etc.)	15	11
Visual appeal, and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including City Hall grounds)	15	11
Business & Institutions		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	11
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	10
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	4
Residential		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	16
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	11
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	7
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs	10	7
Tidiness Total	150.00	109

TIDINESS

Observations:

Toyota- was a definite "WOW". Greater Sudbury was very welcoming and beautiful. The residential properties visited and driven by were very impressive.

Curb appeal was clearly demonstrated by the care and attention given by the property owners. Walking thru the downtown we observed minimal amounts of litter.

The large murals were intriguing and well done.

There is obviously a positive connection between staff and business / residential to a certain degree, however expanding those relationships to become participants in C.I.B. would really help enhance overall City Beautification.

Recommendations:

Some businesses have 4' weeds in their gardens, are there bylaws regarding property standards in place? A broader awareness of the program and its benefits might be shared with all businesses and residential owners to improve the overall standard.

Consider expanding your existing contests to encourage more competition in the Business and Residential sectors.

Consider offering CIB signage of recognition to those businesses and residents who are showing good examples of tidiness.

By using social media more extensively to promote clean up days would help get more people aware of what it takes to keep Greater Sudbury tidier than it already is

Really promote school involvement in these clean up initiatives and consider prizes or recognition for most litter collected.

By creating a Tidy Ambassador Volunteer, you could have them seek out and acknowledge tidy sites by offering the CIB signs to be displayed as recognition of their efforts.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

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.

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Municipal		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning / vision; effective bylaws / policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities	20	15
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	15
Water conservation and use-reduction programs: efficient appliance incentives or promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies and rainwater management	15	12
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	11
 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	8
Business & 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	8
Adoption of water conservation practices & policies including rainwater collection	15	13
Community Involvement		
Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	5	3
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership), etc.)		6
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	8
Environmental Action Total	150.00	113

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION;

Observations:

Earth Care Minute is great and should / could be expanded on National level.

The cleanup and reforestation in the last several decades is very obvious.

Compost sharing is a fantastic program.

The supply of pet waste litter bags at the start of the walking trails is a great idea. The community gardens were well laid out and accessible.

There was a huge amount of support from the local residents.

The planters were raised up making the gardens wheelchair accessible. The use of solar electric vehicles throughout the city was obvious. Land reclamation in Greater Sudbury appears to be a huge success.

A good job has been done reducing the amount of sand entering the lake thru the culvert.

The promotion and recognition of your environmental programs is evident and ongoing. These leading best practices should continue to be aggressively promoted using all available media opportunities. TV, RADIO, NEWSPAPERS, SOCIAL MEDIA, SIGNAGE, AND BILLBOARDS.

Recommendations:

Remove invasive plant growth along lake edge – Minnow Lake Boardwalk.

Continuous learning and awareness of invasive plant material must be maintained as well as actioned to provide a sustainable environment.

Earth Care Minute – expansion is highly warranted and recommended.

Continue with the Seed program which collects seeds from the local areas, propagating, resulting with seedlings supplied and shared with numerous community groups inclusive of natives, to provide and create prosperous natural growth and reforestation for our generation and generations to come.

More education and awareness to new residents on where you were and where you have come would be helpful in promoting the many already in place initiatives and could assist in recruiting new volunteers and environmental initiative participants

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

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.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		•
Natural heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs	10	6
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	12
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	11
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	10
Cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	8
Business & Institutions		
Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.	15	11
Promotion of local heritage, including heritage gardens, native plants, and heritage trees	10	6
Residential		
Conservation / restoration and reuse of heritage buildings, artefacts on residential lands.	10	6
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	10
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.		10
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	7
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	7
Heritage Conservation Total	150.00	104

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Observations:

A strong sense of biodiversity and inclusion by all demonstrated a great respect for the lands and cultures. The visit to Capreol was too short, I could of stayed all day. Being able to walk thru the train cars was important and educational. It was very well laid out and was history well worth saving. The Peace Park was a good place to reflect on life. The Wood Stove planter at the Train Museum was a '10'.

The visit to Science North was an important reminder of what has come before us. The way the building has been constructed and merged with the earth is amazing.

At the Living with Lakes Centre, we were able to observe where the beavers live. This is an amazing piece of property. It is so important to educate both young and old that this type of habitat must be protected.

The absence of a focused Heritage Tree is a missed opportunity and one that could draw more tourists and residents especially given environmental challenges many of these trees have survived through.

Recommendations:

Heritage Tree recognition and protection may benefit from a committee of both city staff and residents to create more awareness and preservation.

Creating a data base of significant and or Heritage trees is strongly recommended

A more focused effort to identify existing heritage building, sites and history would be very helpful in capturing not only the mining history but the many buildings, houses and supports that were created to support the mining operations

A more prominent celebration and recognition of Indigenous history may also be considered.

Possible enrichment programs through the schools may provide a greater awareness for future generations, and generate enrolment in career paths to take conservation efforts to the next level.

URBAN FORESTRY & TRAILS

Urban Forestry and Trails includes the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents with regards to written policies, by-laws, standards for tree and trail management (selection, design, signage, 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. Trail types, signage, risk management policies, accessibility, surfacing and promotion

	Max	Actual
Municipal	•	
Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest and trail	10	6
Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	15	10
Urban forestry and trail plan and design, including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots and trails	20	12
Plan of action: procurement, species diversity (including native trees), selection of hardy and pollinator habitat tree species, recommended tree list and tree planting standards. Trail linkages, land acquisition, landowner agreements, stakeholder engagement	10	6
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases . Trail vegetative encroachment control and risk management	10	5
Public information programs: good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs including Trail promotion, signage, guides, trail use protocols	15	10
Maintenance best practices with proven results	10	5
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	5	3
Business & Institutions		
Contribution to expanding overall trail and tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by business and institutions.	15	11
Maintenance programs, best practices with proven results: watering, pruning, IPM, surfacing, signage, trailhead markers, hazard removals, inspections	10	7
Residential		
Contribution to expanding overall trail and tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees on residential properties	15	11
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.) Trail adoption, clean up days, maintenance and public safety awareness for users, eg snowmobilers, hikers, ATV, horses, etc	20	15
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation or promotion by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community trail maintenance and stewardship, tree planting and conservation programs on public lands	10	7
Urban Forestry Total	175.00	115

URBAN FORESTRY & TRAILS

Observations:

Nature Camps for children created a wide awareness of natural habitats and was in a perfect setting. Muddy rubber boots lined up outside the classroom guaranteed visitors that the children were immersed in their studies.

Downtown murals were unique and enjoyable as they displayed heritage, history, inclusion.

The visit to the Jane Goodall Reclamation Trail provided the opportunity to observe the program first hand. It was pointed out that long term regrowth can and does work with examples of before and after side by side.

The bilingual artwork placed along the trail certainly caught my eye. It contained a strong environmental message for everyone.

There was no doubt that staff are frustrated with the backlog related to dead tree removal and ongoing maintenance. That said, more resources will address this and staff are very hopeful that a grant which has been submitted will help tackle this issue.

Recommendations:

Remove or at least cut down the 1800 dead trees on boulevards throughout the city – danger, safety issue, unsightliness, to avoid potential claims from falling limbs / trees.

To create awareness and engage the public, services / washrooms need to be available as well as maintained throughout parks and trails.

Accessing and possible integration of educational programs through national organizations may provide a better understanding of issues / awareness of what we need to do to protect our natural environment.

Organizations such as Landscape Ontario, and Ontario Parks Association offer apprentice programs, educational seminars and assist with numerous fields within the Parks and Horticultural fields.

Reach out to Parks Canada, Landscape Ontario for further information tools.

Universities may offer specific courses to enhance city staff knowledge to improve and build on the possible future options to create sustainable habitats.

LANDSCAPE

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.

	Max	Actual
Municipal	_	
First impressions of the community including gateway / entrance treatments	10	5
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	7
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	7
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	7
Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs	10	7
Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specifications and best practices	5	3
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	10	6
Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (urban agriculture, community gardens, parks and recreation programs)	10	7
Business & Institutions		
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture	10	6
Contribution to urban and civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design	15	11
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement) of all landscape elements	10	5
Residential		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	12
Maintenance of properties: lawn care and shrub maintenance (with proven results)	15	12
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible and pollinator friendly plants)	10	7
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community programs such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & 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	15
Landscape Total	200.00	137

LANDSCAPE

Observations:

Hospice gardens another "WOW" yet peaceful and touching. Great space to reflect, I am thinking about that visit quiet frequently. Donor support was obvious. Replacing turf with perennial gardens near the bedroom windows was a great idea. Reducing noise while beautifying the patients view thru the windows.

Bell Park was another "WOW' garden on a shoe string budget. Very nice! Bell Park was wheel chair accessible from the upper parking lot and continued thru the park offering opportunities to view the waterfront.

There were many examples of artwork that doubled as furniture. The aggregate placement in some of the landscapes was impressive.

The Community Gardens had a huge amount of support and were obviously successful.

The residential visits were appealing and well maintained.

There are many positive and successful examples of good practices in landscape in the residential and municipal categories. More effort on the business side to improve their landscapes will certainly be well noticed by tourists and residents alike.

Also the absence of noticeable Gateway, plantings at your 5 points of entry will have an immediate positive impression and impact to your community.

Recommendations:

Staff training is required to assist supervisors and managers in this area.

Joining Ontario Parks Association would provide access too many much needed training programs which can be brought to your community and save staff from travelling long distances

Landscape Ontario also offers apprenticeship programs in Landscape related activities as well.

Enhancing a full IPM program for your sport fields will help sustain the turf and help offset the wear and tear due to high use and demand of the fields

Also ensuring an investment in the training of staff on best practices for turf and landscape best practices is recommended.

FLORAL DISPLAYS

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.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design		11
Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	20	16
Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants	10	8
Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.		15
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	10	6
Business & Institutions		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	10
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	6
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	10	6
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	17
Quality of planting and maintenance with proven results	15	13
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	11
Floral Displays Total	175.00	131

FLORAL DISPLAYS

Observations:

30th anniversary sign of Communities in Bloom was impressive.

Planters in the downtown core were an enjoyable sight with the use of different floral mediums.

Vibrant colorful displays were noted and caught our eye in several locations.

Bell Park is certainly a showpiece and credit to the Horticulture Staff who are really making great use of a very limited budget to provide a WOW garden.

Something we felt was missing were gateway plantings which could be used to welcome visitors, tourists and every day commuters to the various parts of the City.

It was very clear to us that there is terrific pride in keeping gardens and floral displays at a very high standard. This was evident in both the residential and municipal categories however more work on the business sector would really help raise the bar.

Much credit should be given to the municipal Horticulture staff who are delivering quality presentation on a shoestring budget.

Also much credit should go to the volunteers who are going above and beyond at the community gardens and could certainly use more funding and municipal support to augment their dedicated efforts.

Recommendations:

Community horticultural groups may hold meetings to promote a specific theme or color to be promoted throughout the year. This would increase the awareness of the program city wide. Possibly have a color scheme for different areas in the city. Create a healthy competition

A plan to create inviting Gateway plantings at your 5 main entry points would be strongly recommended. They do not need to all be done at once but certainly the one with the most traffic would be a good place to start.

Your Toyota Dealership is a shining example of how Floral displays can greatly enhance your City and promote business. Creating an acknowledgement of award program through Communities in Bloom to see other businesses step up is strongly recommended.

Creating a Garden Tour similar to Doors Open Toronto would encourage more involvement in sharing many of the exceptional residential gardens that you already have in the City. This could easily be promoted through your Culture and Tourism section as another option when visiting Greater Sudbury.

2024 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

The commitment of local, provincial and national volunteers.

The support of elected officials and of staff in municipalities.

The dedication of our judges, staff and organizations.

The contributions of our sponsors and partners.