

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 (YMCA, Legion), private museums, Canada Post
- Tourism bureaus, 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 deserves to be evaluated in each of the sections of evaluation. Community Involvement will continue to be a highlight of the awards ceremony.

- Individuals & Service and citizen groups – all contributing to various aspects of community improvement
- Organized clubs such as horticultural societies, garden clubs, community associations
- Social clubs such as Rotary, Lions, Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Sincere thanks to Councillor Dave Harris, and Deputy Mayor Allan Jackson, Village of Harrison Hot Springs (HHS) and your CIB Committee for your hospitality during our recent CIB Judges Tour.

We applaud the new CIB committee members that have joined HHS's CIB Committee. It is your dedication that will move the CIB program forward in your community. Thanks to the Mayor and Members of Council of HHS for your continued support of the CIB program.

We recognize that despite your CIB Committee is relatively new; you are working really well together. We congratulate you and urge you retain your infectious enthusiasm as you continue to participate in the CIB program.

Special thanks to Councillor Dave Harris who has been tirelessly committed to the CIB program. HHS is a much better place to live, work and play because of his efforts.

The friendly feel of the Village was evident throughout the tour, from the stunning entrance displays onward. It was a joy to experience HHS with all of you.

On behalf of CIB BC – thank you for hosting the provincial conference in 2009. Please extend our thanks to the many volunteers from HHS who assisted as well.

We really appreciated Blackberry Lane B&B, which is a credit to both the District of Kent and Harrison Hot Springs.

The Village of Harrison Hot Springs was picture perfect on a warm summer day. It is located beside Harrison Lake with an extensive public beach area. The beach area is home to a new Harrison Lake Plaza for public performances. The surrounding landscaping is welcoming to visitors, along with a number of seating areas for the public to enjoy. It is an obvious attraction for tourists and residents alike, as numerous performances are held and occur on the site regularly. The annual Festival of the Arts held from July 10 – 18th, 2010 had just completed as the judges arrived.

One of the outstanding, significant accomplishments by HSS is the installation of a boat sani-station. All boats can offload their wastewater, free of charge, into the station. The station pumps the effluent into the HHS municipal sanitary sewer system. As a result, Harrison Lake has been declared a "no dumping" lake by authorities. HHS is congratulated for this major accomplishment. It is an example for other municipalities who have an abundance of large boats on lakes adjoining their municipal boundaries.

Sweet Peas obviously were the seeds of the season for HHS. There were small gardens with sweet peas at the boat launch and Ranger Station as well as a stunning, sweet scented display at the Community Gardens. It was notable that this heirloom flower was so widely used.

TIDINESS		
Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort made by the municipality, businesses, institutions, and residents of the community. Elements for evaluation are green spaces (parks, etc), medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets, municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties, ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots and buildings and signage, with regard to weeds, maintenance and repair, graffiti and vandalism.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal (30%)		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	9.50
Community anti-litter awareness programs	5	4.50
Effective bylaws & policies and enforcement; for litter control, graffiti prevention including notices & posters	10	9.00
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, etc)	10	9.00
Cleanliness of urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers	10	9.00
Business & Institutions (17%)		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	10	8.00
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	10	8.00
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	4.50
Residential (23%)		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	19.00
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	14.00
Community Involvement (30%)		
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)	15	12.00
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions for community clean-up programs	15	12.00
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts (from citizens and businesses) in tidiness activities	15	13.00
Tidiness	150.00	131.50

TIDINESS

Garbage receptacles are emptied twice daily on the beach area in tourist season. The beach area is a large area and HHS expends extensive budget and staff to keep the area pristine. It is one of the attractions for visitors.

The Walk and Talk Group have adopted, for litter pick- up, Esplanade Ave the major beach front thoroughfare of HHS.

HHS has an Adopt-A-Road program and the Village provides volunteers with safety vests, bags, and gloves. The Village picks up the filled bags for disposal. All major routes are sponsored by individuals or groups.

There is an Adopt-a-Highway highly visible program for Agassiz-Rosedale Highway 9. The Ministry of Highways has installed a recognition sign for CiB for its efforts in keeping the Highway clean.

Art Darjes, a tireless community volunteer, continues his daily travels in his scooter picking up litter. He was recognized by the Council of the Village of Hot Springs and boasts an "Adopt a Village" recognition sign on his scooter.

HHS has an Unsightly Premises Bylaw. Unsightly properties are sent letters of notice up to three times. If the property remains unsightly after three notices, the Village proceeds to clean it up and charge the owner.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION		
Environmental action includes efforts and achievement by the municipality, businesses, institutions, and residents of the community, with respect to: policies, by-laws and best practices, 3-R initiatives (reduce/reuse/recycle), waste reduction, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, naturalization, environmental stewardship activities, and environmentally friendly transportation, under the guiding principles of sustainable development.		
	max	actual
Municipal (47%)		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, guidelines, long-term planning / vision; effective bylaws / policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities.	20	17.00
Waste management programs such as 3-R (recycling, re-use, reduce), composting and including activities such as landfill site management, shredding of Christmas trees & handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection.	10	8.00
Water conservation and reduction programs: efficient appliance incentives or promotion, efficient irrigation and use of non-potable water, water restriction policies	10	8.00
Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar), efficient street and signal lighting and shielding for night skies issues & promotion of energy audits.	10	8.50
Environmental actions such as: Greening of operations fleet for park maintenance: such as conversion to higher efficiency vehicles, use of alternative fuels and air quality programs: monitoring, anti-idling advisory / bylaws, efficient use of vehicle fleet such as use of crew cabs, bicycles, any other energy-saving transportation. Development and expansion of bike lanes and recreational pathways Initiatives and Innovation, such as: green roofs, green walls; re-use of sites Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation	20	18.00
Participation in the environmental effort : such as waste management (recycle, reuse, reduce), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management	10	8.50
Corporate environmental innovation / stewardship, initiatives, activities	10	8.50
Residential (23%)		
Participation in the 3-R (recycle, reuse, reduce) initiatives and composting	20	18
Adoption of water conservation practices & policies	15	13
Community Involvement (17%)		
Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	10	9.50
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including, promotion, organization etc)	10	9
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions in public environmental activities and programs	5	4
Environmental Action	150	130.00

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

One of the judges had judged for CiB HHS three years ago. At that time the reclamation of the Miami River area from years of neglect and invasive blackberry was identified by HHS CiB as an area that needed improvement. The progress made by HHS, Miami Streamkeepers, Fraser Valley Invasive Plant Council and volunteers is truly commendable.

Linked to the Walnut Naismith Bridge, its community of trails meandering along the Miami River, is a place of solace and shade. The extensive upgrades have opened up the river to local residents, particularly on blocks 200 – 400 of Miami River Drive. The upgrades are already reaping benefits in an increase in riparian animals, birds and insects. The easy access to the Miami River, by local residents, will encourage them to monitor and maintain the area to retain and improve its environment over time.

It was great to hear that kids can now travel to school using this bridge; alleviating many car journeys to school. Further, it is encouraging to note that HHS has the foresight to have the right-of-way dedicated in the last block. Residents are looking forward to the completion of this section of the trail in the near future.

To the untrained eye, it is not apparent that there is a significant sand build-up on the beach area of HHS, blown in by continuous prevailing winds. It has negatively impacted businesses, as well as the beach area in HHS. Concerted efforts have been made in 2010 to reclaim the ornamental tree wells, which were virtually invisible. Businesses have constructed small bricked areas and also had them completely covered over by sand. Utilizing a \$200,000 savings from the Harrison Plaza building project, HHS installed long retaining wall areas on the beach to stop the sand from blowing up on the road and business areas. The new retaining wall is used as a seating area by residents and tourists alike. It is a haven for the antics of children to walk and climb on.

HHS has a new Harbour Committee with representatives from a variety of agencies. The committee are discussing plans to re-develop the marina area to accommodate greater boat moorage, a float plane marina and a new public wharf.

One of the outstanding and significant accomplishments by HSS is the installation of a boat sani-station. All boats can offload their wastewater, free of charge, into the station. The station pumps the effluent into the HHS municipal sanitary sewer system. As a result, Harrison Lake has been declared a “no dumping” lake by authorities. HHS is to be congratulated for this major accomplishment. It is an example for other municipalities who have an abundance of large boats on lakes adjoining their municipal boundaries.

Recycling in art was an interesting and colorful exhibit at the Ranger Station. Artist, Ronda Simmonds has taken “collectors items” to a new height. While the exhibit is art - it focuses the community attention on the importance of recycling while providing ideas on ways people can display their collections, or better yet, purchase one of hers.

The Municipal Council of HHS needs to be complimented for initiating an action and then changing its mind due to public reaction. Such was the case when HHS suggested to residents it wanted to close its green waste collection site in the community. The planned closing was abandoned. However, HHS has a greater understanding of the importance of green waste disposal by its residents for future planning.

HHS is reviewing proposals to upgrade its Waste Water Treatment Centre. Additionally, sewer mains have been video inspected. This inspection has indicated a number of pipes that require repair to reduce the potential of ground water contamination. HHS utilized this information for planning and implementation purposes by the end of 2011.

Recommendations Encourage residents to work tirelessly and relentlessly to assist the Village of Harrison Hot Springs to partner with all levels of government, businesses, organizations and First Nations to continue the enhancement of your vital community trail system.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION		
Heritage Conservation includes efforts made by the municipality, businesses and institutions, and residents to preserve heritage within their community. Priority in evaluation is given to natural heritage, as well as the integration of landscape and streetscapes as it pertains to the built heritage of a community. The evaluation includes:		
- natural heritage management plans, including sites, parks, cemeteries, heritage gardens, native plants and heritage trees;		
- the relationship of the landscape to the built heritage;		
- overall preservation of traditions and customs through year-round festivals and celebrations, events and parades, heritage foods and the arts. As well, the participation of groups such as the Historical Society are considered.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal (50%)		
Heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs	15	14.00
Natural and cultural heritage management plan and preservation initiatives: including cultural landscapes, use of native plants, heritage gardens, heritage trees, cemeteries, heritage sites.	15	13.00
Promotion of heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development / tourism)	10	8.00
Interpretative and signage programs, walking tours, festivals/celebrations	10	9.00
Activities and programs (year-round) for education and use of natural heritage sites for and by the public	15	14.00
New programs and initiatives to promote local heritage	10	9.00
Business & Institutions (20%)		
Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and grounds	15	13.00
Promotion of local heritage, including heritage gardens, native plants, and heritage trees	15	14.00
Residential (10%)		
Conservation / restoration and reuse of sites / buildings	10	9.00
Conservation of cultural and heritage elements pertaining to their own private lands and structures.	5	4.00
Community Involvement (20%)		
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in natural & Cultural Heritage activities	10	8.00
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual in cultural and natural heritage programs including heritage community events/activities, including year round cultural festivals & celebrations and preservation of traditions, customs, food, music, dance and crafts (including promotion, organization etc).	10	9.00
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions (including Historical Societies) in natural and heritage activities and programs including cultural festivals & celebrations throughout the year and preservation of traditions, customs, food, music, dance and crafts.	10	8.00
Heritage Conservation	150	132.00

HERITAGE CONSERVATION

The accommodation sector in HHS should be commended for their vision in implementing the 2% hotel tax to support marketing initiatives, as well as investing in a municipal partnership for the Harrison Plaza Spirit Square project constructed in 2009.

The judge that visited HHS in 2007 was pleased that HHS has committed to renovate Memorial Hall, rather than build a new community facility. With the assistance of a "Towns for Tomorrow" grant, renovations will commence in September 2010.

The former Ranger Station heritage building acts as an Art Gallery. The Ranger Station also houses the offices of the Harrison Festival Society under the direction of Phyllis Stenson. Phyllis is also instrumental in hosting a May plant and garden show at the Agassiz Pavilion in support of CIB annually. Rhonda Simmonds, an artist-in-residence at the Ranger Station, was hosting a show aptly named "Divergence." The basis of her art is to group and re-use discarded, used up, or found objects that once had a place within our lives and re-purposed them into a variety of beautiful collections to tell a new story. Her interpretation of issues such as racism, travel and spirituality were threaded through the exhibit.

The Art Gallery, Harrison Festival Society, and HSS are to be complimented on this obviously vibrant community working relationship.

Surrounding the Ranger Station was a neatly maintained and organized "Buds in Bloom" organic garden with a few pieces of quaint statuary. The garden also included heirloom plants and was one of the locations with a sweet pea garden.

Recommendations

HHS has a number of privately owned heritage buildings located in the business area of the community. It is suggested that CIB and the municipal council are to keep their eyes on these structures to ensure that they retain their heritage status particularly if they are sold or their current uses change.

URBAN FORESTRY		
Urban Forestry includes the efforts made by the municipality, businesses and 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, tree inventory, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees.		
		Max
Municipal (40%)		
Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	10	9.00
Urban forestry planning and design, including integration with overall landscape plan	10	9.00
Measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots	10	8.00
Plan of action: procurement, species diversity, selection of hardy species	10	9.00
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases	10	8.00
Public information program on good planting techniques and maintenance programs	10	8.00
Qualified personnel and/or crew training	10	8.50
Business & Institutions (20%)		
Design, species diversity and planting of trees in landscapes	15	13.00
Maintenance programs and best practices: watering, pruning, IPM	10	8.50
Inclusion of native, hardy species for planting on properties	10	8.50
Residential (20%)		
Design, species diversity and planting of trees in landscapes	15	14.00
Inclusion of native, hardy species for planting on residential properties	10	9.00
Maintenance best practices	10	9.00
Community Involvement (20%)		
Public participation in tree planting and conservation programs such as Green Streets Canada, Arbour Day, Maple Leaf Day, and other tree planting and maintenance programs and activities on public lands (including promotion, organization etc).	15	13.00
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	8.50
Volunteer Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in urban forestry activities.	10	8.00
Urban Forestry	175	151.00

URBAN FORESTRY

HHS is located in a climate that encourages the growth of trees and is naturally endowed with an abundance of trees. This is especially notable on the trail system.

HHS is embarking on a neat treasure hunt of heritage trees. They are going to advertise in the newspaper and invite residents to nominate trees for the heritage list. The list will feature trees both on private and public lands. The treasure hunt will make the project participatory by residents, assist in raising awareness on the importance of heritage trees, and encourage residents to become more aware of the tree canopy, both ornamental and indigenous in their community.

There is an old, large, stately Ginkgo tree located in the private gardens of the Harrison Hot Springs Resort that will be a candidate for the heritage list.

The gardener of HHS is complimented for planting a number of new Ginkgo trees beside benches on the waterfront and for replacing the trees lost by the construction of the Harrison Lake Plaza. Her rationale for choosing Ginkgo was because of their hardiness to strong winds and slow growth. However, it is also a fitting choice to link it to the stately one located in the HHS Resort private gardens.

HHS staff has removed the brick pavers surrounding the trees on Maple and Chehalis Streets. They were placed up against the trunks and had become tripping hazards as roots pushed the pavers up. These bricks have been replaced with bark mulch.

HHS is planning a boardwalk linking the waterfront sidewalk area to the Ranger Station Art Gallery. The Boardwalk is planned in the future to reduce pedestrian traffic on the well travelled old highway. When the Boardwalk is constructed, there are plans to ensure that the existing tree canopy on the edge of the lake, is integrated into the boardwalk to protect it..

The cedar trees located on Poplar Street are magnificent.

The trees on the waterfront of HHS are beautiful shade trees for the many visitors of the area to enjoy. The recovery of the ornate tree wells by removing the sand is an important improvement. There are a number of trees on the waterfront who have very interesting shapes, most likely as a result of the constant wind off the lake.

HHS is to be congratulated for the retention of a dead tree dedicated as a bird tree. More importantly, that it has a sign on it indicating its purpose. It is important to birds and it certainly is a conversation piece.

HHS has a tree preservation bylaw adopted in July 2009, which governs restrictions on tree removal and prohibits topping of trees in the Village.

LANDSCAPE (Parks & Grounds, Green Spaces, Streetscapes - including Turf & Groundcovers)		
<p>This section of the evaluation supports all efforts to create an environment showcasing the overall surroundings. The overall plan and design must be 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 municipal, commercial and residential sectors of the community. Standards of execution and maintenance should demonstrate best practices, including quality of naturalization, use of groundcovers and wildflowers, turf management and maintenance. The evaluation will consider how the spaces create a sense of place within the community, actively utilized year-round.</p>		
	max	actual
Municipal (45%)		
Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	20	19.00
Turf management programs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, increased naturalization, alternate mowing frequency and water management	15	13.00
First impressions of the community including gateway / entrance treatments	10	9.50
Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs	10	9.50
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties	10	9.00
Urban and civic design standards for streetscape and other public places: flags, banners, public art, fountains, site furnishings, seasonal design and décor, lighting design, walkways and paving materials	10	9.00
Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and greenspaces (parks and recreation programs, city festivals and events)	10	9.00
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	5	4.00
Business & Institutions (15%)		
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers	10	8.00
Contribution to urban and civic design and public greenspaces above and beyond requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design	10	9.00
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement) of all landscape elements	10	9.50
Residential (25%)		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	20	18.00
Maintenance of properties: lawn care, tree and shrub maintenance	15	14.00
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative)	15	14.00
Community Involvement (15%)		
Public participation in community programs such as: "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (including promotion, organization etc).	15	14.00
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in landscape activity .	5	4.50
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions for community landscape programs and activities	10	8.00
Landscape	200	181.00

LANDSCAPE

There is a lovely cedar sculpture located near the new Harrison Plaza funded by Harrison Agassiz Chamber. The sculpture was constructed out of a dead fall cedar. The surrounding paving stones were also funded by the Chamber and laid in place by volunteers.

The Harrison Lake Plaza is a significant new structure for which HHS is very proud, rightfully so. It is adorned with a number of trees, plantings, benches. The construction contains lovely wood beams in keeping with the lush tree and vegetation canopies in the area.

HHS gardener obviously has foresight in planning and developing a detailed planting list to upgrade the Lagoon area of Harrison Lake. This is a fitting extension to the lakefront area of HHS. The design and plant material chosen was in response, to as best possible, manage inclement weather coming off the lake and to manage the sand that is constantly blown into the community.

Harrison Holiday Park was a gem added to the CiB tour in 2010. The residents of the park were tickled that their park was included. It featured beautiful flower beds, complete with a water fall, in a lovely shaded area with large trees. The residents were brimming with enthusiasm in showcasing their mobile home park to the judges. This is a fitting example of partnerships by CiB with the community.

The two year old Community Garden partnership with funding from Fraser Health to promote food security is obviously well used. It is also a program of the Canadian Diabetes Association with partnerships with the Agassiz Harrison Community Services, Village of HSS, and the CiB Committee. A number of the beds were raised and some quite high, to assist those who may not be as agile in bending as others. It was touching to see the school children's pumpkin patch growing. It will be fun for them to harvest their pumpkins in the fall, as well as the common garden, where the produce is available to anyone who wants it. The judges commend Gerry Nootebos for coordinating the Community Garden. As a retired market garden farmer in the region, it was very obvious that he knows how to grow a garden and is a wealth of information for the gardeners and community alike. The popularity of the Community Garden is pressuring the Village of HH to establish another one, in the future, given the waiting list to get into the current garden.

Through the outdoor pool door area of the Harrison Resort Hotel, accessible only by guests, is a wonderful (approximate ½ block size) park and garden area. Included is long arbor covered in wisteria. The area is surrounded by a large hedge which acts as a buffer from the vehicle traffic and houses a number of large trees, including a grand Ginkgo tree. Although the actual history of this Ginkgo is unknown, it is suggested that it was planted by one of the original hotel owners, whose wife was of Japanese descent.

It was notable to see the garden in the elementary school grounds. School grounds do not typically have gardens due to the cost of maintenance and generally, are not maintained during the summer. This was a refreshing find.

Recommendations The pump house cover behind Harrison Lake Plaza is a rather severe concrete structure that as more and more plantings are installed on the beach becomes more noticeable. An installation of plantings, or some form of upgrade, to soften the effects of this structure could be considered.

It may be fitting to install a sign recognizing the funding and volunteer support of the Agassiz Harrison Chamber of Commerce's contribution in providing the cedar sculpture and paving surrounding at Wayfarer Corner.

FLORAL DISPLAYS		
<p>"Floral Displays" evaluates the efforts made by the municipality, businesses and institutions, and residential sectors of the community 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) 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 (35%)		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	14.00
Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	15	14.00
Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora	10	8.50
Quality, maintenance, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	15	13.50
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	10	8.50
Business & Institutions (20%)		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	13.50
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc	10	8.50
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	8.50
Residential (20%)		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties	15	14.00
Quality of planting and maintenance	15	13.00
Community Involvement (25%)		
Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc).	15	13.00
Volunteer recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in floral displays	15	13.00
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions in community floral displays activities.	15	13.00
Floral Displays	175	155.00

FLORAL DISPLAYS

The stunning HHS Gateway entrance could not be missed. The red and white of the Canadian Flag, bookended by the provincial symbol, indicates the pride in living in the 'Best place on earth'. Also, noticed were the Dogwood Trees which is the provincial flower of BC. The cover of mosses, is a fitting use of materials, given the areas of natural rain forest. The flowers are donated annually by Allenby's Farm Store in Agassiz. Planting materials are changed reflecting the four seasons of the year.

The Ranger Station organic garden, the interest by Phyllis Stenson and resident artist Rhonda Simmons in organic gardening is refreshing. This provides an additional living 'art' of interest for visitors. Volunteers from the community maintain the gardens.

As noted previously, HHS has used the enticing smell and show of sweet peas. This was evidenced at the new planter installed at the entrance to the boat launch parking lot.

HHS must be ideally suited for wild flowers. They were abound, providing a stunning display to the entrance of the Walnut Naismith pedestrian bridge and also provides a welcoming opening for trail users.

HHS is a tourist destination, and as such has dozens, if not hundreds of flower beds, hanging baskets, flower pots, window boxes pocket gardens and any other matter of flower splashes of color. It contributes greatly to the tourist destination community that HHS is. The municipality, businesses, and individuals alike, all have flowers. Of particular note was the lovely motel stone pillars and undercarriage with wrought iron fence that had a neat tiny narrow garden with marigolds along the base of the fence.

The municipal gardening staff have methodically planted perennials that grow well in the area, thus reducing ongoing maintenance.

HHS has a neat program "Garden of the Week". CIB volunteers canvas the residential area and pick gardens of homeowners that stand out for features. This is an excellent way to recognize individual gardens in the area. The "Garden of the Week" is recognized in the local newspaper. One of the individuals for "Garden of the Week" had fascinating stories of several individual plants that were saved from demolition sites throughout the region. The owner, a retired contractor and plant enthusiast, had carefully removed special plants and shrubs (often moving them more than once as they changed residences) and now are cared for in the gardens of their current residence. It is obvious that these plants provide living memories of work that he had done in the past. It was in this garden that an heirloom Beni Gaku Hydrangea was spotted. It too had a previous home.

The manicured garden areas of the Harrison Hotsprings Hotel were beautiful. In the private gardens, there were numerous flower beds with pleasant curving brick edges. An arbor covered in wisteria was stately. The private garden of Jane Kivett is worthy of Garden's West recognition. The garden had a delightful mix of vegetable and floral arrangements, with a mix of garden styles including rock, xeriscape, manicured and English. She has a succulent collection that is the envy of the most avid gardeners. She has provided containers of them for exhibitors at the BC Home and Garden show. A number of clematis' were in full bloom and the one that was winding up the base of a large cedar tree at the edge of her yard, was truly magnificent.

Recommendations HHS does an exceptional job of showcasing private gardens with their "Garden of the Week" program. Perhaps a few small samples of the press coverage could be included in the Community Profile book, in future.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COMMUNITY AND MENTION

The Village of Harrison Hot Springs, with a population of 1,573, edges Harrison Lake towards a backdrop of snow-capped mountains. It has first class amenities and natural attributes, including its abundant sandy beaches, clean lake water, hot springs, mountains and agriculture landscapes. It is a perfect year-around getaway offering a myriad of activities including boating, fishing, hiking and just relaxing.

The Festival of the Arts is another Harrison icon which, for more than three decades, has continued to bring together a multi-cultural celebration of performance art from all over the world.

Although tourism is a focus for the Village of Hot Springs, the residents clearly compliment the hundreds of thousands of visitors to HHS annually. The community is well kept, with a beautifully maintained extensive public beach area, adorned with magnificent trees, benches, a new retaining wall and the wonderful new Harrison Lake Plaza. HHS has dozens, if not hundreds, of flower beds, hanging baskets, pots, window boxes, pocket gardens and any other matter of flowers in display. The municipality, businesses, and individuals alike, all have flowers.

The judges commend the Village of Harrison Hot Springs for its Community Garden. It was a place for all ages, evidently happy, to be there. The involvement of children with their pumpkin bed will be a treat for them to visit this fall and make their own jack-o-lantern. The Community Garden is a little community of its own. The quality of the vegetables, the self-help garden for those who just want something fresh, was outstanding, complete with the stunning display and smell of sweet peas. This truly is a tribute to the residents of HHS who make it a community, while welcoming thousands of visitors to their doorstep every year.