

October 24, 2008

Campbell River Wins Five Blooms and Population Category

In its third year of competition, the City of Campbell River has earned top honours from the provincial Communities in Bloom. The City received a 5-Bloom rating and won the 30,000-50,000 population category at the awards ceremony and conference held October 4th in Castlegar, BC. This qualifies the City to compete nationally next year.

“Judges, Don Alberg of Qualicum Beach and Suzanne Anderton of Kelowna, were very impressed with the city and felt that we are more than ready to enter the national level of competition,” says Councillor Morgan Ostler. *“They were particularly impressed with the network of volunteers, which was reflected by our high score in the Community Involvement category.”*

According to the judges’ report, Campbell River is *“made better at every turn by the involvement of its citizens, their commitment to a culturally diverse, physically active and environmentally healthy community.”*

The City also scored high in the Tidiness category and the judges commended the Downtown Ambassadors, residents, business owners, volunteers and the City’s Parks, Recreation and Culture Department for creating *“an impeccably tidy city.”*

“Also helping to improve our score this year was the implementation of the Blue Box Recycling Program, the Yard Waste Removal Program, the Strategic Parks Plan, the Culture and Heritage Plan and the Smart Growth Plans,” Ostler adds.

Receiving Special Mentions this year were the Pier Street BIA for their efforts to beautify Pier Street and the Museum at Campbell River for outstanding community programs.

“The City extends its appreciation and congratulations to everyone who was involved in helping to showcase Campbell River to the judges this year,” says Mayor Roger McDonell. *“Your efforts have elevated our image to the national level, and we look forward to next year’s competition.”*

For more information, or to participate on the Communities in Bloom Committee, please contact Lynn Wark, Parks Project Supervisor at 250-286-7805.

Read the Communities in Bloom 2008 Evaluation Report at www.campbellriver.ca under “What’s New”.

Learn more about Communities in Bloom at: www.bcrpa.bc.ca/recreation_parks/parks/communities_bloom.htm

– 30 –

Contact: Mayor Roger McDonell 250-286-5710