

June 27, 2011

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**Introducing...Campbell River Communities in Bloom Committee Members**

*The City of Campbell River* is pleased to introduce the **Communities in Bloom (CIB) Committee**, a group of volunteers dedicated to making Campbell River a better place to live. Under the leadership of businessman and recognized local volunteer Nigel Lambeth, this group promotes civic pride in our city's appearance, our heritage and the spectacular natural environment through community involvement projects and by participating in a nation-wide competition.

Lambeth, a resident since 1990 owns Campbell River Garden Centre with his wife Shauna, and has been chairman of the city's Beautification Committee since its formation in 2004. He enjoys the variety of outdoor experiences that living here offers and says that he truly feels Campbell River is "worth working hard to keep looking as it does - beauty on the edge of wild."

CIB committee members also include Carol Couture, who leads the community beautification team, Richard Barry, the team leader for community involvement and Susan McEwen (Vice Chair) and Stacey Larson, who share responsibility as team leaders for the annual garden contest and Campbell River's entry in the National Communities in Bloom Contest. The group's communications efforts are supported by Malcolm Wilson who coordinates public awareness of all the activities.

Couture, a long time Campbell River resident, has served on the Beautification Committee since 2004. She is an avid gardener and has been coordinating the Adopt-a-Highway program for many years.

Arriving from the Sunshine coast in 2009, Barry established his landscaping business here, specializing in drought tolerant, low maintenance xeriscapes. His 27 years of experience, including five beautifying Sechtel, are invaluable to this team. He has conducted xeriscaping workshops and enjoys making garden furniture and signs with driftwood and cedar.

McEwen and Larson share the challenge of organizing the CIB national judges' July visit. This follows the annual garden contest, which the local pair also arranges. Both business owners share a love of gardening and have been involved with CIB for more than four years. While McEwen is an avid amateur gardener and president of the local garden club, Larson is a professional landscape designer and horticulturist who has operated the Ladybug Greenhouse for 11 years. Both of them consider CIB a way to perfect Campbell River as a place to live, work and play.





## Media Release

Wilson retired in Campbell River in 2005 from a career in environmental and forestry research, and this is his first year volunteering for CIB. He also volunteers with the local garden club and believes involvement in our community is an essential way to improve everyone's enjoyment of the environment, both cultured and wild.

Building on successful volunteer projects like the **Maritime Heritage Centre** and **Grandmothers to Grandmothers**, the CIB committee has shining examples of what Campbell River can achieve – and tough acts to follow. Fortunately, the committee is blessed with support from the City's Community Advisory Committee, local sponsors and partners, assistance from Parks, Recreation and Culture staff and an ever-growing throng of volunteers.

CIB members are organizing teams to carry out year-round activities such as clean-up days, community workshops, the annual garden contest, environmental action projects, and participation in the national **Communities in Bloom Contest**. If you would like to get involved, please call the City of Campbell River Parks Department at 250-286-7275 for details.

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Contact: Lynn Wark, Parks Project Supervisor

250-286-7275