



# News Release

Tuesday, September 19, 2006

## ARPA Salutes Participants of Communities in Bloom – 2006 Provincial Edition

Edmonton, AB – ARPA acknowledged the participating communities in the Provincial Edition of the National Communities in Bloom Program at a provincial awards dinner held in Vegreville, on Saturday, September 16.

### Community Blooms Population 1-500

<b>Arrowwood</b>	<b>5*</b>
Bittern Lake	4
Blue Ridge	3
Champion	3
Delia	3
Fort Assiniboine	3
Gleichen	3
Innisfree	3
New Sarepta	4
Vilna	4

### Population 501-1000

<b>Sedgewick</b>	<b>4*</b>
Alix	3
Bashaw	4
Beiseker	4
Delburne	4
Hardisty	3
Mannville	4
Thorsby	3

### Community Blooms Population 1001-2000

<b>Tofield</b>	<b>5*</b>
Bon Accord	4
Bowden	3
Bruderheim	4
Coronation	4
Oyen	3
Rainbow Lake	4
Spirit River	4
Vulcan	4
Wembley	4

### Population 2001-5000

<b>Millet</b>	<b>5*</b>
Beaverlodge	3
Fairview	4
Hanna	4
High Prairie	4
Jasper	4
Pincher Creek	5
Provost	4
Redwater	3
Three Hills	4

### Community Blooms Population 5001-10 000

<b>Coaldale</b>	<b>5*</b>
Beaumont	4
Crowsnest Pass	3
Drumheller	5
Edson	3
High River	5
Hinton	4
Stettler	4
Strathmore	3
Sylvan Lake	4
Taber	2
Vegreville	4
Wainwright	5
Whitecourt	3

### Country Rural

<b>Valhalla Centre</b>	<b>4*</b>
Bezanson	4
LaGlance	3
Tee Pee Creek	4

### Noncompetitive/Networking

Didsbury	2
Trochu	4

*\*Denotes Winner in Category*

“We are pleased to salute these communities, and the many Communities in Bloom volunteers within, that demonstrate their dedication and commitment to improve the quality of life of all Albertans,” explains Kay Kenny, ARPA President, “Recreation and parks are vital to the development and sustainability of healthy individuals, communities and environments. This is an important opportunity to acknowledge and showcase these leaders – past, present and future – who make this all possible.”

ARPA (pronounced A.R.P.A.) is a provincial, not-for-profit, charitable organization made up of volunteers committed to building healthy citizens and communities in Alberta through recreation, sport, arts, culture and parks. Serving Albertans since 1952, ARPA members include community and public recreation agencies, educators, corporate elected members, lay members and student members.

For more information on the Alberta Provincial Edition of Communities in Bloom, please refer to the attached Backgrounder.

-More-

For more information contact:

Dan Chambers  
Provincial Coordinator, CiB Alberta Edition  
Ph: (780) 458-5387  
Fx: (780) 451-7915  
E-Mail: [dchambers@arpaonline.ca](mailto:dchambers@arpaonline.ca)

Kay Kenny  
President, ARPA  
Ph: (403) 309-8418  
Fx: (403) 342-6073  
E-Mail: [Kay.Kenny@reddeer.ca](mailto:Kay.Kenny@reddeer.ca)

# Backgrounder

---

## **People, Plants & Pride, Growing Together**

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

National beautification programs have flourished in Europe, including England, France and Ireland, for decades, and were the inspiration for Communities in Bloom. It began in 1995 with 29 Canadian communities and has grown to more than 100 national and hundreds of municipalities registered in the provincial editions.

Communities in Bloom promotes involvement and action by citizens of all ages, the municipal government, local organizations and businesses. The program strives to improve the tidiness, appearance and visual appeal of Canada's neighbourhoods, parks, open spaces and streets through the imaginative use of flowers, plants and trees. A focus on environmental awareness and preservation of heritage and culture is also an integral part of its success resulting in an improved quality of life.

## **More Than a Beauty Contest**

Expert, specially trained volunteer judges travel across Canada during the summer to evaluate municipalities on eight key criteria:

- Floral Displays
- Turf & Groundcovers
- Landscaped Areas
- Natural & Cultural Heritage Conservation
- Tidiness
- Tree/Urban Forest Management
- Environmental Awareness
- Community Involvement

For additional program information please visit the national website at [www.communitiesinbloom.ca](http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca).