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# *Township of Madawaska Valley , Ontario*

**Communities in Bloom - 2018 National & International Edition**

## **5 Blooms Positive Community Partnerships**

**PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

STRATHCONA COUNTY, Alberta, September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018 —

The Township of Madawaska Valley received a 5 Blooms rating and a special mention for *Positive Community Partnerships* during the 2018 National/International Symposium and Awards Ceremonies in Strathcona County, Alberta. The Township of Madawaska Valley participated in the 1,501 - 5,000 population category along with Hanna AB; Merrickville-Wolford ON and Prescott ON.

Over the summer, trained volunteer judges travelled to participating communities to evaluate the overall contributions of municipal council and departments; industry; businesses and the private sector – including volunteer efforts – in regards to the following criteria: Tidiness, Environmental Action, Heritage Conservation, Urban Forestry, Landscape and Floral Displays.

Following their evaluation, volunteer judges Lorna McIlroy and Gaétan Deschênes wrote:

*“The 2001 amalgamation of Wilno, Barry’s Bay and Combermere, forming the Township of Madawaska Valley, has been successful as the result of positive partnerships. Similarly, partnerships have helped the Communities in Bloom initiative succeed and prosper. The CiB (a Committee of Council), Business Improvement Association, the Greening Committee, the Madawaska Valley Horticultural Society, the Wilno Heritage Society, the Legion, Lions Club, the Opeonga Seniors, and youth*

*groups all work together to achieve their goals. Partnerships allowed this community to survive and prosper after the 2006 Combermere tornado and last year's flood. To quote the CiB committee, "Together, we're bloomin' good!"*

Within the actual context of climate changes and environmental concerns, communities involved in the program can be proud of their efforts, which provide real and meaningful environmental solutions and benefit all of society.

For a complete list of the results and the electronic copy of the Communities in Bloom magazine, please visit [www.communitiesinbloom.ca](http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca)

### **About Communities in Bloom**

Communities in Bloom is a Canadian non-profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement and the challenge of a national program, with focus on the enhancement of green spaces. The pride, sense of community and feeling of accomplishment generated through participation are visible in communities across Canada. For more information about Communities in Bloom, visit [www.communitiesinbloom.ca](http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca)

Communities are evaluated using a "bloom" rating determined by the total score of the evaluation:

0 to 55 %=1 Bloom    56 to 63 %=2 Blooms    64 to 72 %=3 Blooms    73 to 81 %=4 Blooms    82 % and over=5 Blooms

There are four (4) levels of 5 Blooms exclusive to the National and International Edition:

5 Blooms: 82 to 83.9%    Bronze: 84 to 86.9%    Silver: 87 to 89.9%  
Gold:            90% and over

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