

# Evaluation Form

2017

**Village of Castlecaulfield,  
Northern Ireland  
United Kingdom**



## 2017 Evaluation Form

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Community: Village of Castlecaulfield

Province: Northern Ireland, United Kingdom

Category: International Challenge - Small

|                       |        |   |         |
|-----------------------|--------|---|---------|
| Tidiness              | 130.00 | / | 150.00  |
| Environmental Action  | 132.25 | / | 150.00  |
| Heritage Conservation | 130.50 | / | 150.00  |
| Urban Forestry        | 148.00 | / | 175.00  |
| Landscape             | 172.75 | / | 200.00  |
| Floral Displays       | 157.00 | / | 175.00  |
| Total                 | 870.50 | / | 1000.00 |

Percentage : 87.05%

Bloom rating: 5 Blooms - Silver

Bloom rating: Up to 55%: 1 bloom. 56% to 63%: 2 blooms. 64% to 72%: 3 blooms 73% to 81%: 4 blooms. >82%: 5 blooms.

National and International Edition, for evaluated communities only.

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

- A community does not have to be entered in a competitive category, but will need to be evaluated.

Mention: Bio-Diverse Forest

### Representative (s) of Community

|       |                       |           |                                       |
|-------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Name: | <u>Bernie McKenna</u> | Function: | <u>Horticultural Society Co-chair</u> |
| Name: | <u>Bob McClure</u>    | Function: | <u>Horticultural Society Co-chair</u> |
| Name: | <u></u>               | Function: | <u></u>                               |

### Judges

|       |                      |       |                       |
|-------|----------------------|-------|-----------------------|
| Name: | <u>Roger Younker</u> | Name: | <u>Mauro Paradisi</u> |
|-------|----------------------|-------|-----------------------|

### Evaluation

date: Monday, July 3, 2017

# 2017 Evaluation Form

## IMPORTANT NOTES

Evaluation is adjusted to the climate and environmental conditions of the community.

Some aspects of the evaluation might not be applicable: scoring will be prorated.

The score will vary from the previous year based on the facts that the evaluation form is subject to modifications each year and that the evaluation is based on the perception of the current judges.

## 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 (such as YMCA, Legion), private museums, government and Crown corporations buildings (such as Canada Post)
- **Tourism bureaus and 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 is considered in each segment of the evaluation.

- Individuals, community organizations and citizen groups – all contributing to various aspects of community improvement, including municipal spaces maintained through the efforts of volunteers and community
- Organized clubs such as horticultural societies, garden clubs, community associations
- Service clubs such as Rotary, Lions, Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the municipality, businesses and institutions.



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Congratulations to the Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society for participating in the International Challenge category of Communities in Bloom. You can be proud that you have earned a prestigious five bloom silver rating in 2017, your first year in the competition. You can be proud to be one of the few British villages to participate in the history of this program.



Castlecaulfield is a small village of 800 residents, situated in the hills west of Belfast in County Tyrone, in the center of Northern Ireland. It is located about 2 miles west of Dungannon and is in the area of the Mid Ulster Council.



Your community is to be congratulated as well for being awarded the 2017 Queen's award for voluntary service in Britain, having received the honor during a ceremony in June at Buckingham Palace. Be sure to brag about this and other achievements when promoting Castlecaulfield in the future. This is a demonstration that the community is working very well for the quality of life of all citizens.



The community profile book is well laid out and presents a summary in each of the categories being judged. In future years it would be beneficial to identify the residents and volunteers in each of the photographs. We would have preferred a more detailed description of each of your important activities. The identification of how the community has treated past recommendations is important. Many communities offer copies of the profile book to places where people often have to wait for service such as doctor offices, repair shops, hairdressers, etc. People love to know what is going on in their community and this is an attractive and concise document. It would be especially beneficial to newcomers to the community. It is simply a snapshot of a day in the life of Castlecaulfield.



The tour was well planned to allow us to learn and to see what we required for each of the criteria under evaluation. Thank you for your warm and friendly hospitality from our first meeting at the Parish Hall to our departure at the local pub, where the heartbeat of the community shone through. Simply, thank you for sharing your community with us.

## 2017 Evaluation Form



We welcome you warmly to the Communities in Bloom family and appreciate your efforts in celebrating Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Thanks for all your efforts to keep Castlecaulfield clean and green. We wish you continued success, a bright and vibrant future, and we look forward to your participation with Communities in Bloom in 2018.

## 2017 Evaluation Form



## 2017 Evaluation Form

| <b>TIDINESS</b>   |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <p>Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort by the municipality, businesses, institutions and the residents throughout the community. Elements for evaluation are parks and green spaces, medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets; municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties; ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots, signs and buildings; weed control, litter clean-up (including cigarette butts and gum), graffiti prevention/removal and vandalism deterrent programs.</p> |               |               |
|   | Max           | Actual        |
| <b>Municipal</b>  |               |               |
| Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions  | 10            | 8.25          |
| Community anti-litter awareness programs  | 10            | 8.50          |
| Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, unsightly private property maintenance by-laws, graffiti prevention and eradication, graffiti removal kits to residents  | 10            | 9             |
| Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)  | 15            | 13.50         |
| Visual appeal, and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including City Hall grounds).   | 15            | 12.50         |
| <b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>  |               |               |
| Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions   | 15            | 12.50         |
| Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots  | 15            | 12.50         |
| Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers  | 5             | 4             |
| <b>Residential</b>  |               |               |
| Tidiness, order and cleanliness   | 20            | 18.25         |
| Condition of buildings, grounds and yards   | 15            | 13            |
| <b>Community Involvement</b>  |               |               |
| 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.)   | 10            | 9             |
| Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs  | 10            | 9             |
| <b>Tidiness Total</b>   | <b>150.00</b> | <b>130.00</b> |



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### TIDINESS

#### Observations:



The Village of Castlecaulfield is tidy and clean, giving a strong first impression on entering the area. There is little or no litter visible in the community.

The community manages unsightly private property in many ways, such as the work that was carried out on the Alexander House by the Horticultural Committee. Unsightly derelict windows were eventually replaced, frontage painted and window boxes and hanging baskets added. In the end another masterpiece was completed.

Cleanliness of public green infrastructure, including parks, planters, furniture, and litter containers, are in very good condition. The sidewalks and street signs are in good repair.

clean.

We did not see a single through the streets of impressed by how clean it is. chewing gum on the

Many of the residents are property. Overall community. The majority of pride and the overall appearance is very good – keep up the good work.



The businesses are generally tidy, in good order and are very

incidence of graffiti. Walking Castlecaulfield, one is No cigarette butts and no sidewalks.

taking great care of their Castlecaulfield is a super clean residences are maintained with

#### Recommendations:

The Mid Ulster Council has the tools to manage unsightly properties, including businesses and residential. Maintaining a strict watch is essential to maintaining a clean and green Castlecaulfield.

If graffiti does appear, removing it with anti-graffiti paint would help prevent future artists from displaying their talents. This paint could also be used when repainting benches, playground equipment, and signage in the future.

## 2017 Evaluation Form



In public spaces where there are special containers for dog waste, the containers should be equipped with “poop” bags. The other option is to create a “take a bag, leave a bag” arrangement where people can bring their unwanted plastic bags and deposit them in a container for others to use to pick up pet waste.

Continue to recognize and award those in the community who are making a definite effort to keep their spaces neat and tidy. The thank you, now extended to area businesses, can be extended to individual homeowners.

Install small 3R collection stations, additional trash cans and cigarette butt containers in key problematic areas, as the future need is identified.

It should be pointed out that maintaining what you now have accomplished is a must for the Horticultural Society. In that light, don't wear yourselves out, if nothing is added that is new in 2018 that is quite ok. Sometimes taking a break and maintaining what you have is just fine.

## 2017 Evaluation Form



## 2017 Evaluation Form

| ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION  |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Environmental action pertains to the impact of human activities on the environment and the subsequent efforts and achievements of the community with respect to: policies, by-laws, programs and best practices for waste reduction and landfill diversion, composting sites, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, energy conservation, and environmental stewardship activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.  |               |               |
|   | Max           | Actual        |
| <b>Municipal</b>  |               |               |
| Sustainable development strategy: policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning/vision; effective bylaws/policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities  | 20            | 19            |
| Waste reduction to landfill and results (3-R: reduce, reuse and recycle), municipal composting programs, including activities such as composting sites, yard waste collections, mulching of wood debris (Christmas trees, hedge trimmings, etc.), reclamation of cut trees, and handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection and reuse of compost material  | 20            | 18.50         |
| Water conservation and use-reduction programs such as promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies  | 15            | 13.50         |
| Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar) and initiatives such as: efficient appliances initiatives, shielding for night skies issues, efficient street lighting  | 15            | 13.50         |
| Environmental initiatives, innovations and actions such as:<br>- Development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation network such as bike lanes and multi-used pathways;<br>- Horticultural practices such as green roofs, green walls, green lanes, living fences, buffer zones; re-use of sites; engineered wetlands, bio-swales, permeable surfaces and rain water management<br>- Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation<br>- Air quality programs such as anti-idling, reduction of greenhouse gas emission (carbon reduction). | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>  |               |               |
| Participation in the environmental effort: such as waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management   | 10            | 8.50          |
| Corporate environmental innovation/stewardship, initiatives, activities (ex. environmental clean-up activities)   | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Residential</b>  |               |               |
| Participation in the 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle) initiatives and composting   | 10            | 8.50          |
| Adoption of water conservation practices such as rainwater collection and rain gardens  | 15            | 12.50         |
| <b>Community Involvement</b>  |               |               |
| Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues  | 5             | 4.50          |
| Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership, etc.)  | 10            | 8.75          |
| Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs  | 10            | 8             |
| <b>Environmental Action Total</b>   | <b>150.00</b> | <b>132.25</b> |



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

#### Observations:

Castlecaulfield has sustainable development strategies, policies, programs, and guidelines. They are fortunate to be able to monitor, communicate and enforce the strategies. The community offers public education programs and activities on the 3R's.

Waste reduction programs cut down the amount of debris going into the landfill. The 3R approach as well as composting is part of the success of the waste management programs in Castlecaulfield. There are depots for recycling and the collection of e-waste available to residents of the community.

Castlecaulfield is working on a large retrofit of lighting. There is a strong partnership between the community and the Mid Ulster Council to install LED lighting.

The community has done a wonderful job in the development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation networks such as multi-used pathways. Many areas have naturalized buffer zones that are not only appealing in appearance but also include pollinator plant varieties. More pathways are planned in the future.

The public participation in environmental issues is quite good. The judges were impressed by the many spaces and buffer zones that have pollinator plants for bees and butterflies.

The two area schools, The Blessed Patrick O'Loughran School and Walker Memorial Primary have both achieved "Green Flag" status. The catholic facility, Blessed Patrick, carries out many recycling projects annually, has planned and planted a garden and most recently erected a bug hotel. Meanwhile at the protestant facility, Walker Memorial, similar activity is taking place. In addition a greenhouse erected using plastic bottles and the collection of rainwater to water the plants is happening. Their motto is "working together for a sustainable future".



Solar panels have been installed at the Walker facility producing energy for the school. A display gives real-time information on energy performance and CO2 reduction.

Congratulations to Speedwell Trust for annually bringing protestant and catholic children together at Parkanaur. Speedwell works on various projects and programs for youth during the year. We were impressed with the turnout of youth at the butterfly intersection for a photo opportunity.



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### Recommendations:

Congratulations on embarking on a retrofit of lighting. Continue with the lighting retrofits in the community and encourage homeowners to convert to LEDs as well.

Install more 3R containers throughout the residential areas to encourage their use and curb future unwanted debris from streets and properties.



The improvements of the trail system are ongoing. Creating a map that promotes the trail network that shows the connections, directions, distance, along with the new signage will be of great

benefit. Including interpretive plaques, trash containers, dog bag dispensers, and show of the Irish history of Castlecaulfeild at important locations along the way. This will increase interest and can be used by residents and visitors alike. You may wish to develop a "now go find it" map for the community.

The promotion of rain barrels for residents and commercial properties could reduce the amount of water needing to be treated and fed into the water system. A rain water capture site at public buildings, to use for watering town properties, parks, planters, and hanging baskets, are some things to consider.

Continue to promote and encourage the existing environmental programs such as retrofitting lights, recycling, and the exchange of older appliances.

With the walking trail network and many vista points along the water area to be developed, it would be a good investment to construct birding and viewing areas with interpretive plaques.



The more exchange developed between the two Primary Schools will result in good things for Castlecaulfeild. The students of today are the future members of the Horticultural Society. In fact the school could be a showplace for other school in neighbouring communities.

The school vegetable gardens, cared for by the students themselves, should have identification signage of the various vegetables being produced. This will allow students to develop plant knowledge. Maybe a brochure is possible also.



Students, where feasible, can be encouraged to go to school on foot. The "walking school bus" and "park and stride" programs both offer many benefits. First, they reduce traffic and improve air quality. Second, they provide an opportunity to teach children how to walk to school safely. Third, they provide much needed exercise and fresh air, not only to the children but to the adults who accompany them.

## 2017 Evaluation Form



## 2017 Evaluation Form

| HERITAGE CONSERVATION   |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <p>Heritage conservation includes efforts to preserve natural and cultural heritage within the community. Preservation of natural heritage pertains to policies, plans and actions concerning all elements of biodiversity including flora and fauna ecosystems and associated geological structures and formations. Cultural conservation refers to the heritage that helps define the community including the legacy of tangible (built/hard assets) elements such as heritage buildings, monuments, memorials, cemeteries, artifacts, museums and intangible elements such as traditions, customs, festivals and celebrations. The participation of groups such as historical societies and conservation groups is considered.</p> |               |               |
|   | Max           | Actual        |
| <b>Municipal</b>  |               |               |
| Natural heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs   | 10            | 8             |
| Natural heritage management plans and preservation initiatives: including eco systems, eco parks, protection of sensitive habitats, species at risk, support for at risk pollinators, grasslands, naturalization, wetlands, urban agriculture/farming, and wildlife   | 15            | 13.25         |
| Management and promotion of natural heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development/tourism) including activities and programs (year-round) for education and use of natural heritage sites for and by the public  | 15            | 13            |
| Cultural heritage policies, by-laws and plans and preservation initiatives for heritage buildings, cemeteries, artefacts, museums, monuments, heritage trees and gardens, including their integration with streetscapes and landscape   | 15            | 13.50         |
| Cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs  | 10            | 8.75          |
| <b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>  |               |               |
| Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.   | 15            | 13.50         |
| Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and artefacts including their integration with the built/hard, streetscapes and green landscapes  | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Residential</b>  |               |               |
| Conservation/restoration and reuse of heritage buildings, artefacts on residential lands  | 10            | 8             |
| <b>Community Involvement</b>  |               |               |
| Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual natural heritage programs including developing policies and plans, site improvements and management, conservation and education initiatives  | 15            | 13.50         |
| Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions (including environmental groups) in community-initiated natural heritage activities and programs   | 15            | 13.50         |
| Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual cultural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs   | 10            | 8.50          |
| Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions (including historical societies) in community initiated cultural heritage activities and programs.   | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Heritage Conservation Total</b>  | <b>150.00</b> | <b>130.50</b> |



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### HERITAGE CONSERVATION

#### Observations:



Castlecaulfield derived its name from the late Sir Toby Caulfield. He was an Oxfordshire Knight and ancestor of the Earl of Charlemont. The construction of the manor house in the community began in 1611, however, Sir Toby Caulfield never did live to see the castle completed. Since the 1930's the castle has been in the care of the state and today it stands as not only a fine example of an early Plantation Manor but an important landmark in local history for generations to come. Only the ancient walls are alive, the roof is gone, but the remains are still well preserved and represent an important historical heritage for the village. Thanks to Joshua Cuddy for bringing the life and times of Sir Toby alive.

Many businesses in Castlecaulfield are integrating natural heritage components into their spaces. The business core highlights the conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings in operating their enterprises. Tener's Butcher Shop is one such business that has been recently renovated to serve the community and surrounding area well into the future.



Parkanaur Manor House is a very large Tudor Revival style mansion. The land mass was passed on to Sir Toby Caulfield by James 1<sup>st</sup> in the early 1600's. The Victorian garden, once an integral part of the Parkanaur Manor House, fell into disrepair many decades ago. In 2010 the Horticultural Society was determined to restore what is today known as the walled garden to at least some of its original glory. The Society has a standing relationship with the property. That is where it hosts the annual Horticultural show each August, one of the largest shows of its kind in Northern Ireland.



The Society has done a great job of recovering a degraded space, eventually turning it into the garden it once was. The municipality offers plots of land to be used as a community garden. Flower baskets for the community are potted and started in the area and even a meal or two have been devoured in a neighboring green house. The area is the source of many of the annuals that adorn the community. It is a labor of love in the making.

The connection to the natural heritage is strong in Castlecaulfield. Natural heritage management plans and preservation initiatives such as the protection of the wild flower meadow and areas that support the pollinators are to be commended. Urban agriculture and outlying areas continue to be significant to the natural heritage of the community.



## 2017 Evaluation Form

The public participation level in the community for conservation is very high. Residents participate in a wide variety of year-round heritage events. These activities are widely supported by the Mid Ulster Council and Castlecaulfield.



As with so much of the village there is a strong link to the past. Pynnar's Survey of 1619 says that on the site there was a mill and dam which functioned as a bridge over the Torrent River. The site remained unused and overgrown until 1897 when a decision was made by local residents to form a dairy co-operative. As recently as last year, the corner was a sight for sore eyes, so with the help of the Castlecaulfield Young Farmers and volunteers created The Creamery Bridge garden.

### Recommendations:

It is a good idea to include members of the Historical Society on the tour should judges require additional information. Many areas of the tour and the evaluation grid encompass the historical importance of Castlecaulfield. In some communities, prior to the judges' visit, the Society will take the tour making sure that all on the tour are aware of the significance of the stops to the community.

The various themes at work in the community could support each other. Work cooperatively to create and promote tourism that encompasses all of the significance of the community.

Since the area has such a strong presence of natural and built heritage, it would be wise to develop an heritage walking tour map. It should include directional signs and mileage markers that directly tie into the active transportation network.

When installing all of the new signs, take care in providing them in locations that are easily accessible for maintenance and provide the best visibility.

Interpretive plaques for flora and fauna along the Creek would add to the value of the walking experience.

Implementing a memorial bench program would assist in providing furniture in the future for various areas in the community. It is important to develop a style of bench and offer a suggested location to families wishing to participate in the program.

There could be developed interpretative panels or an audio production at the location of the castle. In addition, should a host such as Joshua Cuddy be hired, tours of the community could be arranged at specific times during the day.

Consider adding QR codes to signage so that visitors can quickly obtain information about important sites and make a map with sites that are of historical interest to be made available to tourists to supplement existing material and signals.

## 2017 Evaluation Form

## 2017 Evaluation Form

| <b>URBAN FORESTRY</b>   |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Urban forestry includes the efforts of the municipality, businesses, 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, pollinator friendly tree selection, tree inventory, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees. |               |               |
|   | Max           | Actual        |
| <b>Municipal</b>  |               |               |
| Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest  | 10            | 8             |
| Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands  | 15            | 12.50         |
| Urban forestry plan and design, including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots.  | 20            | 17            |
| Plan of action: procurement, species diversity (including native trees), selection of hardy and pollinator habitat tree species, recommended tree list and tree planting standards.   | 10            | 8             |
| Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases   | 10            | 8             |
| Public information programs:<br>good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs   | 15            | 12.50         |
| Maintenance best practices with proven results  | 10            | 8.50          |
| Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs  | 5             | 4             |
| <b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>  |               |               |
| Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by business and institutions.   | 15            | 13            |
| Maintenance programs, best practices with proven results: watering, pruning, IPM  | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Residential</b>  |               |               |
| Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees on residential properties  | 15            | 13            |
| Maintenance best practices with proven results  | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Community Involvement</b>  |               |               |
| Public participation in tree planting and conservation programs such as Green Streets Canada, Arbor Day, Maple Leaf Day, and other tree planting and maintenance programs and activities on public lands (including promotion, organization etc.)   | 20            | 18            |
| 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          |
| <b>Urban Forestry Total</b>   | <b>175.00</b> | <b>148.00</b> |



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### URBAN FORESTRY

#### **Observations:**

There is a varied and well maintained tree cover in Castlecaulfield. The trees for the most part appear healthy.



Parkanaur Park has a significant number of old trees in a protected area. They are a short walk from the city center. The whole area is a great source of entertainment for the leisure time of citizens. There is an extensive flora and fauna diversity. Visitors and residents can spend their free time walking and cycling in the natural environment. These areas also are used for educational activities for schools.



The conservation area in the community has been identified and protected for future generations. The fencing, pathways, and future identification planned for the area speaking to the ongoing work of the Horticultural Society.

#### **Recommendations:**

The Horticultural Society may wish to create a list of preferred plants and trees for businesses and homeowners to utilize. This may be more important to newcomers who are undergoing the landscaping of their properties.

You may decide to include school students in the tree ecology of the area. They may wish to develop a tree inventory through a natural science program and then each year the list could be updated, mapped and photographed. This program may also identify significant older trees in the community planted by founding members.

In Parkanaur assure that there is a plan for succession plantings for trees and for areas where the trees are reaching the end of their natural life. With so many large and wonderful trees, it would be interesting to have school children submit trees for the title of largest and oldest for each of the species in Castlecaulfield. This would be a good lesson in tree identification. Be sure to tag the trees or otherwise identify their significance. You may wish to add a page to the tourism website showing the location of your significant trees.

Monitor the tree planting in the new neighbourhoods to ensure that the tree canopy continues to grow. Continue to support initiatives that encourage tree plantings and management of existing wooded areas.

Consider offering tree pruning workshops for residents.

## 2017 Evaluation Form

| LANDSCAPE   |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Landscape includes planning, design, construction and maintenance of parks and green spaces 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 all sectors of the community. Standards of execution and maintenance should demonstrate best practices, including quality of naturalization, use of groundcovers and wildflowers along with turf management. |               |               |
|   | Max           | Actual        |
| <b>Municipal</b>  |               |               |
| First impressions of the community including gateway/entrance treatments  | 10            | 8.50          |
| Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties (including pollinator friendly) , traffic calming, bank stabilisation   | 10            | 8.50          |
| Urban and civic design standards for streetscape and public places: flags, banners, public art, fountains, site furnishings, signage, seasonal design and décor, walkways and paving materials  | 10            | 8.50          |
| Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality  | 10            | 8.50          |
| Turf management programs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, increased naturalization and adapted maintenance programs   | 10            | 8             |
| Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs  | 10            | 8             |
| Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specifications and best practices.   | 5             | 4             |
| Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs  | 10            | 8.25          |
| Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (urban agriculture, community gardens, parks and recreation programs)  | 10            | 8.25          |
| <b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>  |               |               |
| Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture  | 10            | 8             |
| Contribution to urban and civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design  | 15            | 13            |
| Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement ) of all landscape elements  | 10            | 8             |
| <b>Residential</b>  |               |               |
| Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)   | 15            | 13.50         |
| Maintenance of properties: lawn care, trees and shrub maintenance (with proven results)   | 15            | 13.50         |
| Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible and pollinator friendly plants)  | 10            | 8.50          |
| <b>Community Involvement</b>  |               |               |
| Public participation in community programs such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (promotion, organization, etc.)   | 20            | 18.75         |
| Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom Program including activities in all evaluated criteria   | 20            | 19            |
| <b>Landscape Total</b>  | <b>200.00</b> | <b>172.75</b> |



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### LANDSCAPE

#### Observations:



Most of the entrances into Castlecaulfield provide a good first impression of the community.

The community has a variety of eye catching designs and interesting arrangements to capture the eye. The walkways and sidewalks are in good repair. Throughout the community there appears to be an ad-hoc landscape plan that integrates the natural vegetation of pollinator wildflowers, annuals and some perennials.

The sports park is well-utilized and in good repair. The soccer pitch in the community is in pristine condition.

Homeowners are adding value to their streetscape in the selection of planting materials, the incorporation of edible varieties, and the maintenance of their lawns, shrubs and trees. Almost every home has a selection of plant material that is pollinator friendly.

Castlecaulfield is very fortunate to have a high level of public participation in community programs.

The community has been very successful in developing reclaimed space such as the gray to green development now referred to as the walled garden. A vacant vagrant area has been transformed into a meeting place for area residents. Trees, shrubs, benches, walkways and disposal containers grace what was until recently shrub land.

The work completed by the South Tyrone Men's Shed at the "Bus 50" stop, commemorating the 50 years of TransLink service, is an example of the accomplishment when working with other groups in a community.



## 2017 Evaluation Form

### Recommendations:

The gateway signage to Castlecaulfield may be simplified and simply indicate "Welcome to Castlecaulfield". The including of the various awards handed out to the community may make the signage crowded and unreadable along the roadway. The Society may wish to consider a prime location in the middle of the community for signage indicating the various awards they have received.

Wherever a sign is placed, the maintenance of the landscape is critical to provide a clear sight-line as well as to draw attention to the significance of the space. Is it possible that the welcome signs could be on the left side of the roadway rather than the right, as you enter the community in a right hand drive vehicle?

In any event gateway signs should have the exact same planting arrangements to create a solid and cohesive appearance. This would include a large bed area clearly separated from the surrounding naturalized area, anchored by tall trees, shrubs and large rocks. Wherever a sign is placed, the maintenance of the landscape is critical to provide a clear sight-line as well to draw attention to the significance of the space.

Continue the maintenance of the sports park to attract users to the space and improve the sense of ownership. You may wish to utilize a portion of the area for a dog park. It is an addition that may be well used by residents. Such a fenced area is not only for the entertainment of dogs; it is or can be a social setting for residents who come together for a common purpose. The addition of more benches, picnic tables, a treed area, and water supply will all add to the ambiance. The following website may be of some help to the organizers who someday wish to develop such an area.

[http://www.dog-on-it-parks.com/Successful Dog Parks Revised 2012.pdf](http://www.dog-on-it-parks.com/Successful_Dog_Parks_Revised_2012.pdf)

If graffiti is found use anti-graffiti paint and remove these images as quick as possible.

The community may want to include directional signs to points of interest and downtown attractions including businesses, indicating the length of time to walk or bike to each location.

Agricultural lands are an important part of the cultural landscape. It is tempting for developers to try and chip away at the edges and make inroads to pave them over. Stand firm in your resolve to protect this valuable resource from development as your legacy for future generations.

In new areas that are developed please remember to include benches, trees, garbage disposal containers, etc.

One such area is Wild Flower Meadow which represents an important conservation operation of a large meadow now destined for wild flowers. The project is a cooperative effort between the land owner and the Horticultural Society on land where no buildings can be built. The area is adjacent to a fast moving river where native trees are found on the banks. The preservation of this natural pathway forms an eco-logical corridor for local fauna.



## 2017 Evaluation Form

The village is situated on a hilly vista and is in the center of a vast agricultural area that still has preserved its rural charm and character. The new buildings do not exceed two stories and harmonize well with the peripheral areas, giving value to the landscape. The lack of industrial zones on the one hand, and the tranquility that characterizes the entrance to the city on the other, provide a pleasant acknowledgement to the town's natural setting.

In general streetscapes are of good quality and the efforts being made by the municipality on the streets, public squares and residential areas, has not gone unnoticed during the visit.

Once again, as already mentioned, it is of the utmost important for the Horticultural Society to maintain.

## 2017 Evaluation Form

| FLORAL DISPLAYS   |               |               |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <p>Floral displays evaluates efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and residents 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, edible plants, water efficient and pollinator friendly plants) 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        |
| <b>Municipal</b>  |               |               |
| Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design   | 15            | 13.50         |
| Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics  | 20            | 18            |
| Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants   | 10            | 8.50          |
| Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.   | 20            | 18            |
| Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs  | 10            | 8.75          |
| <b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>  |               |               |
| Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds  | 15            | 13.25         |
| Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program   | 10            | 8.25          |
| Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.  | 10            | 8.25          |
| <b>Residential</b>  |               |               |
| Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties   | 20            | 19            |
| Pollinator gardens and/or inclusion of pollinator plants in gardens   |               |               |
| Quality of planting and maintenance with proven results.  | 15            | 13.50         |
| <b>Community Involvement</b>  |               |               |
| Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.)   | 15            | 14            |
| Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community floral displays activities   | 15            | 14            |
| <b>Floral Displays Total</b>  | <b>175.00</b> | <b>157.00</b> |

## 2017 Evaluation Form

### FLORAL DISPLAYS

#### Observations:



Wow! What a wonderful display in every variety and presentation imaginable. Well done Castlecaulfield.



Flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, and window boxes are utilized throughout the community in almost every location. Residents are embracing colour and the use of colourful planters and interesting floral arrangements. Almost every home has pollinator friendly gardens and the maintenance is very good.

Public participation in community projects such as the development of the garden to celebrate the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Canada, and the location of the design is an initiative the community should be very proud to have produced.



The visual impact of the village wrapped in the presentation of beautiful colours and flower arrangements is a testament that everyone is involved, the municipality, the residents, the schools, the business' and local groups.



Floral displays don't stop with the display gardens. Many of the borders between streets and sidewalks have been attractively planted. In some areas tree wells have been planted with flowers, groundcovers and ornamental grasses. We note that private gardens are well-kept with quality flowers. It is the residents who make the village visit beautiful and memorable for tourists.

The community recognizes those who go above and beyond with the best kept gardens.



## 2017 Evaluation Form

It is important to highlight the unique use of materials in the pallet fence, in the Figures at St. Michael's parish Church, the planting of the Flax Seed bed, and the inclusion of volunteers from McDonald's Restaurant, in their effort to beautify Castlecaulfield.

The town center and the main roadway in many of the neighborhoods are made pleasant thanks to the presence of small flowerbeds at the base of trees, various flower boxes on the sidewalk, and hanging baskets on lampposts.

### Recommendations:

The community involvement with the business sponsorships is very evident in the Canada 150 floral display and development of the bed. The location is a valued one in the community. It is recommended that the Society continue with an annual plant in that bed. The planting can depict or honor a specific local event, area event, country event or world event. In those years where there is no apparent special event happening prepare the bed in honor of the Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society.



On the main street a wild flower bed has been developed. It is advised to extend that bed further and in other corner of the community. It is a nice idea.

The Society may wish to begin incorporating shrubbery in some of the flower beds in the community. That would give added colour in all seasons of the year and take some of the labour hours away from the committee and volunteer members.

The Horticultural Society may wish to change the look of the community from year to year. Central to that will be the colour scheme decided upon for any given year. Residents could be issued planting suggestions of the varieties and colours that fit the overall theme of the community.

## 2017 Evaluation Form

## 2017 Evaluation Form



### THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT

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

### COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM IS MADE POSSIBLE BY

The commitment of local, provincial and national volunteers

The support of elected officials and of staff in municipalities

The dedication of our judges, staff and organizations

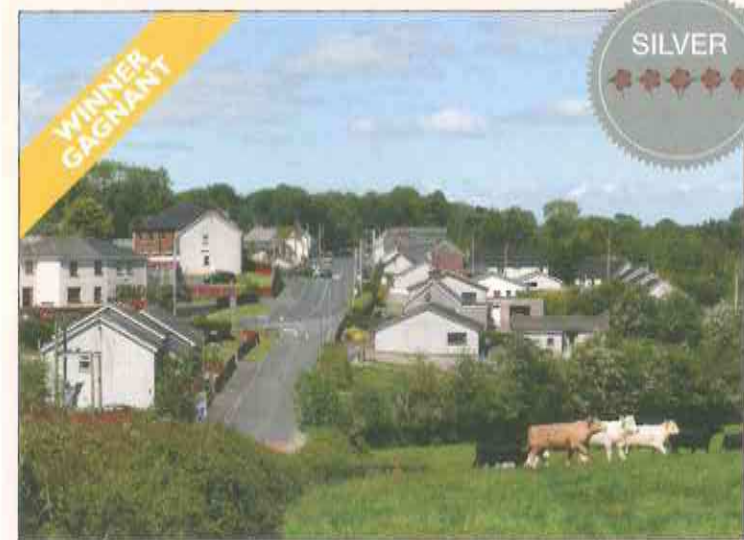
The contributions of our sponsors and partners



INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE  
DÉFI INTERNATIONAL

Small Category | Collectivités de petite taille

JUDGES | JUGES: MAURO PARADISI & ROGER YOUNKER



VILLAGE OF CASTLECAULFIELD,  
NORTHERN IRELAND UK

Bio-Diverse Forest | Forêt bio-diversifiée

The Horticultural Society, the group responsible for CiB, describes itself as an organization representing various ages from five to eighty-eight years young. Their goal: to keep the village "clean", keep the village "tidy", and promote "loving the space you live in". A natural forested area has been on their radar for many years, and this year they decided to do something special for the land mass along Drumreany Road. The entire area was secured with rail fencing, shrub and floral plantings roadside, and installation of a pathway, pivot gate, hedgehog boxes, and bird houses.

The Horticultural Society, le groupe responsable de Cef, se décrit comme une organisation représentant différents groupes d'âges de cinq à quatre-vingt huit ans.



HONORABLE MENTION  
MENTION HONORABLE

MUNICIPALITY OF JASPER AB

Municipal Library and Cultural Centre  
Landscape | Aménagements paysagers de la  
bibliothèque municipale et du centre culturel



SUN RIVERS RESORT  
COMMUNITY BC

Community and Neighbourhood Gardens  
Jardins communautaires et de quartiers



LISTOWEL TIDY TOWNS GROUP  
CO KERRY, IRELAND

Community Fruit & Nut Orchard  
Verger communautaire de fruits et noix  
Úllord Pobail Torthaí agus Cnó



TOWN OF STETTLER AB

Carl Stettler Memorial Park  
Parc commémoratif « Carl Stettler »



VILLAGE OF CASTLECAULFIELD,  
NORTHERN IRELAND, UK

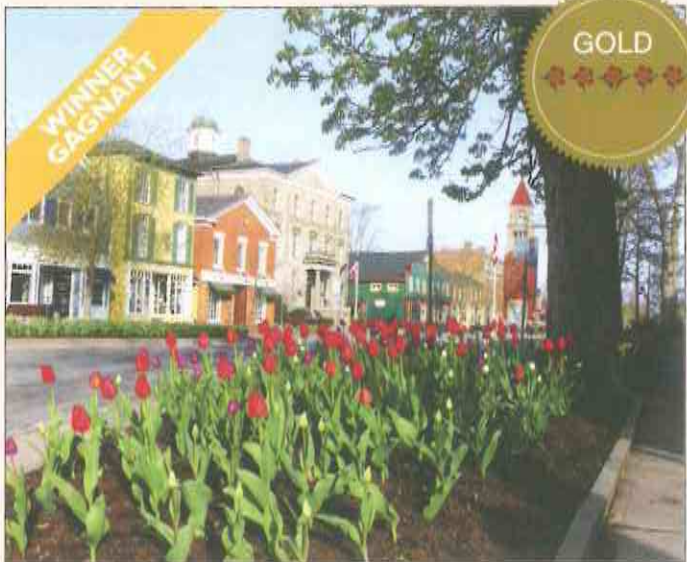
WINNER | GAGNANT  
INTERNATIONAL FLORAL  
DISPLAYS AWARD  
AMÉNAGEMENTS  
FLORAUX INTERNATIONAUX



INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE | DÉFI INTERNATIONAL

Medium Category | Collectivités de taille moyenne

JUDGES | JUGES: BERTA BRIGGS & BERNADETTE SOLON



TOWN OF NIAGARA-ON-THE-LAKE ON

Volunteer Leadership | Leadership des bénévoles

Niagara-on-the-Lake is a very beautiful and historic municipality on the Niagara escarpment in Southern Ontario that attracts a massive number of tourists plus is enticing to many people choosing to call it home. The active volunteer community is one of the many draws as well as critical to the development, maintenance and programming in the area.

Niagara-on-the-Lake est une très belle municipalité au côté historique qui attire un grand nombre de touristes. La clé du succès du bénévolat est l'excellent leadership pour attirer, mobiliser et dynamiser les résidents; tous sont bienvenus et appréciés.



TOWN OF BEAUMONT AB

Wild Beaumont



CITY OF BROOKS AB

Efficient Recycling and Composting Centre |  
Centre efficace de recyclage et compostage



CITY OF DAUPHIN MB

Floral Displays | Aménagements floraux



HONORABLE MENTION  
MENTION HONORABLE

TOWN OF OPATIJA, CROATIA

"Our Children" Society of Opatija  
La Société « Our Children » de Opatija  
Društvo "Naša djeca" Opatija



VILLE DE ROSEMÈRE QC

Caractère champêtre | Country Character



COMUNE DI GRADO,  
GORIZIA, ITALY

Gardens with Marine Theme  
Jardins à thème marin  
Giardini con tema marino



WINNER | GAGNANT  
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY  
INVOLVEMENT AWARD  
ENGAGEMENT COMMUNAUTAIRE  
INTERNATIONAL

