



MEDIA RELEASE

Communities in Bloom Launches 2019 Programs

For Immediate Release

May 10, 2019

-Niagara-on-the-Lake- The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and the [Communities in Bloom](#) (CIB) Committee held a media event on May 10, 2019 and proudly announced the planned programming for the upcoming season. Joined by Lord Mayor Betty Disero and Councillors, the CIB Committee announced a number of activities to further enhance our community.

René Bertschi, a Committee member of CIB, announced that for 2019, the Town will be participating in the “Circle of Excellence Category – Non-Evaluated”. The goal is to compete in the Class of Champions category and to welcome judges to visit our beautiful community in 2020. The sign to celebrate our international win was revealed and copies of the sign are now located in each of the five communities.

Kevin Turcotte, Manager of Parks and Recreation revealed many exciting initiatives that are planned for 2019. First, an **Adopt-A-Park** program is being implemented, which will allow service groups to assist in maintaining parks. A trailer will be assembled to include all of the tools required to clean a park, and loaned out to groups on an as-needed basis. There is a sponsorship opportunity for the trailer, and anyone interested in this prospect should contact Kevin Turcotte. This program will launch June 1, 2019 and applications will be available on the Town’s website at that time.

In conjunction with the Horticultural Society, the popular **Garden of the Week** program will be running again over the summer months. Residents are encouraged to submit nominations of phenomenal front gardens and winners will receive a lawn sign recognizing the home owners. Nomination forms will be available on [Join the Conversation](#) in the near future.

The **Hydro Box Beautification Project** is a pilot project to have art pieces installed on three transformer boxes in the Heritage District with a vinyl wrap. This program is a partnership between the CIB Committee, NOTL Hydro, and the Niagara PumpHouse Arts Centre and a call for submission will be announced soon on the Town’s website.

The NOTL Rotary Club and CIB Committee will be running the **Tulips for Trees** campaign. Volunteers will process the tulip bulbs from Town garden displays and sell them, with proceeds going to the Town Tree Fund. The sale date depends on the weather and will be announced on the Town’s social media platforms.

The **Voices of Freedom Park mobile application** is set to launch July 9, 2019, which is the 226th anniversary of the signing of the Act to Limit Slavery. The app will provide a walking tour of the black history sites in Town. In addition, a black history curriculum is being developed for school groups that visit the NOTL museum.

Cathy Simpson, Chief Librarian spoke about the NOTL Library's new initiative, a **Seed Library**. The public can visit the library and pick up packages of vegetable, herbs, and flower seeds. The goal is that during harvest, the new seeds will be collected and returned to the library for other patrons. A **Community Garden** will also be started behind the library with programming for the public. Visit the Library's [website](#) for more information about both of these projects.

Communities in Bloom is an organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement and the challenge of a national program. This is Niagara-on-the-Lake's fourth year participating in the program, and the Town has won outstanding certificates and achievements each year.

To find out how you can participate, please contact:

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