

“People, Plants and Pride...Growing Together”

Communities in Bloom 2005



Keep Markham beautiful. Keep our Town
a leader in environmental responsibility,
community spirit and heritage
preservation

Communities in Bloom 2005





Markham's Communities in Bloom Goals

- ◆ Score enough points to "go national" in 2006
- ◆ Engage community to enhance Markham's visual appeal
- ◆ Increase volunteerism & pride in our communities
- ◆ Create a CIB document that can be used for reference, learning & continuous improvement





Markham's Competition

- ◆ Oakville (participated in 2004 – 4 blooms)
- ◆ Whitby (first year in CIB)
- ◆ Possibly:
 - Cambridge (2 blooms in 2004)
 - Burlington
 - London





Judges' Visit

- ◆ July 15 – August 15
- ◆ 2 nights in Markham
- ◆ Viewing 85% of the community
 - Tour includes all four communities
 - Helicopter ride planned
 - Multi-media presentation & entertainment at Markham Theatre
 - Focussing on Markham's advantages – Heritage, Diversity, Community Involvement, Environmental Initiatives & Sustainable Development





Eight Judging Criteria

Judged on Municipality/Business/Residents
Approximately 60/30/30 for each



- ◆ Tidiness Effort
- ◆ Environmental Awareness
- ◆ Community Involvement
- ◆ Natural and Architectural Heritage Conservation
- ◆ Urban Forestry
- ◆ Turf & Ground Cover Areas
- ◆ Landscaped Areas
- ◆ Floral Displays





Tidiness Effort

- ◆ Promoting:
 - Adopt-A-Park (22% increase over 2004 to date)
 - Pitch-In Cleanups (28.5% increase over 2004 to date)
 - 20-Minute Markham Makeover – 13,000+ participants
- ◆ Social Marketing
 - Encouraging residents to pick up after pets; call in any incidents of graffiti or vandalism
- ◆ Town Efforts:
 - Fence Replacement Project
 - Signage Replacements
 - Bylaws
 - Operations – weeds & roads
- ◆ Canada Post





Environmental Awareness

◆ Markham Initiatives:

- Mission Green
- Clean Air initiatives
- Environmental Management Plan
- Green Roof Project
- Pesticide-Free Pilot Project/IPM Strategies
- Smart Commute/TDM/S.T.E.P. initiatives
- Kyoto Committee/MCC
- Sustainable development practices
- Environmental Acquisition Fund
- Markham Environmental Sustainability Fund
- Celebrate Our Environment Activities





Heritage & Culture

- ◆ Markham has:
 - Heritage Markham
 - Heritage Planning
 - Historical Societies
 - Identifiable Heritage Districts
 - Unique Heritage Estates
 - Demonstrated Business Involvement
 - ◆ Veridex
 - ◆ Amici Spa
 - Community Involvement
 - ◆ Eckhardt-McKay House & Garden restoration
 - ◆ Markham Train Station Restoration
 - ◆ Doors Open Markham





Urban Forestry

Markham has:

- Tree Preservation Bylaw in development
- New plantings in new communities
- Continuing tree replacement program
- Woodlot acquisitions
- Commemorative Tree program
- Large number of community plantings
- Highly qualified Urban Forestry staff





Turf & Groundcover



- ◆ Markham has:
 - Integrated Pest Management program
 - Water conservation bylaw
 - Enhanced maintenance standards - mowing
 - Expanded plant materials: using wildflowers and other groundcovers
 - Well-maintained sports fields





Landscaped Areas & Floral Displays



Markham has:

– Floral Displays

- ◆ Additional baskets and barrels for 2005
- ◆ Native & perennial gardens
- ◆ Colour Your Corner program
- ◆ Expanded Susie and Eco Susie Awards promo
 - to include business and church categories

– Landscaped Areas

- ◆ Urban Design continues to build exceptional parks
 - Skatepark
 - Landmark
- ◆ Additional gardening resources planned for 2005
- ◆ Focus on Markham Gateways





Community Involvement





Community Involvement

- Thornhill Horticultural Society
- Markham Horticultural Society
- Ratepayers (14 groups to date)
- Markham Rotary Club
- Markham Lions Club
- Knights of Columbus
- Scout Troops
- M. African Caribbean Assoc.
- Fed. Chinese Canadians
- M. Fed. Of Filipino Canadians
- Markham Arts Council
- M. Public Art Advisory Com.
- Main St. Markham Com.
- UBIA & MBIA
- 14 Schools
- Church groups
- Heintzman House Board
- Thornhill Seniors Club
- Doors Open Markham
- Unionville Gala Committee
- Businesses:
 - Markham Board of Trade
 - Angus Glen
 - Cosburn Giberson
 - Rutherford Contracting
 - Home Depot
 - G & D
 - Kylemore Homes
- Black's Photography
 - Sheridan Nurseries
 - Pineridge Garden Gallery
 - Kate's Garden



Community Involvement

CIB Particimetre

- Recognizes Community Involvement
- Photo w/Council
- Next Presentation: May 24 (TBC)





Special Projects



- Kennedy & Steeles Gateway
- Markham Northern Gateways
- Markham Flower & Garden Festival
- Colour Your Corner
- CN Rail Overpass Project
- Environmental Art Event
- Markham Blooms Photo Contest
- Carpet Bed at Markham Civic Centre





Volunteer Committee

-Honorary Chair: Mark Cullen

-Committee Structure:

- Special Projects
- Communications
- Sponsorship
- Business Outreach
- Community Outreach
- School Outreach
- Brag Book
- Judges Tour



-Meeting Twice monthly

-CIB Strategy Room Established





Community Outreach Events

- Markham Home Show
- SpringFest, Markham Museum
- Many Faces of Markham Event
- Markville Shopping Centre
- Communities in Bloom Launch, Varley
- Earth Day, Father McGivney School
- Earth Day, Markville
- Milliken Mills Eco Fest
- Markham Farmers Market
- Unionville Festival & Parade
- Markham Flower & Garden Festival
- Markham Village Music Festival
- Taste of Asia Festival
- People's Parade, Canada Day
- Doors Open Markham
- Thornhill Festival
- Markham Fair





Focus for Next 90 Days

- Continued Community & Business Outreach
- Special Projects
- Judges Tour
 - Multi-media presentation
- Brag Book





Get involved!