



2011 Evaluation Form

Municipality: Ituna
Province: Saskatchewan
Category: 501 - 1000

The municipality is evaluated on the efforts of all sectors in the community in the following criteria:

Tidiness	116.50	/	150.00
Environmental Action	117.50	/	150.00
Heritage Conservation	118.50	/	150.00
Urban Forestry	128.50	/	175.00
Landscape (Including Turf & Groundcovers)	153.00	/	200.00
Floral Displays	137.50	/	175.00
*Community Involvement is included in each of these sections			
Total	771.50	/	1000.00

Percentage : 77.15%

Bloom rating: 4 Blooms

Mention: Environmental Action, Town Council support

Representative (s) of Community

Name: Geri Kreway Function : Economic Development

Name: Jason Wenc Function : Town Foreman

Name: Carol Korchinski,
Yvonne Medvesik Function : CiB committee

Judges

Name: Ollie Marciniuk Name: Brenda Winny

Evaluation date: 19-Jul-11

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 (YMCA, Legion), private museums, Canada Post
- Tourism bureaus, 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 deserves to be evaluated in each of the sections of evaluation. Community Involvement will continue to be a highlight of the awards ceremony

- Individuals & Service and citizen groups – all contributing to various aspects of community improvement
- Organized clubs such as horticultural societies, garden clubs, community associations
- Social clubs such as Rotary, Lions, Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions.

General Comments and Suggestions:

Thank you for our brief introduction to Ituna. You have an active and interesting community that is working hard to provide a quality of life for all of its residents. Please thank everyone for the time they contribute to their home town. We were particularly impressed with the support the Town Council provides to the goals and aims of Communities in Bloom with their financial support and with the work ethics of the town foreman and his crew.

Tidiness		
Tidiness includes an overall tidiness effort made by the municipality, businesses, institutions, and residents of the community. Elements for evaluation are green spaces (parks, etc.), medians, boulevards, sidewalks, streets, municipal, commercial, institutional and residential properties, ditches, road shoulders, vacant lots and buildings and signage, with regard to weeds, maintenance and repair, litter clean-up (including cigarette butts and gum), graffiti and vandalism.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	15	12
Community anti-litter awareness programs	5	3
Effective bylaws & policies and enforcement; for litter control, graffiti prevention including notices & posters	10	7
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, etc.)	15	12.5
Cleanliness of urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers	15	12.5
Business & Institutions		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions.	15	13
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	12.5
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	3
Residential		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	15
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	12
Community Involvement		
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	7
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions for community clean-up programs	10	7
Tidiness Total	150.00	116.50

Tidiness

Observations:

Ituna is a very neat and tidy community. Please thank the motel owner, the auto body shop and the car wash for keeping their properties as clean and tidy. You are doing a great job of keeping Ituna aware of clean up days - "Lucky Landfill". Congratulations on hiring a Bylaw Officer, a Pest Control Officer and an Animal Control Officer. Your streets are in excellent condition.

Recommendations:

You are now at the finesse stages of town tidiness for the CiB competition. Overgrown roadway, sidewalk edges and grass and weeds between buildings are areas requiring attention. If a nudge on our part would help - the Co-op needs to attend to the mowing of their ditch to improve that entrance to Ituna. Litter cans in the Millennium Park and downtown area would be a good idea to encourage tidiness while appreciating the uniqueness of your main street. High on the CiB wish list should be the replacement or re-use of the signs that listed community organizations at the edges of town.

Environmental Action

Environmental action includes efforts and achievement by the municipality, businesses, institutions, and residents of the community, with respect to: policies, by-laws and best practices, 3-R initiatives (reduce/reuse/recycle), waste reduction, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, naturalization, environmental stewardship activities, and environmentally friendly transportation, under the guiding principles of sustainable development.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, guidelines, long-term planning / vision; effective bylaws / policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities.	20	15
Waste management programs such as 3-R (recycling, re-use, reduce), composting and including activities such as landfill site management, shredding of Christmas trees & handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection	10	8.5
Water conservation and reduction programs: efficient appliance incentives or promotion, efficient irrigation and use of non-potable water, water restriction policies	10	7
Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar), efficient street and signal lighting and shielding for night skies issues & promotion of energy audits	10	8
Environmental actions such as: Greening of operations fleet for park maintenance: such as conversion to higher efficiency vehicles, use of alternative fuels and air quality programs: monitoring, anti-idling advisory / bylaws, efficient use of vehicle fleet such as use of crew cabs, bicycles, any other energy-saving transportation. Development and expansion of bike lanes and recreational pathways. Initiatives and Innovation, such as: green roofs, green walls; re-use of sites; engineered wetlands and bio-walls. Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation.	20	16
Business & Institutions		
Participation in the environmental effort : such as waste management (recycle, reuse, reduce), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management	10	8
Corporate environmental innovation / stewardship, initiatives, activities (Ex. Environmental clean-up activities)	10	8
Residential		
Participation in the 3-R (recycle, reuse, reduce) initiatives and composting	20	18
Adoption of water conservation practices & policies including rainwater collection.	15	11
Community Involvement		
Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	5	4
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including, promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership), etc.)	10	7
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	7
Environmental Action Total	150.00	117.50

Environmental Action

Observations:

Your Sarcan is busy, your landfill is separated and tidy, your swimming pool is heated with solar panels, your lagoon is in good shape, and Ituna Transit is fulfilling a need for a more for public transportation.

Recommendations:

We understand you have a plentiful and good source of water for your community but water is a finite resource. In the future, you may have to conserve its use. A proactive by-law could be considered by the Town Council. This is one of the categories of CiB that doing more is always possible. We also wondered about a policy protecting the shores of the lake from development in the future.

Heritage Conservation

Heritage Conservation includes efforts made by the municipality, businesses and institutions, and residents to preserve heritage within their community. Priority in evaluation is given to natural heritage, as well as the integration of landscape and streetscapes as it pertains to the built heritage of a community. Also consists of preservation of cultural heritage which includes monuments, memorials, artefacts, museums and history, archives, traditions, customs, heritage foods and the arts and festivals and celebrations. The evaluation includes:

- natural heritage management plans: sites, parks, cemeteries, heritage gardens and trees, native plants;
- the relationship of the landscape to the built heritage;
- overall preservation of traditions and customs through year-round festivals and celebrations, events and parades, heritage foods and the arts.

As well, the participation of groups such as the Historical Society is considered.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs	15	12
Natural and cultural heritage management plan and preservation initiatives: including cultural landscapes, use of native plants, heritage gardens, heritage trees, cemeteries, museums, heritage sites	15	12
Management and promotion of heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development / tourism) including natural and cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year, and preservation of traditions, and customs	15	13
Interpretative and signage programs, walking tours, festivals/celebrations (year round)	15	12
Activities and programs (year-round) for education and use of natural heritage sites for and by the public	15	12
New programs and initiatives to promote local heritage	10	7.5
Business & Institutions		
Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and grounds	15	12
Promotion of local heritage, including heritage gardens, native plants, and heritage trees	15	10
Residential		
Conservation / restoration and reuse of sites / buildings	10	8
Conservation of cultural and heritage elements pertaining to their own private lands and structures.	5	4
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual in cultural and natural heritage programs including heritage community events/activities, including year round cultural festivals & celebrations and preservation of traditions, customs, food, music, dance and crafts (including promotion, organization etc.).	10	8
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions (including Historical Societies) in community initiated, natural and cultural heritage activities and programs including cultural festivals & celebrations throughout the year and preservation of traditions, customs, food, music, dance and crafts.	10	8
Heritage Conservation Total	150.00	118.50

Heritage Conservation

Observations:

Walking down the main street is like walking through a museum - the Millennium Park, the steam engine and the BA Station are wonderful examples of keeping history alive in practical and useful ways. The restoration of the old Town Hall will add to the charm of that area. Thank you so very much for the tour of the Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church. It was a rare privilege. Each of your cemeteries had unique characteristics and all were neatly mowed and kept. St. Mary's Hall is a prime example of how small communities work together to grow together.

Recommendations:

How to make something good even better is a challenge. Creating a walking tour of the downtown area with signs and/or a brochure to acknowledge and document each building's history is a great tourism tool. Another area needing some care is the Cenotaph. It needs to become more important in the large area. You would have room to create a heritage garden or an area with a low maintenance xeric garden.

Urban Forestry

Urban Forestry includes the efforts made by the municipality, businesses and 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, tree inventory, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), heritage, memorial and commemorative trees.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
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	10	7
Urban forestry planning and design, including integration with overall landscape plan	10	7
Measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots	10	7
Plan of action: procurement, species diversity (including native trees), selection of hardy species	10	7
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases	10	6.5
Public information program on good planting techniques and maintenance programs	10	7
Qualified personnel and/or crew training	10	7
Business & Institutions		
Design, species diversity and planting of trees in landscapes	15	11.5
Maintenance programs and best practices: watering, pruning, IPM	10	7.5
Inclusion of diversified (including native), hardy species for planting on properties	10	7
Residential		
Design, species diversity and planting of trees in landscapes	15	12
Inclusion of diversified (including native), hardy species for planting on residential properties	10	8
Maintenance best practices	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public participation in tree planting and conservation programs such as Green Streets Canada, Arbour Day, Maple Leaf Day, and other tree planting and maintenance programs and activities on public lands (including promotion, organization etc.).	15	11
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	7
Urban Forestry Total	175.00	128.50

Urban Forestry

Observations:

Your abundance of good water has insured constant and consistent tree growth. The City of Regina has a list of acceptable species of trees for different locations.

Recommendations:

Having and maintaining a healthy urban forest has responsibilities. Here are our concerns - (a) There has been a reliance on several species which means any insect or disease problem will affect much of the urban forest at the same time. (b) Ituna does not have replacement tree policies. (c) You need an inventory of the species of trees in town and where they have been used. The inventory does not need to count how many poplars but it needs to make note that poplars are the only species of trees used on which street. An inventory is a good list when you need to begin to replace the older trees. "There are just poplars on this street and we need to replace them with some willows or ornamental flowering trees to provide more interest and reduce the risk of concern (a)". (d) A replacement nursery could be a good option. Shand Greenhouse also has trees for use by communities. Look in to growing oak, green ash and other hardy species. (e) An ongoing, systemic pruning program needs to be put into place. Hiring an arborist to give pruning classes to homeowners and town employees is a good investment in the future of your urban forest.

Landscape (Parks & Grounds, Green Spaces, Streetscapes-including Turf & Groundcovers)

This section of the evaluation supports all efforts to create an environment showcasing the overall surroundings. The overall plan and design must be 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 municipal, commercial and residential sectors of the community. Standards of execution and maintenance should demonstrate best practices, including quality of naturalization, use of groundcovers and wildflowers, turf management and maintenance. The evaluation will consider how the spaces create a sense of place within the community, actively utilized year-round.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	7
Turf management programs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, increased naturalization, alternate mowing frequency and water management	10	8
First impressions of the community including gateway / entrance treatments	10	6
Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs	10	7.5
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties	10	7
Urban and civic design standards for streetscape and public places: flags, banners, public art, fountains, site furnishings, seasonal design and décor, walkways and paving materials	10	8
Landscape maintained to appropriate standards and specifications	10	7
Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (parks and recreation programs, city festivals and events)	10	8
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	5	3.5
Business & Institutions		
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers	10	7
Contribution to urban and civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design	10	7
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement) of all landscape elements	10	7
Residential		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	12
Maintenance of properties: lawn care, tree and shrub maintenance	15	13
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, including edible gardening)	15	13
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community programs such as: "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (including promotion, organization etc.).	15	12
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom Program including tidiness, environmental action, urban forestry, landscape, floral and natural & Cultural Heritage activities .	15	12
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions for community landscape programs and activities	10	8
Landscape Total	200.00	153.00

Landscape

Observations:

You have a very pleasant place in which to live. The park-like grounds of the care home provide a place for the residents and their families to relax and enjoy the outdoors together. The constant mowing by the town crew adds to the overall appearance of Ituna.

Recommendations:

Future thoughts might be to develop a long-term landscape plan for Ituna. Your community is growing and ensuring green spaces in new developments enhances the quality of life. Have someone do some research on 'xeric' landscaping. It doesn't mean just rocks and wood, it means a lower maintenance kind of gardening still using plants that bloom and grow.

Floral Displays

"Floral Displays" evaluates the efforts made by the municipality, businesses and institutions, and residential sectors of the community 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) in the context of originality, distribution, location, diversity and balance, colour, and harmony. This pertains to flowerbeds, carpet bedding, containers, baskets and window boxes.

	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	12
Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	15	12
Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora	10	7
Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	16.5
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	10	7
Business & Institutions		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	13
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	10	8
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	7
Residential		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties	15	12
Quality of planting and maintenance	15	13
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.).	10	8
Volunteer recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in floral displays	15	11
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions in community floral displays activities.	15	11
Floral Displays Total	175.00	137.50

Floral Displays

Observations:

You have created a good base from which to expand flower displays.

Recommendations:

In this category - more is always better. Grouping containers and hanging baskets creates greater visual impact and easier watering. Flowering shrubs such as potentilla and hydrangea add colour to the landscape in a more permanent way than do annuals.