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District of Sooke

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE
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[Sooke, BC]

Sooke achieves "5-Bloom status": Recognition as top BC Community in Bloom

The District of Sooke participated in the British Columbia "Communities in Bloom" program for the ninth time this summer, with judges touring Sooke from
July 16 – 18, 2019.

During their time in Sooke, the judges were hosted by members of the Sooke Program of the Arts Committee and traveled through Sooke with municipal representatives, evaluating community efforts related to six categories:

- Tidiness
- Environmental Action
- Heritage Conservation
- Urban Forestry
- Landscape
- Floral Displays

The BC Communities in Bloom program hosted their provincial awards ceremony on September 21, 2019 to recognize all participating communities and announce the results of each evaluation.

For the sixth consecutive year, Sooke was awarded 5 Blooms – the highest possible recognition. Special mention was made of the Knox Vision Society's Affordable Housing Complex, recently completed near Church Road and Wadams Way.

Sooke's participation in Communities in Bloom was previously spearheaded by Councillor Brenda Parkinson, who passed away on June 28, 2019.

"Brenda had a unique ability to bring out the beauty in the world around her", says Mayor Maja Tait. "Her passion for Communities in Bloom was really about her passion for this community. Our participation in the program this year was done in her honour, and we are pleased with the news that we have been awarded 5 Blooms."

A comprehensive report outlining tour highlights and suggestions for improvement is expected to be received by District of Sooke Council in the coming weeks.

Please visit the Communities in Bloom website at https://www.bccib.ca/ for further information on the organization.

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