

Evaluation Form

2019



2019 Evaluation Form

Program Disclaimer

SPRA staff, volunteer judges and all personnel associated with Communities in Bloom (CiB) will not be held liable for any observations, suggestions, or recommendations made in this Evaluation Document or at any time during the delivery of the CiB program including any resulting activity or events related to participation in the CiB program.

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Community: Wolseley
Province: Saskatchewan
Category: 501-1000 Competitive

Tidiness	130.00	/	150.00
Environmental Action	118.00	/	150.00
Heritage Conservation	127.00	/	150.00
Urban Forestry	136.50	/	175.00
Landscape	166.50	/	200.00
Floral Displays	151.50	/	175.00
	Total		829.50 / 1000.00

Percentage : 83%

Bloom rating: 5 Blooms

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.

Mention: Collaboration between Town Council and Volunteers

Representative (s) of Community

Name:	<u>Gerald Hill</u>	Function:	<u>Mayor</u>
Name:	<u>Stephen Scriver</u>	Function:	<u>Archivist/Councillor</u>
Name:	<u>Allan Gurtler</u>	Function:	<u>CIB Volunteer</u>
Name:	<u>Judy Lechowicz</u>	Function:	<u>CIB Volunteer</u>
Name:	<u>Harold and Roberta Hess</u>	Function:	<u>CIB Volunteer</u>

Judges

Name:	<u>Cathy Joyner</u>	Name:	<u>Arlene Janzen</u>
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Evaluation

date: July 15, 2019

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IMPORTANT NOTES:

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

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 scores are 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, provincial and federal parks, etc.)
- **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, citizen groups (includes youth programs) – 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, school groups
- Service clubs such as Rotary, Lions, Optimist
- Participation (financial and/or in-kind or employee participation) by the municipality, businesses and institutions.

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GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Wolseley, “A Town Around a Lake” is a community that continues to impress with its wide mowed vistas and welcoming spirit. Wolseley covers a large area, being one square mile for the Town limits and is well and appropriately groomed. The Tourist Information Centre has a wealth of information, including maps of the various sites in the community with photos and a phone app; other historical information of the community and has informative and helpful hosts, which is great to see!

It is interesting to note that Wolseley was never a village but incorporated as a town. The Town’s website has lots of great information and lovely photos. It is understandable why Harrowsmith Country Life Magazine chose Wolseley as one of Canada’s 10 prettiest communities in 2000. It continues to be that pretty, if not more so.

A culture of volunteerism has been reinforced by the Town’s approach to encourage citizens to take an active role in initiatives like the Main Street Program, the gazebo with its historical pictures, the Swinging Bridge donor plaque and the Adopt a bed initiative. Wolseley is also fortunate to have a very active Sea Cadets group who have contributed to a variety of activities including the Adair Creek Nature trail on the east side of the community.

Wolseley has strong visual appeal. Several highlights include the Swinging Bridge over Fairly Lake and the lovely restored Opera House.

The Wolseley Table Talkers is a great table card that provides up to date information on what is going on in the community and area and a “Quick Wolseley Fact”, beautifully compiled by the local archivist. Wolseley is very fortunate!

As we work to becoming inclusive communities, it was great to see the Pride colours chalked in a crosswalk done by high school students during National Pride Week.

The proactive volunteer initiative to address the Feral Cat issue is commendable.

Wolseley continues to be a community that attracts new residents and encourages them to be involved in making the community a better place each day.

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TIDINESS		
<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
Municipal		
Overall Impressions Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	8.5
Anti-litter Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	9
Regulations 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	8.5
Cleanliness Of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)	15	13
Municipal Properties Appearance Visual appeal and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including city hall grounds),	15	13.5
Business & Institutions		
Overall Impressions Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	13
Site Conditions Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	13
Furniture Appearance Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	3.5
Residential		
Overall Impressions Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	17.5
Property Conditions Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	13
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	9
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community clean-up programs	10	8.5
Tidiness Total	150.00	130.00

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TIDINESS

Observations:

The first impression of Wolseley is a town that is very neat, clean and tidy. There was no litter or graffiti observed on the tour.

Lawn care and maintenance is a huge endeavor and public lawns within town limits and at the 3 cemeteries were mowed and trimmed with a minimal amount of weeds being present. It is commendable that the town has four full time Public Works staff hired. Volunteers do a significant amount of mowing and string trimming including a very well manicured cemetery, the golf course, back lanes and public spaces that public works employees did not have time to attend. It is great to see such commitment by residents to make their community a great place to live. Most private properties were well mowed and maintained with the typical exception of a few lots that needed some tender loving care.

Sidewalk and street paving has been a priority for the town given the expertise they have on staff and they have concrete plans to replace and upgrade any deteriorating sidewalks and streets. Back alleys are the responsibility of citizens to maintain and we observed many that were well maintained and a few that were neglected.

Most tables and benches installed by the town were in good condition. There were wooden benches near the senior's home where there was a risk of splinters.

The Town Councils are to be applauded for passing bylaws that relate to Economic Development and maintenance of properties. Nuisance Bylaw, 2005 is in place as is a Dog and Cat Bylaw. The enforcement of these bylaws is sometimes lacking and could have stronger implications if not abided by. The effectiveness of any bylaw, based on its' purpose and intended result, is the willingness of Town citizens to abide by it and the ability to enforce it. Given this, the majority of private properties are well maintained. Some absentee landlord properties have been neglected.

The Government of Saskatchewan's Main Street Program was vital in contributing to the exterior condition of businesses being well preserved and maintained. It was and is a significant boon to the preservation of our history and making our downtown appear so alive and inviting.

With the recent rains in the area the main streets were reasonably clean. There were weeds in the sidewalks and in the curb areas. There were some litter barrels and a few containers for animal waste disposal.

Overall impressions of the community is that it is well maintained and has lots of community involvement to make the public and private spaces neat and to ensure they are kept that way.

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Recommendations:

Weed control appears to be adequate in most areas. There were a few areas of weeds in sidewalks and curb areas. The Town may wish to consider a second more targeted weed spraying application in problem areas and consider a more regular street sweeping program to help reduce the accumulation of weeds and dust. Continue with your street and sidewalk improvement program.

To help remediate problem properties consider a minimum maintenance bylaw.

The wooden benches on municipal properties, including playgrounds and along walkways should be reviewed for maintenance requirements and sanded/stained/painted as necessary to continue to be useful and inviting.

To help involve businesses in clean up days, consider getting the businesses to sponsor the provision of gloves or other necessary items, ensuring that they receive the appropriate recognition for their contributions.

The Town Council recognizes the concern with the closed, privately owned three bay service station site near the golf course. Continue to encourage development and revitalization of this site since it is a detraction to the rest of the community and especially given the proximity to the lovely golf course.

The green wall/living fence at the back of the downtown hardware store is a great example of what other businesses could do to their fenced areas to make the area more attractive. This would be a good example for the industrial area businesses that have a difficult time making an area look tidy.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION		
<p>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.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Sustainable Development Strategies Policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning/vision; effective bylaws/policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities	20	14
Waste Reduction Reduction of waste going 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. Handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection and reuse of compost material.	20	16.5
Water Conservation Use-reduction programs such as promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies	15	11.5
Energy Conservation Programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar) and initiatives such as: energy-efficient appliances, shielding for night skies, efficient street lighting	15	12
Environmental Initiatives, Innovations and Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation network such as bike lanes and multi-used pathways; - 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 - Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation - Air quality programs such as anti-idling, reduction of greenhouse gas emission (carbon reduction). 	10	8
Business & Institutions		
Participation in The Environmental Effort Waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management	10	8
Corporate Environmental Action Innovation/stewardship, initiatives, activities (for example: environmental clean-up activities)	10	8
Residential		
Participation in Environmental Initiatives 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle), composting	10	8
Water Conservation Practices such as water use reduction, rainwater collection and rain gardens	15	11
Community Involvement		
Public Participation – Civil Action Participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	5	4
Public Participation in Activities Community (including children/youth), neighbourhood or individual street environmental activities and programs (including promotion, organization and evidence of taking ownership, etc.)	10	8.5
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	8.5
Environmental Action Total	150.00	118.00

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Observations:

The Town Council has recognized the need for bylaws regarding solar and geothermal energy and in October 2018 passed a bylaw to regulate and control solar and geothermal energy systems to ensure the welfare and safety of all citizens. This does not prohibit these alternative systems but recognizes the need for safety and types of systems that should be installed and so that neighbours can still enjoy their own property.

Thank you to Town Council for the concern regarding waste and recycling and agreeing to a contract with Loraas to provide waste bins and recycling bins. The bins were noted throughout the community with door to door pick up every other week of the appropriate bins. Overall community members are supportive of and contributing to recycling, helping to reduce the amount of waste that goes to the landfill, thus extending its' lifespan. Recycling bins were not very noticeable in the active play spaces including playgrounds.

Energy efficient lighting has been installed in the Sportsplex to help reduce energy costs. The Town Public Works has also installed variable speed motors at the water plant, which they have found has significant energy savings. The Town Council believes in providing education to its' employees and have two licenced personnel for the Water Treatment Plant and two in training.

The green wall behind the hardware store is a great example of a living wall and contributes to the Town's goal of beautifying the community.

The Spillway project was a major initiative to prevent future flooding in the community. While there are bull rushes, grasses and weeds growing amongst the rocks, all are helping to stabilize the rocks of the shoreline and spillway area.

The fountain in Fairly Lake is not only is visually appealing but also provides much needed aeration.

The Town has a wood chipper which helps to reduce some of the tree materials from going to the landfill.

The Waste Collection Grounds had appropriate fencing, reasonably organized, with clearly signed hours and fee schedule.

Recommendations:

It is difficult to make a waste collection area inviting but think outside the box. Consider using items that come to the waste site as containers for growing flowers and vegetables. They have the potential to provide a whimsical and useful purpose, making the site more interesting and having a beauty of its' own. Used bricks are a simple way to create a space for a flower/vegetable bed. There are many other unique items that have potential.

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Encourage composting, possibly through newsletters and other media to inform the public. Offering workshops on proper composting and the benefits of rain barrels may inspire more people to be involved in the CiB efforts. Water conservation is important, no matter how much water one may think they have currently.

Continue to install energy efficient lighting in public buildings and consider an energy efficiency audit of the publicly owned buildings and infrastructure.

The placement of more recycling bins in public spaces including playgrounds makes it easier to recycle and keeps the concept at the forefront.

Find out what the elementary and high school students are doing for environmental action and consider providing appropriate support to sustainable initiatives. A Waste Reduction Strategy Committee would benefit from youth representation.

When and where appropriate, continue using the mulch created by the wood chipper in the public spaces.

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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
Municipal		
Natural Heritage Plans Management and preservation policies, plans programs and initiatives: including eco systems, eco parks, trail networks, grasslands, naturalization, wetlands, urban agriculture/farming, wildlife, protection of sensitive habitats, species at risk and support for at risk pollinators.	20	18
Natural Heritage Promotion 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 (including trail networks) for and by the public.	15	12
Cultural Heritage Plans Policies, by-laws, plans and preservation initiatives for heritage buildings, cemeteries, artefacts, museums, monuments, heritage trees and gardens, including their integration with streetscapes and landscape	15	13.5
Cultural Heritage Activities Initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	15	12
Business & Institutions		
Natural Heritage Assets Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, trails, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.	10	8
Cultural Heritage Assets Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and artefacts including their integration with the built/hard streetscapes and green landscapes	10	8.5
Residential		
Cultural Heritage Initiatives Conservation/restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and artefacts on residential lands	10	8.5
Community Involvement		
Natural Heritage Public Participation Participation in community (including children/youth), neighbourhood or individual natural heritage programs and initiatives including developing policies and plans, site improvements (including trails, eco parks , reforestation and management, maintenance, conservation and education initiatives	20	17.5
Natural Heritage – Community 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	10	8
Cultural Heritage - Public Participation Participation in community (including children/youth), neighbourhood or individual cultural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	15	12.5
Cultural Heritage - Community 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	8.5
Heritage Conservation Total	150.00	127.00

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Observations:

Wolseley has been blessed with a committed group of volunteers and that includes the Wolseley Heritage Foundation who initiated the plaque for the swinging bridge.

The Opera Hall is an absolute treasure to the community. It is a well maintained and beautiful building inside and out that is used by the community. The kitchen is very industrial and functional and it is noteworthy to see this facility used for a wide variety of functions. Holding a Cooking Program in the fall is an excellent idea. Even the vintage lighting in the bathrooms adds to the appeal of this facility as does the beautiful light fixtures in the main hall.

The donor plaque for the current swinging bridge being placed on the footings of the previous bridge shows the attention to detail and importance given to heritage conservation by the Town.

The cenotaph is very tactfully done and the sidewalk that was redone four years ago is attractive and accessible for people with disabilities. It is an ideal location for a Remembrance Day tribute.

The Town Council passed a bylaw to include municipal designated private properties and a resident has had their residence designated as such, meeting the requirements of the bylaw. This recognizes the commitment by the Town Council to retain valuable historical buildings in Wolseley.

The new location of the gazebo close to the courthouse was an excellent decision. The old pictures in the gazebo capture and depict the history of this community for tourists. Having the gazebo built by a volunteer initiative is just one more example of the excellent job Wolseley has done to engage and utilize volunteers.

The Adair Walking trail, created by the local Sea Cadet group and other volunteers, with the bird houses and signage along the trail is a significant asset to the community. The natural growth around the Lake edge near the Seniors' Centre, continues to invite birds for everyone's pleasure. Working in collaboration with Fort Qu'Appelle, Qu'Appelle and Indian Head Communities in Bloom, a commemorative tree was planted, being an Ohio Buckeye, in the Memorial Tree Garden.

The Town has repurposed and maintained many of the old historical buildings including the Ferley Block, many downtown businesses and the Opera Hall. The Main Street provincial grant along with the commitment of the Town and its citizens contributed to the refurbishment of a number of the downtown buildings and the remaking of Main Street as vital and inviting.

The Micro Museum on Front Street is a creative and effective use of space, bringing history to the passerby, making history a part of every day life. For Wolseley bringing the museum to the people through micro museums is an effective way of keeping history alive.

All three cemeteries are well maintained, the grass was mowed, including between the headstones. The map at St Anne's cemetery is excellent and exemplary.

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Thank you to the local archivist for creating the weekly Wolseley Table Talker cards that include a quick historical fact on Wolseley and area.

Wolseley has lots of cultural activity including a drive-in theatre that is still very much used, incorporating as much as possible the systems that were original to it. The elementary school has a Christmas concert and the local drama troupe provides live theatre entertainment. The Lions Surf and Turf is the community's major fundraiser. Thank you again to the local archivist for making himself available for tours of public historical buildings. He has a vast knowledge of Wolseley's history and knows how to make it interesting and bring it alive. He has created interesting cards to advertise this and placed them in locations throughout the community.

Recommendations:

The Court House in Wolseley has an interesting history and the exterior has been well restored. The basement, a former prison cell, is reasonably clean but the whole interior, would benefit from further upgrading and maintenance and could become suitable for many other purposes including meeting rooms for a variety of organizations. It already has a fire sprinkler system that is inspected regularly.

Wolseley already has a self guided Heritage Tour brochure that was created in 2004. It has lovely pencilled depictions of the buildings along with a map and locations of the various historical buildings including a short history of each building. Please ensure these brochures are at the Tourist Information Centre and at other public meeting places such as restaurants. This brochure may require some updating. Along with this consider reinstating the historical home tour.

The cemetery map at St. Anne's Cemetery is an example for all communities. Consider installing a map at the Town Cemetery similar to the one at St Anne's since they are invaluable resources to evening and weekend visitors.

Your local archivist has a significant amount of your community's history and you are fortunate to have someone with his capabilities and willingness to share. It is important that this information is retained in a safe and retrievable manner, retaining its' authenticity.

To help reduce the amount of weed whipping around headstones, for the future, consider using a row of concrete in which headstones are placed. This should reduce the amount of weed whipping required and amount of time spent in maintaining a cemetery.

The historical pictures inside the gazebo are lacking dates and photo credits should be recognized, if known.

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URBAN FORESTRY		
<p>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.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Overall Impression Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest	10	8
Strategic Plans Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	15	11
Urban Forestry Plan Plan, design and inventory management including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots	20	14
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	8.5
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases	10	8.5
Public Information Programs Provides information on good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs	15	10
Maintenance Quality Best practices with demonstrated results	10	8
Qualified Resources Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff and/or qualified experienced contractors) and/or in place training programs	5	4
Business & Institutions		
Tree inventory Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by businesses and institutions.	15	11
Maintenance Quality Programs, best practices with demonstrated results: watering, pruning, IPM	10	7.5
Residential		
Tree Planting 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 Quality Best practices with demonstrated results	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public Participation Participation (including children/youth) 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	16.5
Community 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	8.5
Urban Forestry Total	175.00	136.50

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URBAN FORESTRY

Observations:

The Memorial Tree Park is an excellent initiative by several volunteers, of which the Town should be proud. The plan that was shared with us is well thought out having a diversity of trees is an example that the Town can utilize in public and residential areas. This initiative reforests an area devastated by flooding with diverse plantings.

The Town is aware of and addressing Dutch Elm Disease within the community. It is also aware of the Emerald Ash borer and the potential impact on local ash trees. Having a tree disease expert visit the community once per year is very beneficial and will contribute to the long term health of your tree canopy.

Planting an Ohio Buckeye as a memorial tree in the Memorial Tree Garden, is a further example of diversification and an excellent tree choice. It is also a great example of communities working together (i.e. the Communities in Bloom committees of Fort Qu'Appelle, Qu'Appelle, Indian Head and Wolseley).

Investment in a tree chipper was a smart investment and the use of mulch around trees particularly at the Court House was noted. Encourage the Town to continue using mulch and keeping the mulch away from the base of trees as they have already demonstrated.

Recommendations:

While Wolseley's trees are mainly healthy it was noted that some pruning and clean-up is required to maintain the health of trees long term. It is suggested the CIB Committee offer, in collaboration with the Town, a tree pruning and maintenance workshop. Andrew Exelby, of the SPRA is a good resource.

You may wish to consider removing the tree stump outside the town office or it could be reconfigured into an art piece.

Wolseley has a mature, diverse collection of trees with several locations of more recent plantings. It is recommended from a long term planning perspective that the Town develop an inventory of its trees and develop a plan for public and residential areas to achieve a balance of old and new trees while maintaining the diversity of plantings.

Low profile plaques would be beneficial at the Memorial Tree Park in that they could also be informative in providing the identification of the tree.

The industrial area of Town has very few trees and would benefit from more trees being planted including a combination of fast growing and more slow maturing trees.

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LANDSCAPE		
<p>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.</p>		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Gateway Impressions First impressions of the community including gateway/entrance treatments	10	8.5
Sustainable Designs – Soft Landscape 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	8.5
Sustainable Designs - Hard Landscape 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	8.5
Landscape Plan Integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	8
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	9
Landscape Maintenance Policies, Standards, Best Practices and Programs	10	8.5
Landscape Quality Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specs and best practices.	5	4
Qualified Resources Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs and/or qualified experienced contractors	10	8.5
Year-round use Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (urban agriculture, community gardens, parks and recreation programs)	10	8.5
Business & Institutions		
Sustainable Designs (Seasonally adjusted year-round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture	10	7.5
Integrated Plan Contribution to urban & civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design	15	13
Maintenance Quality Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement) of all landscape elements	10	8.5
Residential		
Streetscape Appeal Of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	12.5
Maintenance Quality Lawn care, trees and shrub maintenance (with demonstrated results)	15	12.5
Plant Selection Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible & pollinator friendly plants)	10	8
Community Involvement		
Public Participation in community programs (including children/youth) such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (promotion, organization, etc.)	20	17.5
Volunteer Recognition Recognition (by municipality and/or volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom program including activities in all evaluated criteria	20	15
Landscape Total	200.00	166.50

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LANDSCAPE

Observations:

Wolseley has great community spirit and the support of many residents in making this community a beautiful place with lovely landscaping throughout the community.

The Tourist Booth at the West entrance to Wolseley offers visitors helpful information on the Town, a detailed street map which highlights tourist sites and a gazebo/picnic area to rest. It is well positioned to draw visitors in to the community since it is a distance from the highway. Signage at the entrances to town is large, visible and well maintained with one sign being lit.

The manmade Fairly Lake and the Swinging Bridge in the middle of town are two of the highlights of this community and definitely are tourist draws. The approaches to the bridge on each side are very attractive with flower baskets and planted gardens which help to showcase these community attractions. Although the lake water is not for consumption, the lake does offer a wide variety of recreational opportunities year round.

The donor plaque that is placed on the footings from the previous bridge are high quality and visible. It very effectively recognizes the contributions made to this project. We also appreciated the CIB banners on the bridge.

Landscaping at the Cenotaph is very well done. The arrangement of shrubs and rose bushes on each side of the newer walkway is well balanced. The trees and shrubs around the cenotaph create a sanctuary and welcoming feel to this area throughout the year.

The Front Street Project, which consists of a painted fenced area between two Front Street buildings has a nice variety of trees and shrubs and displays local art, making it a lovely addition to Wolseley. The Linda Gurtler Memorial Parkette is another attractive addition to Wolseley, providing softer design elements to the business area of Town. The Parkette is ideally located and offers walkers a place to sit and relax. Putting a planter where the former tree was located is a good idea.

The two Lions Parks provide playground area for children. While the park equipment is older it has been maintained. Picnic tables at the parks are in good condition. Playground equipment at the school appears to be newer and more modern.

The Splash Park is a great resource within the community and is well designed. Using sand as the base gives the Splash Park a beach feel and is easier to maintain.

The Fairy garden developed in the green space near the Court House is creative and adds an element of whimsy and surprise. Having geocache in the community also brings in visitors to appreciate the beauty of this community.

The golf course is well maintained by a group of volunteers and has a new deck and tables, appreciated by all. The Golf Club has a large donor board recognizing the many important contributions.

2019 Evaluation Form

Wolseley is noticeable by its huge areas of well mowed grass throughout the community, whether it is done by the Public Works crew or by volunteers.

Recommendations:

Wolseley does have some wall murals but they are showing signs of deterioration. It is recommended they be repainted or you could consider making the murals on panels that are more easily maintained. An example of this can be seen near the Humboldt local library. Humboldt saved the imagery of older murals in their community by taking pictures of them and having the duplicated on sign boards through digital printing. This could be an opportune time for collaboration between the Town and businesses. If the paint isn't peeling yet, additional clearcoats may also extend of the life of a mural.

The local art at the Front Street project was also starting to deteriorate. Consider having a rotating selection of local art and incorporating more student art. The benefits are hopefully less deterioration allowed and with the changing of pieces more people will be stopping by to check out the new pieces.

To improve the safety area of playground equipment, the "fall" area below some of the older play structures would benefit from more frequent rototilling to maintain the sand. This might also have the side benefit of children using the equipment more frequently.

Consider developing a long term plan for pathways and memorial benches, not only at the Memorial Tree Park, but throughout the community. This could include benches at the Front Street Project area.

Wolseley is fortunate to have an avid beekeeper in the community. This is an excellent resource to tap into for suggestions on pollinator friendly plants and for school excursions on learning the important role of bees.

2019 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
Municipal		
Floral Display Plan of Action Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	13
Diversity of Displays Flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	20	17.5
Diversity of Plants Annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants	10	8.5
Maintenance Quality Maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	18
Qualified Resources Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs and/or qualified experienced contractors	10	8.5
Business & Institutions		
Design Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	12.5
Overall Plan Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	8
Maintenance Quality Of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc. with demonstrated results.	10	8
Residential		
Concept and Design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties including Pollinator gardens and/or inclusion of pollinator plants in gardens	20	17
Maintenance Quality Of planting and maintenance with demonstrated results.	15	13
Community Involvement		
Public Participation In community projects, volunteer initiatives (including children/youth), outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.)	15	14
Community Support Financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community floral displays activities	15	13.5
Floral Displays Total	175.00	151.50

2019 Evaluation Form

FLORAL DISPLAYS

Observations:

The 24 hanging baskets, sponsored by the Town, are stunning and add to the visual appeal and beauty throughout the community. They significantly enhance the downtown core area and streets leading to the Swinging Bridge that are most visible to tourists. There is a diversity of displays including hanging baskets, flower beds, window boxes and planters. Many gardens have been mulched, weeded and are well maintained. Thank you to the Wolseley Horticultural Society that does a lovely job of maintaining the beds at the Court House.

The Town has a water wagon that volunteers use, ensuring flower beds and hanging baskets are adequately watered. Having a watering schedule and drawing upon volunteers to water is commendable.

The Adopt a garden bed initiative is an excellent idea and has had great response in Wolseley. There is no direction or requirements on plantings allowing each volunteer to be creative and make their own choices leading to more buy in and ownership. Revitalizing beds that were damaged by flooding has enhanced the beauty of the town particularly on both sides of the Swinging Bridge. The plaque recognizing that it is an "Adopt a Bed", is noteworthy as is the diversity of plants used in the gardens, including perennials and annuals.

The goose fence around the garden beds near the Court House seems to have worked.

Donations of perennials not only improves the sites but makes the budget go a lot further. Thank you to all those involved, your efforts are appreciated and do not go unnoticed.

The use of mulch in many flower beds is a beneficial gardening practice that should be continued to enhance water retention and the prevention of weeds.

Wolseley's level of volunteerism is wonderful, including twelve people who adopted 8 garden beds, restoring and maintaining them, a huge commitment of time and effort.

Thank you to the many local businesses who had window boxes and/or containers filled with lovely flowers, enhancing not only their business but the whole area.

The residents of Wolseley are proud of their yards which adds so much to the whole aesthetics of the community.

2019 Evaluation Form

Recommendations:

Getting the industrial parts of Town involved in making their areas more visually appealing is not always easy and requires innovative methods. Continue to encourage them to add more floral displays and shrubs. This may also provide a fundraising opportunity for CiB. Your local group could coordinate a planter program which would enable businesses to purchase/rent a planter each season. The fee could include the cost of plants and their maintenance. Having more living/green fences may also help some of your businesses and industrial areas.

Encourage volunteers who have adopted garden beds to continue to diversify their plantings with possible inclusion of grasses and edibles in the future.

2019 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