

**L.U.D. Baldur
Evaluation Form**

2017

**Manitoba
Communities in Bloom**



Manitoba Communities in Bloom Evaluation – L.U.D. Baldur 2017



Community: L.U.D. Baldur
Province: Manitoba

Category: 1-500

Manitoba

Tidiness	136.5	/	150.00
Environmental Action	129.5	/	150.00
Heritage Conservation	133	/	150.00
Urban Forestry	144	/	175.00
Landscape	175.50	/	200.00
Floral Displays	161	/	175.00
Total	879.50	/	1000.00

Percentage : 88%
Bloom rating: 5 Blooms – Silver
Special Mention: Residential Yards

Bloom ratings:

[Up to 55% -1 bloom: 56% to 63% - 2 blooms: 64% to 72% - 3 blooms: 73% to 81% - 4 blooms: >82%: 5 blooms]

For 5 bloom evaluated communities only:

[82 to 83.9%: 5 Blooms. 84 to 86.9%: 5 Blooms (Bronze); 87 to 89.9%: 5 Blooms (Silver); 90% and over: 5 Blooms (Gold)]

Representative (s) of Community

Name:	Joy Johnson	Function:	CiB
Name:	Bernice Hiscock	Function:	CiB
Name:		Function:	

Judges

Name:	Shawna Phillips	Name:	Wilbert Ronald
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Evaluation date: July 27th, 2017

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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 (such as YMCA, Legion), private museums, government and Crown corporations buildings (such as Canada Post)
- **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 and citizen groups – 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
- 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

Congratulations Baldur for yet another successful year for communities in bloom. Your committee is very strong and the fact that you are able recruit new and enthusiastic members is a testament to the work that you are doing in your community. You recognize family members and how important their help is to your committee.

There are many yards throughout the community that deserve special mention but where would we start. Hats off to all of you!

Joy's "Pick a Bouquet" was such a community sharing gesture and an idea that many communities will be following I am sure.

The United Church is thinking outside the box with their planting boxes in the back. They did a lovely job with the Canada 150 red and white display.

The School grounds with the tree plantings and beds show that the school is teaching the importance of urban forestry and the benefits of growing their own plants.

The addition of the plant signage at Veterans Park is very well done, they are easy to read, easy to change out and will last a long time. Residents will find them beneficial, as well as the many tourists stopping to use the park and facilities. This was a great accomplishment.

The new municipal sign recognizing the efforts of the CiB committee is incredible and something to be very proud of!

We encourage you to involve youth at every opportunity. You may not need their help but it's important for them to spend time with your committee and learn about caring for their community and all that the 6 categories cover. If they think CiB is only flowers and weeding they might not have an interest in joining in the future or helping now. However, as Peighton Johnson demonstrated, once we chatted with her and she understood what the 6 categories were, she was much more enthusiastic about becoming a member. Perhaps after her summer as Economic/Tourism Co-ordinator she will have ideas that your committee could implement.

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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		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	10	9
Community anti-litter awareness programs	10	9.5
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	9
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers etc.)	15	14.5
Visual appeal, and condition of municipal buildings and properties (including City Hall grounds),	15	14.5
Business & Institutions		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	14
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	14
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	4.5
Residential		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	17
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	14
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	8
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	136.50

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TIDINESS

Observations:

No weeds, garbage or graffiti were sighted.

The highway, streets, walkways, back lanes, business's, parks, recreational facilities, campground and churches were all very well maintained.

Residential sites are outstanding, they are being landscaped and well cared for.

Recommendations:

To recognize the residents and businesses for their efforts a "Back Lane of the Week" or "Tidiness Award" could be implemented with a pay it forward system. It takes it out of the hands of the CiB committee and lets individuals choose who is deserving.

It is obvious that you have the whole community on board to keep the town looking the way it does, it shows that the residents really care about where they call home.

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION		
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.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning/vision; effective bylaws/policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities	20	18
Waste reduction 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, and handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection and reuse of compost material	20	15
Water conservation and use-reduction programs such as promotions, efficient irrigation, use of non-potable water, water restriction policies	15	13
Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar) and initiatives such as: efficient appliances initiatives, shielding for night skies issues, efficient street lighting	15	13
Environmental initiatives, innovations and actions such as: - 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	8.5
Business & Institutions		
Participation in the environmental effort: such as waste management (reduce, reuse and recycle), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management	10	9
Corporate environmental innovation/stewardship, initiatives, activities (ex. environmental clean-up activities)	10	9
Residential		
Participation in the 3-R (reduce, reuse and recycle) initiatives and composting	10	9
Adoption of water conservation practices such as rainwater collection and rain gardens	15	13
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	9
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions in public environmental activities and programs	10	9
Environmental Action Total	150.00	129.50

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ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Observations:

In a community as small as Baldur it is difficult to have a full-fledged environmental thrust. The recycle depot was effective and expanding.

Recommendations:

Consider having a few “free” curbside days throughout the summer to try and help keep household items out of the landfill. It was mentioned that somethings don’t sell at garage sales so they end up at the landfill. Perhaps placing them curbside for free would take care of some items. Advertising in the Gazette ahead of time will give people the opportunity to both place items outside as well as attend the event.

A rain barrel located at Veterans Park would be beneficial for those days when extra watering is required. Perhaps the washroom building would be a good location for one.

Mike and Arlene’s water retention system is worth noting. Perhaps an educational session could be done to encourage other residents to use rain water collection on their properties or businesses.

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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 policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs	10	9
Natural heritage management plans and preservation initiatives: including eco systems, eco parks, protection of sensitive habitats, species at risk, support for at risk pollinators, grasslands, naturalization, wetlands, urban agriculture/farming, and wildlife	15	13
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 for and by the public	15	13
Cultural heritage policies, by-laws and plans and preservation initiatives for heritage buildings, cemeteries, artefacts, museums, monuments, heritage trees and gardens, including their integration with streetscapes and landscape	15	13
Cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	9
Business & Institutions		
Conservation, restoration and integration of natural heritage, including eco parks, conservation areas, heritage gardens, trees and landscapes.	15	13
Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and artefacts including their integration with the built/hard, streetscapes and green landscapes	10	9
Residential		
Conservation/restoration and reuse of heritage buildings, artefacts on residential lands	10	9
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual natural heritage programs including developing policies and plans, site improvements and management, conservation and education initiatives	15	14
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	15	13
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual cultural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	10	9
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	9
Heritage Conservation Total	150.00	133.00

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION

Observations:

There are many heritage initiatives in your community and area. The Argyle Museum is adding new displays regularly which keeps it interesting for your regular visitors. The new Icelandic display was especially fitting for your area. It was noted that the museum has 3 heritage books on display: 1) Heritage Sites 2) Notable People 3) Pivotal Events.

The 80 acres of natural prairie land donated in memory of Bob Sigvaldason is such a gift and one to treasure.

Agriculture heritage is recognized with the plough and seed drill displays at the entrance to the village.

Congratulations on completing the Grund Church project. The outdoor picnic area and washrooms, exterior and interior are complete and it's a project everyone should be proud of.

Having the Assiniboine Hills Conservation District office in your town is a wonderful asset.

Recommendations:

We encourage your relationship with the conservation district and suggest using their location to your advantage. Talk with them about what is available for your community. They sponsor raingarden development and would be able to help you choose locations that would work for your community.

Veterans Park would benefit from signage with the railway history for your town. Unfortunately the heritage sign has deteriorated to the point that it's unreadable. Perhaps both signs can be made with a standard style so they enhance each other.

Consider featuring your wetlands. One location was alive with waterfowl and activity, it was a wonder! Would be nice to know if it's a Duck's Unlimited location or not.

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URBAN FORESTRY		
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.		
	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	15	12
Urban forestry plan and design, including integration with overall green infrastructure landscape plan, and measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots.	20	15
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
Integrated Pest Management (IPM) / Plant HealthCare (PHC): plan of action for invasive pest detection and control, information on current infestations and diseases	10	8
Public information programs: good planting techniques, best practices and maintenance programs	15	12
Maintenance best practices with proven results	10	9
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	5	4
Business & Institutions		
Contribution to expanding overall tree inventory, with consideration of design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees, on properties owned by business and institutions.	15	12
Maintenance programs, best practices with proven results: watering, pruning, IPM	10	9
Residential		
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 best practices with proven results	10	9
Community Involvement		
Public participation 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	18
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	144.00

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URBAN FORESTRY

Observations:

It was exciting to see that the school has taken advantage of the MB Hydro grant and had the students involved in planting the trees. The judges noticed a small planting of trees in Veterans Park is becoming established in this difficult growing area.

Recommendations:

Having a small planting program in place for new developments ensure that these new neighbourhoods will be well treed in the future. A limited planting program of \$500/year would enable a few street trees to be planted.

The baseball field would benefit from additional tree plantings.

When planting new trees be sure to water them for the first 3 years. The new trees at Veterans Park were in urgent need of water in this hot dry period.

A thick layer of mulch around tree's keep the machinery away, help keep the weeds at bay and assist with water retention.

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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		
First impressions of the community including gateway/entrance treatments	10	9.5
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
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	9
Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	9
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	9
Landscape maintained to appropriate standards, specifications and best practices.	5	4.5
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	10	8.5
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	8
Contribution to urban and civic design and public green spaces above requirements: such as public art, streetscape, site furniture, fountains & innovation in concept & design	15	13
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement) of all landscape elements	10	8
Residential		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	13
Maintenance of properties: lawn care, trees and shrub maintenance (with proven results)	15	14
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, edible and pollinator friendly plants)	10	9
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community programs such as: urban agriculture, community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (promotion, organization, etc.)	20	18
Recognition (by municipality and/or by volunteer groups) of volunteer efforts in all aspects of the Communities in Bloom Program including activities in all evaluated criteria	20	17
Landscape Total	200.00	175.50

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LANDSCAPE

Observations:

The raised beds that the students built show well. The residential landscapes showed a high level of garden enthusiasm and development.

Recommendations:

The creek is a wonderful community asset. You may want to consider tying it into the community. Is there a location you can open it up, sign it and perhaps have a public dock for residents to use? Can you promote fishing?

The town sign on the West end of town is looking lovely. The East entrance sign would benefit from more perennials to add some impact.

Consider using bark mulch as much as possible in your beds for weed control and water retention.

You have many incredible yards. Having a "Yard of the Week" with the Pay it Forward system would be ideal for your community.

A Self-Guided Garden Tour would allow residents as well as other communities the opportunity to tour the many lovely yards and gardens.

The interlocking brick was immaculate. If future walkways are planned consider using stamped concrete, it looks just like bricks however there are no cracks for weeds to grow.

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FLORAL DISPLAYS		
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.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	14.5
Diversity of displays: flowerbeds, raised beds, planters, hanging baskets, window boxes, carpet bedding, mosaics	20	18
Diversity of plants: annuals, perennials, bulbs, grasses, woody plants, natural flora, pollinator friendly plants	10	9
Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	18
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or in place training programs	10	9
Business & Institutions		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	13
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	10	9
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	10	9
Residential		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties Pollinator gardens and/or inclusion of pollinator plants in gardens	20	19
Quality of planting and maintenance with proven results.	15	14
Community Involvement		
Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.)	15	14.5
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the municipality, businesses and institutions for community floral displays activities	15	14
Floral Displays Total	175.00	161.00

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FLORAL DISPLAYS

Observations:

Having most of your planters changed over to the Equinox Desert planters has resulted in a wonderful floral display while cutting down on labour intensive watering. The hanging baskets were well maintained and significant for a small community. The community support is significant.

Volunteer's sharing the workload and taking ownership on specific gardens and pots has worked well for you. Share your "system" with other communities at the MB CiB provincial conferences.

We recognize the schools WOW factor; the dedication and hard work shows.

Recommendations:

Where possible incorporate pollinator plants. If you can develop a rain garden there are many bee and butterfly plantings suitable.

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2017 Canada 150 Special Edition Award



NOTE: The Heritage – Canada 150 Special Edition is scored separately and is not included in the overall bloom calculation. The community with the highest score out of 100 will receive the Canada 150 Special Edition Award.

Canada 150 Special Edition Award		
Canada 150, includes all community activities celebrating the 150 Anniversary of Canadian Confederation and/or celebrating the heritage of the community in Canada's Confederation. Elements for Canada 150 evaluation include legacy projects, special events, festivals and activities, special green projects (floral displays, tree planting) and special museum/heritage displays.		
	Max	Actual
Municipal		
Canada 150 projects: legacy projects, events, activities and festivals and special green projects such as floral displays and tree planting	50	30
Business & Institutions		
Canada 150 projects: legacy projects, events, activities and festivals and special green projects such as floral displays and tree planting	20	12
Residential		
Canada 150 projects: special green projects such as floral displays and tree planting	10	5
Community Involvement		
Participation in Canada 150 programs: public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual events, activities, festivals and celebrations	20	9
Canada 150 Points Total	100	56.00

Maple Leaf rating:

- Up to 55%: 1 Leaf.
- 56% to 63%: 2 Leaves
- 64% to 72%: 3 Leaves
- 73% to 81%: 4 Leaves
- >82%: 5 Leaves

CANADA 150 SPECIAL EDITION AWARD

Observations:

We were not shown any specific Canada 150 projects which is not surprising for such a small community.

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR INVOLVEMENT

Communities in Bloom is made possible by:

The commitment of local, provincial and national volunteers
The support of elected officials and municipal staff
The dedication of judges, staff and organizations
The contribution of sponsors and partners

Thank you to our Sponsors

National

Scotts Canada - Home Hardware – CN

Provincial

Equinox Industries Ltd. ▪ **Gold**

Jeffries Nurseries ▪ **Silver**

T & T Seeds ▪ Vanderveen's Greenhouses ▪ Recreation Connections ▪ **Bronze**
Playgrounds R Us ▪ Manitoba Hydro ▪ Collet Transport for EcoSolutions ▪ **Bronze**

People, Plants and PrideGrowing Together