

# Evaluation Form

# 2014

## Hanna



## 2014 Evaluation Form



Community: **Town of Hanna**

Province: **Alberta**

Category: **2,001 – 6,000**

The evaluation is based on 8 criteria, divided into the 6 following sections, assessing 4 sectors of the community:

<b>Tidiness</b>	131.75	/	150.00
<b>Environmental Action</b>	115.50	/	150.00
<b>Heritage Conservation</b>	132.50	/	150.00
<b>Urban Forestry</b>	149.50	/	175.00
<b>Landscape</b>	164.25	/	200.00
<b>Floral Displays</b>	143.50	/	175.00
<b>Total</b>	837.00	/	1000.00

Percentage : 84%

Bloom rating: 5

### 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 : Invasive Plants Awareness Promotion.

### Representative (s) of Community

Name: Gwen Snell Function : Director of Community Services

Name: Lou Lallier Function : President, Hanna in Bloom

Name: John Kaster Function : Community Member

### Judges

Name: Rose Carmichael Name: Sherry Cote

Evaluation date: July 29, 2014

# 2014 Evaluation Form

## 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, 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 & Service and citizen groups – all contributing to various aspects of community improvement
- 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.

## 2014 Evaluation Form

### GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

Your beliefs become your thoughts,  
Your thoughts become your words,  
Your words become your actions,  
Your actions become your habits,  
Your habits become your values,  
Your values become your destiny.”  
— Mahatma Gandhi

Hanna's destiny is to be a Community in Bloom, utilizing people, plants and pride. This community believes in the philosophy and that is reflected in their habits over many years as a provincial participant. Hanna is “worth the drive”.

Change is the most constant thing in the world, and Hanna has not been left out this past year, with having to demolish a derelict building and the many changes with the Historical Society Board. Hanna is ready and able to move forward with these changes.

During the tour, the guides mentioned to the judges, “They (Hanna in Bloom) put the word out and someone in the community can fill the need”, which speaks volumes about the amount of the time and investment in building community relationships. Hanna in Bloom you have an amazing treasure in your community.

#### **Potential resources:**

Alberta Museums Association - [www.museums.ab.ca](http://www.museums.ab.ca)

Canada Summer Jobs - Federal Government wage subsidy program to hire summer students - apply in February online

Young Canada Works – wage subsidy program for hiring summer students to work in museums – apply in February online

Nature Conservancy Canada - [www.natureconservancy.ca](http://www.natureconservancy.ca)

Ducks Unlimited - [www.ducks.org](http://www.ducks.org)

Charity Village – resource for volunteers and funding information - [www.charityvillage.com](http://www.charityvillage.com)

Tree Canada – grant opportunities for trees to plant in the community - [www.treecanada.ca](http://www.treecanada.ca)

Home Depot Foundation – funding for projects - <http://www.homedepot.ca/foundation>

Canadian Tree Fund – [www.canadiantreefund.org](http://www.canadiantreefund.org)

Alberta Community Cooperatives Association – Subsidized internship program for post-secondary graduates  
[www.acca.coop](http://www.acca.coop)

Evergreen - supports community greening, likes to work with school populations – [www.evergreen.ca](http://www.evergreen.ca)

Green Streets – [www.green-street.ca](http://www.green-street.ca)

Communities in Bloom National office – Scott's fertilizer offers grants to support the development community gardens.

CN Railway offers funding in support of working with rail lands.

## 2014 Evaluation Form

<b>TIDINESS</b>		
<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 and vandalism programs.</p>		
	Max	Actual
<b>Municipal</b>		
Tidiness, order, cleanliness and first impressions	15	13.5
Community anti-litter awareness programs	5	4.5
Effective bylaws, programs and policies and enforcement; litter control, graffiti prevention and eradication, graffiti removal kits to residents	10	9
Cleanliness of public green infrastructure: parks, streetscapes (sidewalks, planters, etc.)	15	13.75
Condition of urban signage and furniture such as benches, litter and recycling containers	15	13.75
<b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness and first impressions	15	12.5
Condition of buildings (exterior maintenance), grounds, sidewalks and parking lots	15	13
Condition of urban furniture: benches, litter and recycling containers	5	4
<b>Residential</b>		
Tidiness, order and cleanliness	20	17.5
Condition of buildings, grounds and yards	15	13.25
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
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	8.5
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions for community clean-up programs	10	8.5
<b>Tidiness Total</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>131.75</b>

## **2014 Evaluation Form**

### **TIDINESS**

#### **Observations:**

The story of one of the hotels undergoing extensive renovations, and being asked to clear away debris stored in the parking lot, prior to the arrival of the judges, demonstrates the long-term investment of Hanna in Bloom and all of the sweat equity invested, in building strong relationships within the community. Congratulations!

Derelict buildings present many challenges. The decision to demolish the hotel may not have been the easiest or popular but was the most prudent. The opportunities the vacant lot now offers are worthy of careful planning.

Errant trash, graffiti and stray animals cooperated by taking a holiday on evaluation day. Hanna in Bloom are most charming to all in the community.

#### **Recommendations:**

Continue the efforts to have absentee land owners maintain their properties to the standard that the town has achieved.

## 2014 Evaluation Form

<b>ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION</b>		
Environmental action includes the efforts and achievement of the community with respect to: policies, by-laws, programs and best practices, waste reduction and diversion rate to landfill, composting sites, landfill sites, hazardous waste collections, water conservation, naturalization, and environmental stewardship activities under the guiding principles of sustainable development pertaining to green spaces.		
	Max	Actual
<b>Municipal</b>		
Sustainable development strategy: policies, programs, guidelines, long-term planning / vision; effective bylaws / policies and their enforcement; and public education programs and activities	20	16.5
Waste management programs: waste reduction to landfill and results (3-R : recycling, re-use, reduce), composting (backyard and municipal)), and including activities such as composting sites yard waste collections, shredding of Christmas trees, handling of hazardous waste including e-waste collection	15	13
Water conservation and use-reduction programs: efficient appliance incentives or promotion, efficient irrigation and use of non-potable water, water restriction policies, rainwater management	15	11.75
Energy conservation programs such as alternate forms of energy (ex. geothermal, biomass, wind, solar), and initiatives such as, shielding for night skies issues, efficient street lighting and energy audits.	10	6.5
Environmental initiatives, innovations and actions such as: Protection of sensitive habitats Development and expansion of sustainable mobility and active transportation network such as bike lanes and multi-used pathways. Phytotechnology practices such as green roofs, green walls, green lanes, living fences, buffer zones; re-use of sites; engineered wetlands, bio-swales and permeable surfaces Brownfield redevelopment, remediation, land reclamation. Air quality programs such as anti-idling, reduction of greenhouse gas emission.	10	6.5
<b>Business &amp; Institutions 6.25</b>		
Participation in the environmental effort : such as waste management (recycle, reuse, reduce), water conservation, energy conservation, brownfield management, eco-park	10	6.25
Corporate environmental innovation / stewardship, initiatives, activities (Ex. Environmental clean-up activities)	10	8
<b>Residential</b>		
Participation in the 3-R (recycle, reuse, reduce) initiatives and composting	20	16.5
Adoption of water conservation practices & policies including rainwater collection	15	13
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Public participation in public forums and policy development on environmental issues	5	3.25
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	7.25
<b>Environmental Action Total</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>115.5</b>

## **2014 Evaluation Form**

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION**

#### **Observations:**

It is obvious much thought and time was invested in revamping the transfer station. The new layout appears to be much more functional and effective.

Using raw water for irrigating the golf course doesn't generate profits for the water treatment plant, but it is a desirable water management practice.

Hanna typically is quite arid at the time of year when the judges visit. 2014 was not typical as there has been greater than normal rainfall; it was nice to see all the green.

#### **Recommendations:**

With the redevelopment of the transfer station – support the efforts of the site and continue to educate residents about the benefits of home composting and the appropriate materials to take to the larger compost site.

In a previous tour CiB committee members mentioned that the old water storage tank would be used to capture rainwater and use that water for filling a water truck to use in watering parkland. It would be interesting to know the conclusion of those intentions.



## 2014 Evaluation Form

<b>HERITAGE CONSERVATION</b>		
Heritage Conservation includes efforts to preserve natural heritage within the community with focus on the integration of landscape and streetscapes in built heritage: preservation of natural heritage pertaining to monuments, memorials, artifacts, museums and history, archives, traditions, customs, festivals and celebrations in relation to parks and green spaces in the community. The participation of groups such as Historical Societies and Conservation Groups are considered.		
	Max	Actual
<b>Municipal</b>		
Heritage policies, by-laws and their enforcement and effective programs with focus on the relationships of the landscape to the built heritage	15	13.25
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	13.75
Management and promotion of heritage (through communications, information and support programs, economic development / tourism) including natural and cultural heritage initiatives throughout the year including festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	20	18.25
Activities and programs (year-round) for education and use of natural heritage sites for and by the public	15	13.25
New programs and initiatives to promote local heritage	10	8.25
<b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>		
Conservation, restoration and reuse of heritage buildings and landscapes	15	14
Promotion of local heritage, including heritage gardens, native plants, and heritage trees	15	12.25
<b>Residential</b>		
Conservation, restoration and reuse of sites, buildings and heritage landscapes	10	8.25
Conservation of cultural and heritage elements pertaining to their own private lands and structures	5	4
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Public participation in community, neighbourhood or individual in cultural and natural heritage programs including year-round heritage community events/activities, festivals and celebrations along with preservation of traditions and customs	20	18.5
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 and customs	10	8.75
<b>Heritage Conservation Total</b>	<b>150.00</b>	<b>132.5</b>

## **2014 Evaluation Form**

### **HERITAGE CONSERVATION**

#### **Observations:**

Extend best wishes from the judges to the former keepers of the museum; their efforts over the years are to be commended.

The new museum board seems willing to move forward and the efforts to bring the society up to date, administratively, are a great start.

With all of the new ideas being directed at board members, having a strategic planning session will serve the board well in providing direction and setting goals for next steps.

The progress of cleaning up the Roundhouse is amazing. Thank you for taking the judges on tour of the inside. What a treasure for the community.

Congratulations on engaging the summer students to share their knowledge of the museum with the rookies. See potential resources on the General Comments page for potential possibilities to support further growth and development, utilizing students.

The municipal campground is well maintained and appears to be well used. The natural wetlands around the area add a great finishing touch.

#### **Recommendations:**

The inclusion of heritage beds at the museum is a great choice. Consider the inclusion of more perennials in order to enhance these beds.

Continue to recruit former town council members to be part of the museum board. They will be well versed on the plans and needs of the museum and support further development.

## 2014 Evaluation Form

<b>URBAN FORESTRY</b>		
Urban Forestry includes the efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and citizens 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
<b>Municipal</b>		
Overall impact, benefit and first impression of the urban forest	10	9
Policies, regulations and tree by-laws, tree protection and planting on public and private lands	10	9
Urban forestry planning and design, including integration with overall landscape plan	10	9
Measures to preserve, protect, manage and expand overall tree inventory, including woodlots	15	14
Plan of action: procurement, species diversity (including native trees), selection of hardy species, recommended tree list	10	8.25
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 program on good planting techniques and maintenance programs	10	7.25
Maintenance best practices and proven results	10	8
Qualified personnel and/or crew training	10	9
<b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>		
Design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees in landscapes and for planting on properties	15	12
Maintenance programs and best practices: watering, pruning, IPM	10	7.5
<b>Residential</b>		
Design and diversity including native and hardy species of trees in landscapes and for planting on residential properties	15	12.75
Maintenance best practices	10	8.75
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
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.).	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	8.5
<b>Urban Forestry Total</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>149.5</b>

## 2014 Evaluation Form

### URBAN FORESTRY

#### Observations:

The recent confirmation of disaster funds reimbursement is good news for Hanna. The intent to use the funds to replace trees lost in the floods is commendable.

The creation of a new bylaw with respect to a recommended tree list and selection of trees planted is an admired action in an extensive tree inventory management plan.

Congratulations on connecting with the Home Hardware Program funding for new tree plantings.

#### Recommendations:

Provide the opportunity for residents to take Pruning 101 workshops with an arborist to support appropriate maintenance of trees on private residential or commercial properties.

### LANDSCAPE

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

## 2014 Evaluation Form

<b>LANDSCAPE</b>		
wildflowers along with turf management.		
	<b>Max</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<b>Municipal</b>		
Landscape Plan: integrated and implemented throughout the municipality	10	8.75
Turf management programs, Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Plant Health Care (PHC), alternative solutions to diseases and infestations when appropriate, increased naturalization, adapted maintenance programs	10	8.25
First impressions of the community including gateway / entrance treatments	10	7
Landscape maintenance policies, standards, best practices and programs	10	7.75
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, suitable plant varieties, traffic mitigation, 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 maintained to appropriate standards and specifications	10	8.5
Demonstrated year-round opportunities and programs for education and use of parks and green spaces (parks and recreation programs, city festivals and events)	10	9
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	5	4.25
<b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>		
Sustainable designs (seasonally adjusted year round): energy efficient, use of green materials, naturalization, xeriscaping, alternate groundcovers, urban agriculture	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	15	10
Adequate ongoing life cycle management (ongoing maintenance, ground & asset management, rehabilitation & replacement ) of all landscape elements	10	6.5
<b>Residential</b>		
Streetscape appeal of landscapes (year-round, seasonal, themed)	15	13.5
Maintenance of properties: lawn care and shrub maintenance	15	13.25
Selection of plant material (native, local, innovative, including edible gardening)	10	8
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Public participation in community programs such as: community gardens, "yard of the week", volunteer park maintenance, holiday illumination & decoration (promotion, organization etc.).	15	13.75
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	13
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions for community landscape programs and activities	10	8.25
<b>Landscape Total</b>	<b>200.00</b>	<b>164.25</b>

## **2014 Evaluation Form**

### **LANDSCAPE**

#### **Observations:**

The transfer of responsibility for the care and maintenance of Helmer Park from volunteers to the municipality; the judges would like to recognize the extra work taken on by the parks staff.

The Shadow Sculpture is intriguing and captivates the imagination, day or night. The work and use of all things scrap with agricultural and railway themes is fabulous.

The shift of the Hanna in Bloom recognition program, done on a weekly basis for both residential commercial properties, is certainly keeping the program foremost in the minds of the citizens of the community.

The awareness promotion in the town newsletter in order to introduce a few of the plants on the invasive plants list has reaped great success. Having residents contacting the bylaw officer for confirmation of specimens is evidence that there is a strong relationship with the community and the municipality.

A curious citizen seeking answers about an unusual plant proves the invasive plant campaign was successful. The diligence of bylaw enforcement to identify the plant is applauded, and then to discover it is an extremely rare species for the area and rampant in other parts of North America, helps Hanna to become proactive in managing the potential infestation.

#### **Recommendations:**

Be aware of the capacity of the parks staff – there may be a need to re-evaluate how the Helmer Park maintenance will impact the work load of a full schedule.

The components of the “Shadow Structure” set off alarms bells regarding the possibility of adventurous climbers falling and being hurt on the sharp objects within the sculpture. Review the risk assessment for this piece of art.

## 2014 Evaluation Form

<b>FLORAL DISPLAYS</b>		
<p>Floral Displays evaluates efforts of the municipality, businesses, institutions and citizens 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.</p>		
	Max	Actual
<b>Municipal</b>		
Integration into overall landscape plan and distribution through community. Concept and design including sustainable design	15	13.5
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	10	8
Quality, maintenance to appropriate specifications and standards, best practices: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	20	16
Qualified personnel (including seasonal staff) and/or training	10	8.25
<b>Business &amp; Institutions</b>		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on grounds	15	11.5
Quality of planting and maintenance: watering, weeding, edging, dead heading, etc.	10	6.5
Contribution to, and integration with, overall community floral program	15	8
<b>Residential</b>		
Concept and design (including arrangement, diversity, colour of display and plants) on residential properties	15	13.25
Quality of planting and maintenance	15	13
<b>Community Involvement</b>		
Public participation in community projects, volunteer initiatives, outreach programs in floral displays (including promotion, organization, etc.).	15	14
Support – financial and/or in-kind or participation by the Municipality, Businesses and Institutions in community floral displays activities	15	13.5
<b>Floral Displays Total</b>	<b>175.00</b>	<b>143.5</b>

## **2014 Evaluation Form**

### **FLORAL DISPLAYS**

#### **Observations:**

The creation of the new community garden site, is suitably located, accessible to many and very well kept. Efforts to include raised beds accessible to someone in a wheel chair; kudos are extended to the group responsible for the planning and implementation.

Hanna is very colourful with the extensive plantings in the green spaces. The incorporation of perennials is evident, and compliments the luscious plantings of annuals.

The town is graced with very dedicated seasonal staff, who have a great eye for colour and design.

#### **Recommendations:**

Continue increasing the number of perennials in the beds. With the increased demand on staff time, Helmer Park, using perennials as the backdrop for annuals could potentially redirect staff energy where the demand is greater.



## 2014 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

