

Gardening season sprouts with blooms at City Hall

May 20, 2016

The Front Yards in Bloom program kicks off with the opening of nominations for the most beautiful front yards in Edmonton's neighbourhoods. The program encourages citizens to nominate their neighbours' yards in one of four unique categories: general, edible, natural and public spaces. Nominations open May 20 and can be submitted online at frontyardsinbloom.ca or by calling 311.

To celebrate the start of this year's gardening season and the Front Yards in Bloom program, Councillors Mike Nickel, Scott McKeen, Tony Caterina and Mohinder Banga designed planters on the spot at City Hall, May 20. They competed against each other to create the most aesthetically-pleasing planter to win the public's vote. Voting on these floral creations will be available to the public via an online poll. As these Councillors explored their creativity with flowers, Edmontonians are encouraged to use their green thumbs within their own yards this year.

"Front Yards in Bloom is a special program recognizing efforts to make our public spaces beautifully green and attractive," said Amber Brant, Community Greening Coordinator, City of Edmonton. "These spaces contribute such a significant amount to our city and quality of life. Staging a councillor planter competition is one way to celebrate and promote part of the Front Yards in Bloom program."

Since 1999, residents have been publicly recognized for their neighbourhood blooms by Front Yards in Bloom. The program received 150 nominations in its first year, a number which grew to over 4,000 in 2015. Edmonton's Front Yards in Bloom is now the largest program of its kind across Canada.

Front Yards in Bloom is a partner program run by the Edmonton Horticultural Society, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers, the City of Edmonton and supported by various sponsors. Nominations run from May 20 until June 30.

For more information:

edmonton.ca/frontyardsinbloom

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