



Government of Canada

Gouvernement du Canada

The National Battlefields
Commission

Commission des champs
de bataille nationaux

Press Release

For immediate release

Communities in Bloom

The National Battlefields Commission receives an award for preserving its park

Québec, October 21, 2009 – The 15th edition of the Communities in Bloom National Awards presentation was held in Vaughan, Ontario last October 3rd, thus rewarding the National Battlefields Commission. In this ceremony, which honours communities from around the country and abroad, the Commission received a five-bloom mention in the *special attractions* category for its distinguished city park, in addition to obtaining a special *outstanding innovation* mention for its Info-plant computerized terminal.

Battlefields Park was judged on the efforts expended for the management, maintenance, improvement and innovation of the following parameters: cleanliness, environmental effort, community involvement, protection of natural and architectural heritage, urban forestry, landscaping, floral arrangements, lawns and ground covers.

The Commission was congratulated for the efforts made to date to perpetuate history through the protection and conservation of these prestigious sites. The judges recognized the Commission's exemplary leadership in safeguarding the park's natural and architectural heritage, especially its sustained efforts to implement the original development plan of Frederick G. Todd. The floral arrangements also drew the jury's attention for their outstanding beauty and the creativity shown by the Green Environment Service team.

The Info-plant terminal, established in 2004, is a true open book on horticulture. Budding gardeners can consult it at the Joan of Arc Garden or via the Internet. This simple, user-friendly, ground-breaking, high-performance tool allows us to highlight this remarkable park and disseminate horticultural know-how. The Info-plant terminal proposes a fantastic survey of the plants and trees grown in the park, their location and typical features.

True lungs in the heart of the city, Battlefields Park can boast to be Québec City's rallying site *par excellence*, with its four million visitors annually. The year 2008 marked the 400th anniversary of the city, but also the 100th anniversary of the park itself. For the occasion, the Commission set up new green attractions and continues to develop its nature component,

which includes the Louis-Hébert Orchard, Abraham-Martin rosebush, New France Vegetable Garden, XII World Forestry Congress Commemorative Garden (arboretum), and the commemorative donation program (trees and park benches).

Communities in Bloom is a Canadian non-profit organization that promotes civic pride, environmental responsibility and the improvement of the living environment through community involvement and the challenge of a national program. Today, nearly 500 Canadian municipalities participate in this program.

www.theplainsofabraham.ca



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