

National CiB Heritage Conservation Award for C-K!

On the heels of the provincial Communities in Bloom (CiB) *Landscape Ontario Green for Life - Park Award* only ten days earlier, Chatham-Kent was awarded the coveted *Home Hardware Beauti-Tone Heritage Conservation Award* at the CiB National Awards in Quebec City on Saturday, October 29, 2011!

Competitors from across Canada, England, Scotland, Ireland, the United States and Japan all had the opportunity to apply for this prestigious Heritage Conservation Award. It is one of twelve Outstanding Achievement and Special Awards that require an elaborate separate submission to specifically demonstrate a community's worthiness in this area. Winning the *Scott's Best Community of Gardeners Award* in 2006 and the *Tidiness Award* in 2009 this is Chatham-Kent's third international recognition for its outstanding community-wide achievements!

Heritage Conservation is one of the eight CiB judging criteria that may not instinctively come to mind but, within a program that promotes civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement, it is a natural fit.

"With a track record of excellence in our Heritage Conservation section and an abundance of plans in place for the celebration of the War of 1812, this was the year to pull it off," said Communities in Bloom Co-ordinator Monica Moore. "We have often been commended for our heritage conservation efforts by past CiB judges but, with so much to record, it has taken several years to refine our documentation to the point to be ready to apply. The timing was perfect!"

As the 2010 National Winners (population category of 50,001 – 150,000), the municipality was not able to compete in the mainstream of the competition this season. By applying to special awards while entered as a Circle of Excellence participant, Chatham-Kent has continued to make its presence known as one of the elite contenders within the CiB circuit!

For more details on Chatham-Kent CiB, visit www.chatham-kent.ca or call 519.360.1998.

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