

March 13, 2020

## Greater Victoria Flower Count Ends with Almost 46 Billion Blossoms Counted

**VICTORIA, B.C.** – The 45<sup>th</sup> edition of the Greater Victoria Flower Count ended on March 12. Community and elementary school engagement were strong, with almost 46 billion blossoms counted over the weeklong event.

The winner of "Bloomingest" community this year was Saanich, with a total of 44,955,892,129 blossoms counted. The runner-up community this year is Victoria with 564,585,757 blossoms counted.

Elementary school participation is a major component of Greater Victoria Flower Count. This year's winning elementary school class is Ms. Susan Holmes's class at Cordova Bay Elementary School in Saanich. Ms. Holmes's class counted 552,306,340 blossoms. Their prize is a trip from L.A. Limousines to The Butchart Gardens. Participation in the photo contest was also strong, with 68 submissions using the #FlowerCount hashtag. Winners from the draw will be notified by end of day Friday, March 13, 2020.

"The Greater Victoria Flower Count is a great tradition and community event" said Paul Nursey, CEO of Destination Greater Victoria. "Each and every year Greater Victorians count blooms in their parks, gardens and public spaces to see who can come out on top. An event that fully engages the community like Greater Victoria Flower Count is great to see."

"Saanich is proud to win the 45th Annual Greater Victoria Flower Count" said District of Saanich Mayor Fred Haynes. "From large public places like Mt. Douglas Park to the many individual gardens throughout the community, it is no wonder Saanich residents submitted the largest count. I would also like to congratulate Cordova Bay Elementary School for winning the school competition. This was a fun event. I am known to say that Saanich puts the "great" in greater Victoria. I very pleased to be able to say Saanich also puts out most of the amazing blooms in the region. We look forward to defending our title next year."

The 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Greater Victoria Flower Count was proudly supported by Destination Greater Victoria, The Butchart Gardens, Gardens BC, Black Press, Used Victoria, Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce, CHEK, John Overall and Ocean 98.5

**Destination Greater Victoria** (Greater Victoria Visitors and Convention Bureau) is our region's official, not-for-profit destination marketing organization working in partnership with nearly 1,000 businesses and municipalities in Greater Victoria.

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