

Rebekah Msuya-Collison

From: Cathy Seip <cathyseip@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 09, 2018 2:19 PM
To: Dan Best; Councillor Oke; Councillor DeLuca; Councillor Tomes; Mayor Cole; Councillor Vaughan; Councillor Hebert; Deputy Mayor Frayne; Rebekah Msuya-Collison
Cc: Debbie M; Dorothy Henderson; Dave Atthill; Glen Nicholson; George Wilson; Beth Cooper
Subject: Dear Council
Attachments: image4.jpeg; ATT00001.txt; image3.jpeg; ATT00002.txt; image2.jpeg; ATT00003.txt; image5.jpeg; ATT00004.txt; image7.jpeg; image6.jpeg; image1.jpeg

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Dear Council

“Communities in Bloom is a non profit organization committed to fostering civic pride, environmental responsibility and beautification through community involvement and the challenge of a national program, with focus on the promotion and importance of green spaces in community settings.”

I implemented South Huron Communities in Bloom 10 years ago, with a great team of volunteers and council support. In the beginning we did a lot of great things with staff, Community groups and volunteers. (ie Town Office Gardens, helping with Thames Road Elimville Community Park, Exeter Public School) It was fun and rewarding and great to see more colourful gardens throughout the Municipality.

In the last few years the committee has struggled with council’s negativity and the cutbacks in green infrastructure. Today with my husband we added perennials to the gardens at the Town Hall. The newly planted commemorative garden, it is beautiful. Then I see around the garden, weeds, gravel no grass. The parking lot is full of winter gravel. I see dying shrubs and dead tulips. (Sending pictures) South Huron Communities in Bloom never intended on costing the Municipality more money! We were there in finding ways of keeping our Municipality looking colourful and green with no added expense. The plants that were added today were dug by our committee members from a person that was downsizing their garden. At the cemetery some perennials have been planted and donated by another South Huron resident downsizing their garden. We as a committee were always ready to help staff and to find volunteers to make South Huron Municipal gardens and asset with no or very little cost to the residents of South Huron.

After looking at the Town Office today I am disappointed! The National Judges will be arriving July 24th, one from the United States and the other from Newfoundland. For the last three years South Huron Communities in Bloom has won National recognition for the Municipality of South Huron.

We need your help in making this another successful year.

Cathy Seip
Chair of South Huron Communities in Bloom.