

2019 Information Package

# BC LANDSCAPE Awards of Excellence



## Why enter the BC Landscape Awards of Excellence?

The prestigious BC Landscape Awards of Excellence offer winners an unparalleled opportunity to be recognized by your peers, potential clients, and the media - and to give your team a well-deserved pat on the back. BCLNA guarantees coverage in its E-Newsletters with an open rate of over 45% - 3 x the industry average, and on its websites and works hard to promote winners through a variety of means including social media and press releases.

### IMPORTANT DATES

#### Entry Deadline

October 11, 2019 at 4 pm  
Send entries to **BCLNA**  
#102, 19289 Langley Bypass  
Surrey, BC V3S 6K1

#### Awards Ceremony

December 12, 2019  
Winners will be honored at the  
BCLNA Christmas Party.

Gold Sponsor:

**FINNING. CAT**

Bronze Sponsors:

**Art's Nursery Ltd.**

**Cedar Rim Nursery Ltd.**

**West Creek Farms**



## Entry checklist

Please submit all items below by 4pm on Friday, October 11, 2019

Send entries to #102, 19289 Langley Bypass, Surrey, BC V3S 6K1

Questions? Contact: Heather Petrie, hpetrie@bclna.com, 604.575.3500, ext. 112

**☐ Include the following electronic files:**

- Entry Form\*
- Co-Entrant Waiver\* and Client Consent\*
- Project Description\* for promotional purposes
- Company Biography\*
- Questionnaire\*. Answer questions as thoroughly as possible to tell the project's story
- Photo descriptions\*
- Digital Image resolution (jpg or tiff files only) should be no less than 300 dpi. Images should not be smaller than 1200 x 1200 pixels. Digital cameras must be set at a minimum of 3.2 megapixels for acceptable quality. Images must be numbered in sequence and identified as before and after.

**☐ Photos**

- Supply a maximum of 30 photos: minimum of 10 before photos, maximum of 20 after photos. Before and after's should be taken from the same vantage point
- A photo of the overall site must also be included for overall impression of your project

**☐ Landscape design labeled with corresponding photo numbers**

**☐ Payment via cheque, Visa or MasterCard.**

- BCLNA members: \$180 first entry; \$120 subsequent entries; co-entrants pay an additional \$50
- Non-members: \$450 first entry; \$180 subsequent entries; co-entrants pay an additional \$100

**\*Download application forms at [www.bclna.com](http://www.bclna.com).**

No handwritten entries please. Incomplete entries will be disqualified. Fillable forms available in PDF. If you have any technical problems with forms, please email hpetrie@bclna.com.

## Photography Tips

**The best photos get the most coverage!**



- Do not wet down stonework; this distorts the depth and darkens the photo.
- Snap shots during the first or last light of a sunny day, or when there are overcast skies.
- Take pictures from a variety of angles and points of interest (no plant close-ups).
- Sequence the photos as if you are walking through the landscape.
- Take before and after shots from approximately the same spot using the same scale (zoom).
- Ensure the site is free of debris, tools, hoses, and litter—but don't over-style the shot.
- Ensure all photos are taken at a minimum **300 dpi** (set to the "largest" photo on your digital camera).
- Consider a professional for the best chance of having your photo on a magazine cover!

## Photo requirements

Follow these important points to ensure judges see your awards entry in the best light.

1. Include an electronic copy of each photo. Digital Image resolution (jpg or tiff files only) should be no less than 300 dpi. Images should not be smaller than 1200 x 1200 pixels. Digital cameras must be set at a minimum of 3.2 megapixels for acceptable quality. Images must be numbered in sequence and identified as before and after.
2. Maintenance entries should submit photos from more than one season, as well as "before and after" of maintenance practices.
3. Do not include any photos that identify your company (recognizable staff, company logos or signage). Identifiable entries will be disqualified.



## Written requirements

Clear, concise descriptions help judges understand the challenges and successes of your project.

Download and complete the digital entry form at [www.bclna.com](http://www.bclna.com). No handwritten entries please. Ensure all sections are completed.

1. Entry form.
2. Client Consent & Co-Entrant Waiver Forms.
3. Project Description & Company Biography. These will be used for promotional purposes and press releases for winning projects. To help tell your story, be sure to highlight the most unique aspects and special achievements of your company, and the project.
4. Questionnaire. Your answers will help the judges better understand your project, and its challenges and successes.
5. Photo Descriptions. Provide a brief description (one or two sentences) of each photo; be sure to label the description with the corresponding photo file name.



# Rules of entry and judging for the BC Landscape Awards of Excellence

1. The BC Landscape Awards of Excellence is open to all landscape professionals operating in the province of British Columbia; entrants need not be BCLNA members.
2. Eligible projects are those where the major portion of work has been contracted, executed, and/or designed by the entrant. When the designer or the installer is not the entrant or co-entrant, the designer or installer must be clearly identified on the application form, and give permission for the project to be entered.
3. **Entries are not compared or evaluated against one another, but against criteria of excellence.** Judges score projects based on a points system. This allows diverse project types to be adjudicated on their own merits, and makes it possible to designate more than one Award of Excellence per category. An outline of the judging criteria is available upon request.
4. Installation projects must have been completed less than three years prior to the entry deadline.
5. Maintenance projects must be more than three years old, and must have been maintained by the entrant for a minimum of one year.
6. Projects receiving a previous award may not be entered again in the same category, except maintenance sites, which may be re-entered by a different contractor, providing that the contractor has maintained it for a minimum of three years.
7. Dollar values for entry categories must represent the total overall contract sale price of the completed project, not including applicable taxes.
8. All entries must be accompanied by a complete set of digital forms. Download digital forms at [www.bclna.com](http://www.bclna.com).
9. Your client must be notified of your entry into the competition and must provide a signature on the consent form.
10. Entries are evaluated by seven accredited judges that change yearly, and are chosen from various sectors of the horticulture industry including municipal & public gardens, nurseries, landscape trades, landscape architecture firms, educational institutions, garden communications, or garden centres.
11. Entrants are not eligible to be judges.
12. Judges award points for each criterion to a total of 100 points. Winners are those projects achieving an average score of 85% or better.
13. Judging criteria has been aligned with the National Awards of Landscape Excellence. The best BC projects submitted by BCLNA Members, will be submitted to the following year's National Awards of Landscape Excellence. Non-members are eligible to win a BC Landscape Award of Excellence, but these entries cannot be submitted to the National Awards.
14. Projects are presented to judges anonymously; the decision of the judges is final; decisions cannot be altered by staff, and cannot be appealed.
15. Projects from the same value category will be grouped together but will be provided "blind" to the judges (i.e. without actual dollar value).
16. Should the judges unanimously agree that a project is superior and worthy of outstanding mention, a Grand Award may be presented; multiple or no Grand Award winners may be named in a given year.
17. All photos and entry documents become the property of the BC Landscape & Nursery Association and may be used in publications or for other purposes as deemed appropriate by the BCLNA.

**Questions? Contact: Heather Petrie, [hpetrie@bclna.com](mailto:hpetrie@bclna.com), Direct line 604.575.3500, ext 112.**