

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Nova Scotia's Communities in Bloom receive top honours at awards ceremony**

**Halifax, NS** (September 23, 2008) – The Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia (TIANS) as the provincial coordinator of **Communities in Bloom**, congratulates the towns of Annapolis Royal and Antigonish for their recognition at the 2008 Communities in Bloom National Awards Ceremonies held in Lethbridge, Alberta. Hundreds of representatives from more than 80 Canadian communities were in attendance at the September 20 Awards Ceremony.

Annapolis Royal took International top honours in the Small Town category, competing against renowned international destinations. The Town of Antigonish was awarded top National honours in their population category of 3,001 to 5,000.

Other 2008 National finalists included: Halifax Regional Municipality, Amherst, New Glasgow, Baddeck and Pugwash. Maritime Forces Atlantic also received recognition for its landscaped entrance. Over 120 communities participated in the 2008 Communities in Bloom National program.

“These awards recognize the value of successful partnerships between community volunteers and community representatives which can result in the beautification of towns and villages across Nova Scotia,” says Danny Morton, TIANS Chair. “Participation in programs such as **Communities in Bloom** leads to increased civic pride which enhances the experience for residents and visitors alike.”

Communities in Bloom, ([www.communitiesinbloom.ca](http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca)) is a national volunteer-based, non-profit organization started in 1994. In Nova Scotia, TIANS acts as the Communities in Bloom provincial coordinator. TIANS mandate is to lead, support, represent and enhance Nova Scotia's tourism industry. As the provincial advocate for the Nova Scotia tourism industry, TIANS strives to enhance the industry's competitiveness and prosperity through increased professionalism and product development. In accomplishing this goal, TIANS works closely with many partners, regional and sector associations and all levels of government.

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