



3rd annual **Bring Your Bloomers** added colour to **Canada Day 2023**

Although some younger folks did not 'get' the meaning of 'bloomers', others brought their bloomers anyway! Once again, people of all ages, from three to 90 entered and voted for their favourite bloomers.

There were three categories: Live Plants, Live Floral Arrangements and Artificial Arrangements. And there were three age groups in each category: Under 12, 12 to 19 and 20 and older.

Thank you to the nearly 20 people who entered and the 100+ who voted. Prizes were based on popular vote of the public. Thank you to our prize donors: Anything Grows, Dairy Queen, Great Canadian Dollar Store, I-Scream Shack and NC Crossroads Lanes.

And thank you to our volunteer helpers: Molly Stapleton, Linda Biglow, Marlene Rudolph, Isobella St. Hillaire and Sandy Timmons.



Book your space for our annual Paint Lake bus trip! The event this year is Wednesday, August 30. Price will be \$15 per person. Book your seat by phoning or emailing the address on the back.

Accessible customer service makes summer inclusive

Whether it's a music festival or shopping, businesses or events need to follow the practices outlined in Manitoba's Accessible Customer Service Standard.

Under the Standard all Manitoba organizations with at least one employee must have policies and procedures that help achieve respectful, barrier-free customer service. This includes:

- meet communication needs of customers, clients or members
- allow assistive devices, such as wheelchairs, walkers and oxygen tanks

Thank you to those who volunteered at the Nickel Days Child Find booth. You helped unite 14 youngsters with their caregivers.

Lawns, bikes and games

The free **bike rides** provided to seniors and those with disabilities are once again in service. Our bike pilots will play a dual role helping seniors with **yard work** in the mornings and pilot the bikes in the afternoon. They will do light yard work only, but their services will be free to seniors.

Seniors Drop-ins and **pickleball** will continue at the TRCC throughout the summer.

Save the date. Friday, September 29. Special entertainment coming to Thompson!!!

- welcome support people
- welcome people with service animals
- ensure accessibility is maintained (ramps, wide aisles, removal of clutter)
- let customers know when accessible features and services are not available
- invite customers to provide feedback

Businesses must also train their staff on Accessible Customer Service. Large employers with 50 employees or more must document (in print) their customer service policy and notify their customers that this policy is available in accessible formats on request.

Learn more. Visit AccessibilityMB.ca.

Adapted from an article provided by the [Manitoba Accessibility Office](http://ManitobaAccessibilityOffice.ca).



Here is a picture of me with my garden. It is giving me much joy. Thank you for giving me this opportunity. — Verna Beardy

The real thanks goes to the Northern Manitoba Food Culture and Community Collaborative, North Forge, and the youth groups who built the boxes. And to our seniors who volunteered delivery: Ray Cheetham, Theo Kirkey, Greg Pelchat and Kate Roth.



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