

CSL aims for five-flower rating

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Isaac Olson, The Free Press

Côte St. Luc is looking to up its fourflower rating with the Les Fleurons du Québec program to five out of five and, to do that, officials say residents, landlords, institutions and business owners need to step up to the plate. Les Fleurons du Québec recognizes municipalities that improve their environment through horticultural beautification of areas in public view. In the past, Councillor Steven Ederlyi explained, the city has earned three flowers in a program that, every two years, looks at everything from landscaping and street signs to cleanliness and road conditions. The city, said Ederlyi, managed to garner four stars in 2011 with the community's help and now it's time to up the ante. Looking to 2013, the councillor said the city is encouraging residents, property owners, schools and businesses to ready for next year's judging so the city can be the only one in the province with a fiveflower rating. Getting the high rating, he said, will help the city attract more residents to the community and create a happier, more pleasant living environment. "We're hoping that is one of things that will attract new residents to move here," said Ederlyi. "We find it makes the city more beautiful ... We want residents to walk or drive throughout the city and behappy — to enjoy living in Côte St. Luc. We find the more beautiful the city looks, the happier people tend to be." The city has a "great" horticultural team in the Public Works department that plans out flower colour schemes, locations and landscaping throughout the city months in advance of every season. "The city plants roughly 120 different varieties of flowers and we spend about \$60,000 a year on flowers throughout the city," said Ederlyi, noting the city will be replacing signage as well as repairing roads and sidewalks. "We're hoping people start planting and planning now, so next year we can hit the level of five flowers." continued from CSL aims, p. 16 Dr. Marvin Steinberg has changed a lot of smiles in this office. Photo: Isaac Olson Councillor Erdelyi and city horticulturist René Lapointe show off a sign indicating the city's four-flower rating.