



ANNUAL REPORT

2016/17

POWERPOINT SECTIONS:

Purpose/info = Ellen
Engagement = Ellen
Workshops/Events = Mila
Infrastructure & Site = Steph & Vincent
Work parties = Ellen
Food production = Mila
Membership = Steph
Finances = Steph
SAGM Reflection = Mila
Future visioning = Ellen + Mila

The UVic Campus Community Garden (CCG) is an 90 plot allotment garden for students, staff and faculty members located on campus, outside of Ring Road, at 2100 McKenzie Ave. In 2008, the CCG was relocated from its original site in the Technology Enterprise Facility (TEF) parking lot, where it was first created in 1998. Since its relocation to the 1.58 acre garden site, the CCG has seen an incredible surge in engagement with new students, educational projects, and food growth on campus.

Ellen-

The purpose of the Campus Community Garden is to:

- a) enhance the built environment of the University of Victoria;
- b) provide allotment garden space for students and staff of the University of Victoria community
- c) increase opportunities for students to access food and the process of food production
- d) provide volunteer opportunities for members of the campus;
- e) provide an inclusive space for engagement, education and research on topics related to urban agriculture such as food security, permaculture, composting, organic gardening, native plant and perennial propagation, and healthy eating.

The garden is committed to promoting an accessible community space for educational, agricultural and cultural purposes.

Ellen-

Campus and community engagement

- Re-signed 5 year land agreement w/ campus planning & Sustainability
- Tabling in SUB periodically

- Pop-up markets during summer/fall
- Tabling at New Student's Welcome
- Tabling at Clubs and Course Unions day
- Tabling at UVSS Farmer's Market
- VIPIRG & CCG Campus Compost program
- Collaboration with Food Skills Connection (incl. Community Living Victoria, Shelbourne Kitchen, Uvic food initiatives)
- Collaboration with Lifecycles Project for workshops and tours
- Collaboration with Welcome gardens! (Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Center)

The pop-up markets have been successful in increasing visibility and presence on campus and the students have appreciated taking free veggies and chatting about where it comes from directly with the people involved. The Food Skills Connection has extended CCG's presence beyond the campus and has been a useful network to share resources and information around campus and surrounding area.

Mila-

Events and Workshops Overview

- Fall Harvest Party
- Staff greenhouse growing tour at Russell Nursery
- Solstice movie night and seed swap
- Gardening 101 workshop w/ compost ed. center
- Intro to composting w/compost ed. center
- Intro to soils workshop w/compost ed. center
- Wilderness awareness immersion workshop
- VEG talks community event w/edible campus
- Grafting workshop with Stephanie
- Pruning Workshop with Tobias Hewton
- Spring Social
- Small engine basics and mechanics Workshop with Aida
- Holistic Nutrition Workshop
- Farm tour; our-eco village, Alderlea Farm (biodynamic farming) and Blue Roots Farm (permaculture).
- Summer Solstice Potluck Party
- Plot renter tea party
- Put A Plant In It 2.0: Free Tour of Haliburton Farm (collaboration with Food skills connection)
- Can-O-Rama! Free Beginner Canning Workshop (Collaboration with Food Skills Connection)
- Introduction to Beekeeping w/resident beekeeper Barry
- Weekly work parties
- Summer Pop-up markets @ Petch Fountain every ~ 3 weeks
- September: Intro to seed saving w/Matthew Kemshaw from Lifecycles
- Fall harvest party

The garden parties have been very well attended and has increased a sense of community at the garden as well as serving as an introduction and welcome to new students and thank you for

volunteers. Some of the popular workshops were Gardening 101, Nutrition, Farm Crawl, Beekeeping and Intro to Native Plants. The high interest in beekeeping and native plants should be noted for future projects and events. Overall students have shown high interest in workshops and events.

Stephanie & Vincent-

Infrastructure & Site

- Accessibility pathway built, coordinated by Mila, as a Workstudy project
- Accessibility raised bed built by Thomas Cinnamon
- 3 Edible trees planted outside fence w/ES 429 (urban ethnoecology)
- Second glass greenhouse built for food bank growing
- Installed grey water system w/ES 429 (urban ethnoecology)
- VIPIRG Collaboration; built 3 new compost bins
- Port-a-potty rental on site from May-Oct
- Established 4 new communal plot sites with signs
- Built new sink attached to tool shed
- Ordered an information/welcome sign (multi-lingual)
- Moved excess wood materials to hedge row along north side to tidy up visible areas
- Added a new bed in the empty triangle spaces along the south side
- Removed & recycled the bottles from bottle greenhouse
- Facilities installed three new hose bibs, one next to the tool shed to accommodate the new sink's water access, one near the plot renter greenhouse, and the third by the herb spiral/2nd greenhouse
- Installed arch over pathway
- Bought new picnic tables (after others were stolen)
- Created four new communal plots with info signs

Ellen-

WORK PARTIES

From September-April, work parties were held every Friday from 3-5:30pm. From May-August, work parties were held every Thursday from 5:30-7:30 and Wednesday from 3-5:30. At the beginning of September work parties are held Thursdays from 5:30-7 and Fridays from 3-5pm. Work parties vary week by week, consisting mainly of working in the communal growing areas and small building projects. However, in the summer there was a more consistent volunteer base for the Thursday evening work parties. Towards the end of the summer there were multiple days with either one or no volunteers for Wednesday workshops.

From Jan 2017- Sept 2017 there were a total of 178 volunteers (some are returning volunteers), and approximately 94 hours were unpaid volunteer work at the garden.

There was consistently a great turn-out of volunteers throughout the year, with the greatest numbers at the beginning of each semester and the lowest during exam periods at the end of a semester. During the summer there was a number of exchange students, who found the garden as a space to build community, and had the most consistent volunteer base. Snacks and produce were bought and harvested from the communal giving gardens for work party volunteers.

The majority of volunteers heard about the work parties from the sidewalk sandwich board.

Mila-

FOOD PRODUCTION

Increasing students opportunities to access local food as well as increase their awareness of the process behind food production is one of our priorities. From January 13th 2017- September 15th 2017 ~**346 lbs** of produce has been distributed to students through the UVSS food bank, work party volunteers recognition, and via the pop-up free markets.

There was a large harvest of raspberries, gumi berries, gooseberries, blackberries from the fence line and permaculture area. Blueberries and strawberries did not produce well this year partially due to being transplanted in the fall. In the communal beds we had a large harvest of kale, chard, carrots, turnips, salad greens, peas, radishes, beans, tomatoes, potatoes and a smaller harvest of onions, leeks, parsnips, and spinach. Brassicas did not do well this year. We also harvested and dried herb incl. mint, chamomile, calendula, lavender, oregano, thyme, rosemary, yarrow and gave them away in tea bags during club days. The greenhouse produced a good volume of basil and tomatoes although they were not as big as the tomatoes planted outside. Eggplants and peppers did not produce at all this year. Medicinal plants were planted in the herb spiral and in the permaculture area and are expected to come back next year for harvesting.

Stephanie-

MEMBERSHIP

In 2016/17, we had 16 new plot rentals out of our 90 allotment plots. There was a lot of turnover this year, primarily in the early spring months. Waitlist stayed around the same wait time (6 months-1 year). Student response to being contacted to rent a plot was about 2 out of 10 people contacted.

Student groups that gardened with us this year included Sustainability Project UVSP, Environmental Restoration Club, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Centre 4 Daycare, and Daycare 1. We lost a lot of our student groups from the years before, and would encourage opening a space to new groups.

Four underutilized/abandoned plots were transformed into communally operated plots for volunteers, waitlisted members, and those who have restricted access to growing space in the community. The idea behind this was two fold; in part to provide a growing space in an area that wasn't being used by its current owners, which reduces the amount of abandoned plots on site. But the main idea was focused on creating positive avenues to prevent theft on site, by making a clear and open sign that highlights the gardens open to anyone for harvest.

Stephanie-
FINANCES

Income	60,400
Balance from previous year	36,981
Staff Salary (Coordinator, Assistant, Site Officer, Workstudy top-up)	25,461
Admin (MSP, Rent, food discount, office supplies, misc)	5,425
Events and Outreach (workshops, events, workparty food etc)	4,361
Site (infrastructure, tools, plants, seeds, compost, straw bales, greenhouse, misc)	12,610
TOTAL EXPENSES	47,857
END OF YEAR BALANCE	49,524

Changes to budget:

This past summer, we introduced the second Assistant Coordinator position. This position began in June. The rate of pay is **\$16.01/hr + 7.6%** (for EI & CPP & WCB) @ **15 hrs/week**, and the total additional cost to the budget is **\$13,436.87**.

Major expenses:

A second new glass greenhouse was our largest infrastructure cost of **\$5,500** and the metal greenhouse shelves were **\$1,800** (not including additional labour or other material costs).

Sources of income:

Currently the garden receives **\$1.50 per full time student**, and **\$0.75 per part time student** from their UVSS fees. This gives the Campus Community Garden its main source of revenue at approximately \$60,000 per year.

Plot renters will continue to pay a \$30.00 membership fee to rent a garden plot or \$15 for half a plot, and pay for subsidized site materials for their individual plots (e.g. compost and straw bales @ \$5-10/wheelbarrow).

Plot renters helped with cost recovery from subsidized materials delivered to the site such as sea soil, compost and straw bales. This is categorized under miscellaneous income for 2016/17, which was about \$1000.

Mila-

Reflection from April SAGM VISIONING

- Garden Sink redone ✓
- Get a Port-a-potty ✓
- Revitalize Native Plants garden ✓
- Address drainage/flooding ✓
- Cob Bench ✓
- More perennials ✓
- Educational engagement ✓
- More workparty engagement
- Plot renter engagement ×
- Subsidize seeds for plot renters ×
- Sublet plots for summer ✓
- More sitting areas and benches ×

Ellen & Mila- VISIONING FOR 2017-2018

- Training on Board governance structure and review governance roles
- Educational Sign Project
- Develop volunteer program/ increase academic credibility
- Develop a 5 year Strategic Plan (addressing current surplus, future staffing, site projects, campus/community engagement, theft, etc)
- Develop a more formal program for Plot Renter engagement
- Plant nursery - support edible campus initiatives, restoration
- Seed saving and swap/share project
- Increase native plants, flowers, berry bushes and expand Permaculture area
- Create a proposal/report for Communal Plots project
- Compost program with workstudy, VIPIRG, and CCG volunteers
- Farm stand - improve ways to distribute food on campus, way to mitigate theft

OTHER REFLECTIONS

This summer, we created a second Assistant coordinator position at the garden. The position began in June and is an ongoing position. This gave us extra help in September during a busy month of staff hiring and student engagement, and provided significant help in the summer months when staff were away. This position is responsible for sharing tasks with the other Assistant Coordinator, such as aiding the coordinator, primarily focusing on volunteer/plot renter engagement, workparty/workshop & event coordinating and the site maintenance.

STAFF

Coordinator: Stephanie Enevoldsen 2016/17 (re-hired for 2 year term starting Sep. 2017-19)

Work study: Piri Ravindiran (Oct-May), hiring a new position (Early October)

2 Assistant Coordinators: Ellen Wilker (Term ending December), Piri Ravindiran (late May-ongoing)

Site Officer: Vincent Burkholder (May-Sept, outgoing)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

General Members: Devon Goldie, Vincent Burkholder, Piri Ravindiran, Ellen Wilker

Associate Members: Larry Kimmett, Pouya Amid?, Marius Miklea, Sarah Thornton