

Maple Community Garden Mail

Organic Urban Gardening

Kudos

To Section 6 - all of its members, old and new - for overcoming hurdles and successfully completing their rebuild while growing stronger with open hearts and minds.

The way these gardeners came together fostered real closeness in our community garden and are an inspiration to all of us. Thank you all for your contributions.

Note that they will be making a dump run this week, and have kindly offered to take something from another section if there is a need.

Community Pride

Our garden was cited in the last Arbutus Greenway newsletter thanking us for keeping the block trash free. Thank you to all our gardeners who make it a point to pick up refuse whenever they see it.

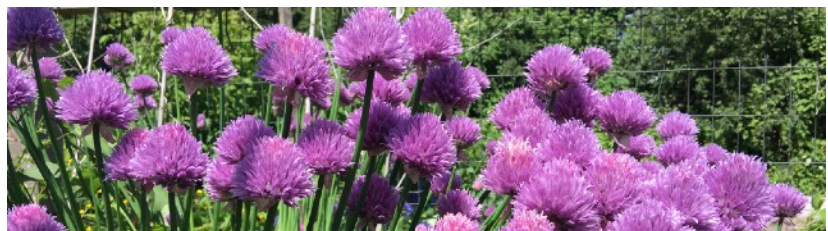
Did you know that one discarded cigarette butt can contaminate 7.5 litres of water? Causes scoliosis in fish? That they are the single largest component of plastic pollution in our oceans? Picking up even one makes a difference.



From your Executive

Green and floral greetings to all of you beautiful gardeners. May has been a spectacular month in the garden and after the last work party, it looks astoundingly beautiful. Thanks to all who came out to help, and thankful for rain too!

What remains of your Exec is pained to say that we are now in crisis mode. After months of promising to get on it, Krista announced that she is not willing to be our Secretary, leaving Carol to continue to help us and ultimately seeing Eddie take on more of this role. Those of you who were at the Spring AGM - and those who weren't but read the minutes - might recall that Eddie stated that your exec would not continue in the absence of a secretary. Now, confronted with this reality, a decision has been taken to reduce any action by your Executive to an absolute minimum until the role is filled. Frankly, this feels like such a blow that much of your Exec is ready to resign.



In Carol's words, the position of secretary is very basic and for most of the year simply requires checking email regularly. Eddie adds that it also involves liaising with the chair - via email, text or phone - on a somewhat regular basis with the goal of expediting small needs and lightening the load for rest of your Exec.

WHO will step up? Carol has been trying to move on for a year now, and it is NOT fair to her. We have asked multiple times in writing and in person. Is there really no-one who can dedicate an hour or two a week to our common cause? Your chair gets it - he does not want to spend anymore time in front of a computer either, but here he is, doing multiple roles, thankfully still with Carol's help. If you as a community member want to see our garden move forward, then please join us on your Exec. Believe it or not, working together is quite rewarding, and the few times we do get together in person we always make a point of making it enjoyable; but if we can't get anyone on board, we are ready to give up. Eddie would be happy to step down as chair and take the secretary role on if someone thinks that being chair is preferable / easier.

We've still much to be thankful for of course, and are excited to announce that Kate has organized a dedication of the beautiful bench she and Andrew built in Marg's memory. "A Song for Margaret and the Garden" will be held on June 2nd @ 13:00. Music will be provided by willyblizzard. Mark the date; even if you didn't know her, come celebrate Marg's contributions that helped make our community possible.

Please note: We've had comments about buttercup going crazy along the fence line. If this is you - or your section - please get at it!

Finally, our upcoming work parties are June 8th from 10:00 - 12:00 and then June 24th starting with a potluck @ 18:00 followed by gardening from 19:00 - 21:00. A special shout out will be made to the best dish from garden ingredients. Hope to see you there.

Much peace from your Maple Community Garden Exec



Drought is coming...

The watering schedule for summer volunteers is up on the website, and thanks to Karen C. there's a hard copy posted in communal A/B. Somewhat depressingly, only three weeks have been called for to date. Our communal gardens are more than a source of pride, they are a big part of our contribution to the greater community. Please commit to giving them some love.



Evolving Lives...

Committed gardener Diane in section 6 knows a senior couple in the neighbourhood with mobility issues; they can't take care of their garden any longer and are looking for someone to share their space with them. If you'd like more space or know someone who's looking for a different gardening opportunity, let her or your exec know.