

Maple Community Garden Mail

Organic Urban Gardening

Kudos

To Janet who after meeting with your Chair, finalized documents and officially retired as Work Party Coordinator. Harnessing her dedication to our community, gardening and communication skills, she established a work party protocol that will guide us through many future seasons. Thank you Janet. As to date, no one has stepped up to fill her role it will now fall back on your Exec to take this on.



Garden Meals

With the possible exception of broad beans, the planting chartist's "done" for the season. Your beds should be cleaned up and ready for winter. That said, there is still a lot of great eating to be had, especially tasty greens, both for cooking and salads.

These days, your chair has been making kale chips for guests to snack on. Clean, lightly oil, a couple drops of balsamic, spread on a tray and broil until just starting to burn. Toss with yeast, and pepper. The whole process takes 15 minutes.



From your Executive

Greetings dear community gardeners, and happy November to all. Torrential downpours aside, North Wind brings sunshine! Our beautiful gardens are so appreciated by diverse people daily. Our common gardens are such a unique and beautiful gift to the greater community; it's joyous to witness people there. We are thankful to have this block of unceded Coast Salish land to care for, thankful as well to have our city's support in doing so.

Our latest update from the Arbutus Greenway Team at city hall stated that "the three community gardens along 6th Ave, Maple, Cypress, and Pine Street, will not be relocated until the next capital plan. The current capital plan is for 2019-2023. We will notify you whether or not the next capital plan (2023-2027) will include the portion of the greenway along 6th Ave, when the time comes. The Arbutus Greenway Team will stay true to what was discussed during the meeting held last year (2018). The contribution of the community gardens is highly valued by the City of Vancouver; The community gardens will continue to be



an important element in the future Arbutus Greenway. The greenway design will look to ensure that there will be no net loss of area to the gardens along the length of the Arbutus Corridor.” In a nutshell, reassuring and inspirational!

As per the fall AGM commitments, your Vice-Chair is working to find creative ways to fund new projects and streamline accounting. Thanks to her collaboration with your Treasurer, we are pleased to announce that Maple Community Garden can now accept donations via direct deposit by email sent to:

treasurer@maplecommunitygarden.ca. While currently only our gardeners with disabilities may choose to use this option to pay annual dues, this may be an option in the future for the general membership if it proves to be easy enough to manage between the Treasurer and Membership.

Finally, your Treasurer went to the BC Garden Club AGM (since no one else expressed the desire to go). The day was packed with presentations and workshops (and tons of food!), including one about the Japanese beetle that really “hit home” as its presence has been recorded mostly in False Creek, so close to our area - the measures to prevent its further propagation seem to have been pretty efficient so we are “safe” for now. The highlight was the one on gardening and climate change. While interesting, it applied to horticulture in general more than simply on gardening so the conclusions that apply to us are pretty straightforward: there will be more droughts, so favour plants that require little water - irises and succulents were mentioned; bulbs (daffodils and tulips) are also a good option since they blossom in the spring when there is (normally) enough rain. Plant things that provide food and flowers so that our pollinators can benefit - chives were mentioned as well.

When started, gardens like ours were a radical statement that we can create a better world together. In this time of climate crisis, may we hold this in our hearts, be humble and carry on.

your Maple Community Garden Exec.



Always more to do

While our last work party of the year has passed, our gardens are still changing. Rosemary has been working diligently to keep the commons tidy of falling leaves etc. and asks for help with this task. For her part, Karmina filled a bag with trash last week. We humbly ask that all gardeners make an effort to keep our commons safe, clean and beautiful in every season.



Jean's Garden

Surprisingly, we had no response for a new caretaker for the communal “Jean’s Garden.” It doesn’t need to be one person; a small group would make it easier and more fun at the same time. Please contact us and we will happily get you going.