

GREENEST CITY FUND



2015 Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants Recipients

The Greenest City Fund is a four-year, \$2 million fund by the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation that supports community-led green projects to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020. The following grants were awarded in 2015.

CEDAR COTTAGE, HASTINGS-SUNRISE, AND RENFREW COMMUNITIES

Can We Can It? (\$700)

Fresh vegetables from the community garden at Vancouver Technical Secondary and the mini green houses at Frog Hollow were used to learn about the process of canning, cheese making, and food preservation/sustainability.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

What Weight? (\$350)

The grant was used to purchase a commercial scale and recording chart to measure the amount of produce harvested per plot at a community garden. This approach helped the gardeners to quantify the amount of produce so that they can measure which gardening practices produced the greatest yields. They will be using the equipment to have a year by year comparison to determine which garden beds produce the most.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Repair Matters (\$600)

Repair Matters (repairmatters.ca) was a project focused on empowering and growing the repair community in the Cedar-Cottage, Hastings-Sunrise, Renfrew neighbourhood. Monthly events were hosted at various venues in the neighbourhood where residents are encouraged to bring their broken objects (at a size and weight that can be carried) and learn about repairs. People who have knowledge about fixing anything from toasters, to socks, to bikes were invited to participate in the events. The event became the space to connect beginners, intermediates, and experts with each other through the act of repair. The project raised awareness about the importance of repairing and inspired people to consider repair as an option the next time something breaks.

Greenest City Targets: Zero waste; Reducing ecological footprint

Gardening for Pollinators (\$150)

A workshop was held to bring awareness to the importance of pollinators. The topics included growing a diversity of plants; making room for native plants which has evolved with the native bee population; eliminating the use of pesticides; leaving spots undisturbed for beneficial insects to nest; and the importance of pollinators in growing food.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Access to green spaces

Neighbourhood Food and Medicine Patch (\$550)

The project converted the boulevard between the fence and sidewalk by one of the applicants' apartments into a neighbourhood food and medicine patch. In conjunction with the garden, the grantees grew fungi that have mutually beneficial relationships with soil and plants. The project was successful in creating a space that is visible and accessible to the community and inspires people to stop and talk with neighbours, help themselves to berries, herbs, and veggies, and share knowledge around food and medicine plants. All of the plants would have signage with identification and known benefits.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improving access to nature

Forager's Feast (\$500)

The Forager's Feast is an event to celebrate the seasons and the abundance of the natural world, and to bring together the community of foragers, herbalists, botanists, arborists, gardeners, and other plant lovers who live, play, and work in Vancouver. Event attendees brought a dish prepared with at least one locally foraged ingredient. The evening included interactive activities to build relationships and introduce neighbours through connecting with nature, skill sharing with presentations by elders and youth, arts-based engagement and entertainment, and resource sharing with community groups and participatory stations.

Greenest City Targets: Improving access to nature; Growing and eating local food; Reducing ecological footprint

We Love Weeds Workshop (\$450)

This was a 1.5 hour workshop to educate people about the uses and benefits of weeds - as a nutritious food, medicine, in teas etc. It included a presentation by a long time professional and hobby organic gardener and herbal student on why it is important to respect and use our "weeds", a lesson in plant ID, harvest and usage as well as plant walk where participants identified and discussed the various weed they encountered.

Greenest City targets: Growing and eating local food; Increase access to nature

Up! Elgin Street Community Garden Accessibility Project (\$600)

The Up! Elgin Street Community Garden used grant funds to purchase high tables and more garden benches to enable wheelchair bound gardeners to use the table and encourage people to spend more time relaxing and meeting in the garden space.

Greenest City targets: Growing and eating local food

Micro Community Garden and Compost - Making Community in Small Places (\$825)

A micro community garden with 4 garden beds and two compost bins was created for apartment dwellers near Grandview Woodland. A workshop was also hosted on proper use of compost.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Creating zero waste

It's Harvest Time! (\$300)

The Garibaldi Garden Club kids did research and created signs mounted close to all the fruit trees, berry bushes and other crops in their school's garden. These signs explained how and when to harvest the edibles.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Breathing clean air; Access to nature

Cedar Cottage Greenway (\$500)

Cedar Cottage Greenway is the size of a standard city lot connecting East 19th Avenue to Fleming Street. It is a walkway and a garden built and maintained by neighbours. Through the grant, the wooden trellis and arch over the walkway were repaired. They also hosted children's activities and family-friendly events, such as the ever-popular scavenger hunt. They did plant identification focusing on the edible plants in the greenway, particularly the herb garden. They ended the season with a fall harvest community dinner in October.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improving access to nature

Let's Grow Together! (\$800)

A new permanent community garden was established on the grounds of St. David's Anglican Church located at 2475 Franklin Street. Children, youth, adults and seniors were involved in growing beautiful and edible plants. The raised beds were helpful for seniors' access. The grounds supported 20+ garden beds.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improving access to nature

Educational Community Board (\$375)

A community educational board was built to provide information for anyone who walks through or spends time in the community garden by 11th Avenue between Victoria and Semlin. The sign board has and has change-able displays. Topics on the board included education about bees, about pollinator and indigenous plants, about which produce is in season and ideas for cooking, and also to advertise the offering of workshops.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improving access to nature

Community Upcyclers (\$375)

Three free Community Upcyclers events were held over the month of August. These events were for community members to share their passion for the ethical repurposing of craft, art, and design with their community. Participants were encouraged to bring an art project they were working on or to choose to participate in a skill-sharing project and free mini-tutorials to get their creativity flowing. All crafting projects had upcycling focus based on found, donated, repurposed art supplies.

Greenest City targets: Creating zero waste; Reducing ecological footprint

Cedar Flow Pond (\$600)

A small pond of about two cubic metres, with an attached regenerative pond of equal or greater size was built. The regenerative pond works with non-invasive filtration species (fish, frogs, bottom-feeders, algae). A solar-powered mini-pump was also purchased to cycle the water. This demonstration pond is used to teach people about how natural water filtration works.

Greenest City Targets: Conserving drinking water; Reducing ecological footprint

East Vancouver Apple Press Fest (\$650)

The East Vancouver Apple Press Fest is an annual celebration of BC's local apple

harvest and the community spirit of processing foods for storage and enjoyment through the winter. The Press Fest started with a truckload of apples and a park full of equipment. As the day progressed, participants pitched in at a number of stations to wash, prepare, crush, and press the apples into fresh sweet cider. From there, the cider was boiled and served like hot chocolate. Participants who pitched in to help make cider lined up and filled a jar with cider to take home. Many neighbourhood residents, as well as people from across the city, came to spend the day visiting with one-another and trying their hand at the presses. In addition, there were activities like an apple home-run derby and old-time games like corn-hole and juggling. Fresh Roots Urban Farm Society (FRUFS) provided utilities to support the event.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Streets for Everyone (\$1000)

Streets for Everyone is a volunteer-driven community organization dedicated to building support for vibrant streets that are designed for all people. The members successfully advocated for improvements that make streets better public spaces enabling all types of people to choose sustainable transportation options. They've done outreach through handing out stickers and lemonade on the bike paths to hosting public discussions with other community groups such as GWAC and Kickstand, to hosting community potlucks and building a big street model at Car Free Day. After doing months of outreach with the business and resident community, they put together a proposal for Commercial Drive that, once implemented, will make it a street that works for everyone in the community.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

Kibee Apiary & Food Security Project (KAFF) (\$600)

In compliance & harmony with Vancouver Board of Parks & Recreation community gardens policy, a City owned former garden space/road allowance at the N/W end of Cambridge St. @ Wall St. was revitalized through establishing two colonies of honey bees in a newly constructed apiary area; new raised beds for both food and pollinator crops were constructed; new community "open" compost bins were installed; a community tool crib/bench/small shed for tools was also built at the site.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improving access to nature; Creating zero waste

DOWNTOWN PENINSULA COMMUNITY

Accessible Seniors Home Gardening Project (\$1000)

Five raised boxes for gardening were constructed in the back yard of the Pendrillis, a 13 story seniors housing building. Seniors and people with disabilities were able to produce their own vegetables.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Green buildings

Stanley Park Lawn Bowling Club - Making Businesses Greener (\$1000)

This project revitalized the neglected overgrown gardens at the Stanley Park Lawn Bowling Club (SPLBC). This project was used to showcase opportunities available for businesses to include a greening component in their business plan. A beautifying landscaping project was carried out at the Beach Avenue entrance. A productive food growing garden was developed to be shared with members and community. Flowers were also planted to attract and support pollinating insects.

Greenest City Targets: Developing green practices for businesses; Growing and eating local food; Improving access to green spaces

Comox and Jervis Traffic Circle (\$950)

A small picket fence was built and painted by neighbours surrounding the flowers by the traffic circle between Comox Street and Jervis Street.

Greenest City Targets: Improving access to green spaces

Vancouver Fix-It Collective (\$875)

Inspired by Repair Café and West Seattle Fixers Collectives, the Vancouver Fix-It Collective is a space that brought neighbours together to share their skills and fix their broken items.

Greenest City Targets: zero waste; reduction of ecological footprint

Expanded Recycling (\$400)

An expanded recycling program that accepts all manner of small and medium appliances, mixed material items, light bulbs, styrofoam products, and soft plastic was introduced this year at Panorama place, a high rise building in the West End by the help of a resident led Green Team.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Green buildings

Granville House Food Box project (\$1000)

Residents of Granville House bought seeds and gave them to farmer Jaz Singh at God's Little Acre Farm in South Surrey and they also had a chance to visit the farm and volunteer to plant, weed and harvest the food.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Cigarette Butt Video (\$1000)

Public awareness video was created to teach about cigarette butt waste management.

Greenest City Targets: zero waste; developing green practices for businesses

Boulevard Garden (\$500)

A boulevard garden space was created on Comox Street on the block between Bute and Jervis Streets. The garden plot has a 15cm raised bed 2 feet wide by 8 feet long, between newly planted tree saplings. Blueberry bushes and wildflowers were planted.

Greenest City Targets: Increasing access to green spaces

Urban Bike Clinic (\$900)

An "Urban Bike Clinic" was hosted where participants got their bikes checked and tuned up, along with learning some basic skills on bike maintenance. Information on bike safety and etiquette, as well as maps of bike paths in the area was distributed. A bike obstacle course was organized for young children.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

Lord Roberts School Garden (\$600)

The funds were used to buy seeds and soil for the nine existing plots for the school children to garden and to learn about ecological and plant growth cycles. Further, this space allowed children who live in high-rise buildings nearby to get into the dirt. Throughout the summer, the garden gate was open to allow neighbourhood children to plant, weed, and water and harvest vegetables.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Community Bike Maintenance and Repair Center (\$1000)

A free bike maintenance and repair centre was created for a strata with close to 1,000 occupants to allow residents to completely tear down, repair and maintain

most makes and models of bicycles. They ran free workshops to teach residents how to do basic maintenance or more if they have the inclination to learn to do it.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

United for Organics Co-op (\$1000)

UFO is a volunteer run, non-profit organic food co-op which enables individuals to purchase locally grown organic food at an affordable price. They gather every second Tuesday to receive their deliveries and distribute the produce. Bi-monthly meetings are enhanced with seasonal pot-lucks and other events that foster friendships and a deep sense of community through sharing a common purpose. The grant was used to maintain their operation and reach out to new members by adding an extra market day on the weekends.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Let's Breath Clean Air (\$700)

Iranian seniors watched environmental documentaries with interpretations in Farsi on every day environmental actions that they can take such as the differences between plastic bags versus degradable ones or the benefit of water bottles.

Greenest City Targets: Zero Waste; Breathing clean air

Seed Bank and Vegetable Seedlings (\$450)

The grant was used to restock the seed bank with seeds at the Mole Hill Community Garden so any gardener can access them.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Rooftop Community Vegetable Planters (\$660)

The funding was used to build cedar planters on an apartment rooftop for the purpose of growing vegetables. This project provided additional green space making the space inviting for all residents to enjoy and an opportunity to work as a team and learn gardening skills.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Green buildings

Trees, Water and Drainage (\$700)

Seniors watched documentaries on how trees function and how chemical drainage affects drinking water. In addition, seniors learned how they can grow plants in their homes. These documentaries have Farsi subtitle and are intended to help Iranian seniors to have a better understanding of their environment.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Aquarius Recycling Valet (\$1000)

Environment Aquarius is a 480-family strata in Yaletown with multi-family residences. Since 2013 they've had an internal organics collection program, with voluntary compliance of 20-30% of residents. Although organics separation is now mandatory, many residents still throw organic waste into the garbage. Through this project, the grant recipients started to pick organic waste from those who can't do it themselves and separate it properly. Residents who chose this alternative were expected only to separate organics from other waste, and pay a modest fee to cover staff costs. The grant was used to buy rolling carts and bins, which staff takes from floor to floor; kitchen catchers, recycling bags, gloves for staff, bin cleaning supplies. They also started a Welcome Wagon- type program using resident volunteers, to orient new families when they move into the complex.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Green buildings

100% Free Kid's Clothing Swap (\$625)

Families with children under 12 brought gently used clothing and kid/baby items to volunteers who sorted the items into a "free store" at the Gordon NH main gathering area. That afternoon the families came and took what they needed. The items got re-used instead of heading to a landfill, and families breathed new life into the items to save themselves money and reduce their carbon footprint, and people got a chance to connect. The leftover clothing was donated to The Attic.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Reducing ecological carbon footprint

Gardeners' Networking Event (\$400)

The West End has four community gardens within four square blocks. It also hosts urban farms and native plant gardens. Despite having a lot in common and being in such close proximity, the gardening communities don't communicate. A harvest party was put together to bring all West End gardeners and explore ideas, share gardening knowledge, tips, plans, and harvests, and create strong friendships and alliances. The event took place near the end of the harvest season (September) so gardeners were able to harvest the bounties of their gardens and share them with each other.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Mycelium Oil Cleanup Collective (\$1000)

The Mycelium Oil Cleanup Collective is a community of people in the west end who started to cultivate and grow Oyster Mushrooms for Mycoremediation, in order to help restore the environment after the oil spill incident in English Bay, while connecting more in the community. Oyster Mushrooms have been proven to purify air, filter water, and even break down oil into organic molecules. A biweekly meeting up was held to plant mushrooms and have potlucks. Expert mycologists provided advice on the project in forms of workshops.

Greenest City Targets: Breathing clean air

Garden-Easy (\$655)

The Performing Arts Lodges located on Cardero Street provides a safe, affordable home for a vibrant community of creative professionals who work or have worked in the performing arts. The grant funds were used to replace aging gardening tools to be used on the rooftop garden.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improve access to green spaces

SOUTH VANCOUVER AND COLLINGWOOD COMMUNITIES

BioWaffle (\$560)

High school age youth hosted a zero-waste brunch for South Vancouver residents to promote sustainable and informed consumption and disposal of waste. Local and organic ingredients were used to create the brunch menu. Educational games such as: Pin the Leaf on the Tree, Water Taste Testing, Air Bobbing for Mandarins, Sustainability Trivia Board, Three-Bin Sorting Game, Guess the Bottle Caps in the Bag, and a General Raffle were held.

Greenest City Targets: Reducing ecological footprint; zero waste

Cambie Park -Water Conservation Shed Completion (\$1000)

Cambie Park has a new community garden- built October 2013. A water conservation shed that has interior shelving, hooks, tools, racks was built. The work was done by the wonderful team of gardeners in a communal work party.

Greenest City Targets: Water conservation; Growing and eating local food

Green Cooperative Living (\$600)

A weekend of "green living" workshops were held for neighbours and co-op members on canning/preserving, composting, and native plants. Guest speakers from local garden centres and homesteaders were invited to lead the workshops.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Reducing ecological footprint

South Vancouver Little Free Library (\$500)

A neighbourhood book exchange box was built on the site of the Vancouver Family Place Society. This site is close to Bobolink parks and David Oppenheimer elementary school which are used by sporting teams, school children, and family outings year round and gets heavy foot traffic. The box is used for recycling books amongst neighbours.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Reducing ecological footprint

Garden Gurus (\$500)

Windermere students held 10 session workshops to gain valuable basic horticultural skills. The skill building happened through lectures, activities, discussions and hands-on learning in the school garden and orchard.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Butterfly Fun (\$350)

The teachers and students at the Collingwood Education Program, a self-paced high school housed in the Collingwood Neighbourhood House, raised butterflies. Students studied the life cycle of the butterfly and made a display to help raise awareness and understanding of the important role pollination plays in creating clean air and food security. This study included identifying important plants for butterflies and the impact of pesticides. Along with signs that would describe the butterfly's life cycle and habitat, an exhibit of live butterflies is housed at the Collingwood Neighbourhood House.

Greenest City Targets: Breathing clean air

Bobolink Rides! (\$350)

Neighbours did a "bike and trike" parade around Bobolink Park and provided information about bike maintenance to park visitors.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

Parent and Child Birdhouse building workshops (\$1000)

Two birdhouse making workshops were held so families can learn the aspects of woodworking and decorating. Participants also learned about habitat requirements and preferences of some local bird species. The workshops were 3 hours long, with one hour devoted to education about B.C. birds, their habitat needs and threats.

Greenest City Targets: Access to nature

Fraserview Community BBQ (\$580)

A barbeque event that incorporated green principles was held for the community. Finger foods were provided that didn't require plates or cups. Many families brought picnic meals with them in case the food ran out. The games all involved materials that were borrowed, and a clean-up crew of 12 volunteers made sure all the pieces of balloon were picked up after the Balloon Toss event and recycling and compost bins were also provided.

Greenest City targets: Creating zero waste

Kid's Local Food Farm-to-Table Event (\$455)

An event was held to teach children about what grows locally in BC, what's involved in bringing it to market, and what it takes to produce a simple meal. The event was held at the local organic farmer's market to have children talk directly to the farmers about what they grow and what's involved in producing certified organic food. The children purchased from the farmers the ingredients they need to cook a soup. The meal was prepared in a commercial kitchen adjacent to the market (at the Unitarian Church of Vancouver). The kids shared the meal with customers at the farmers' market and talked with them about what they have learned. The children were supervised by an experienced cooking instructor from the Intergenerational Landed Learning Project at UBC Farm.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Tivoli Gardens Community BBQ Block Party (\$398)

A community BBQ and block party was held for the lower income housing complex of Tivoli Gardens. This block party brought members of the housing site to come together and get to know one another better. Local bbq'd meat and vegetables and strictly vegetarian options were served. An info session about the community garden will also be provided including a short return appearance by Oprah the chicken.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

De Cosmos Community Garden (\$400)

The De Cosmos Garden is situated in a popular play area for the community's children and received considerable attention from them. This year, the gardeners expanded it to include two low beds so the children may plant their own pumpkins for Halloween. The funding was used to buy soil and lumber to build the new garden beds, and a large pot for the raspberries. Signs inviting community members to take produce from the boxes were also made by children.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Growing Together - A community festival for enjoying organic food and living sustainably (\$400)

A workshop on the benefits of growing organic food indoors and outdoors was held for neighbours and they were introduced to local community resources (community centre/library) and organizations (e.g. Village Vancouver) who can help them. A hands-on gardening component was included where neighbour gardeners shared best practices and testimonies of how they got started. Attendees enjoyed an organic lunch.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Container Gardening in Repurposed Containers (\$240)

A workshop was held for Killarney Gardens Housing Coop residents to teach them about gardening by repurposing containers, such as restaurant supply buckets by painting and decorating them.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Creating zero waste

Cedar Mill Co-op Community Garden Project (\$700)

A new community garden was created as an educational tool for the kids living in the Co-op, so they can learn more about growing and harvesting their own food to eat. The garden also brought the community together to beautify a neglected area of the land & make it a place where they want to hang out and spend time.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; green buildings

Collingwood Bikeway Drainage, Accessibility and Public Food Border Project 2015 (\$500)

Two gardening beds approximately 4 feet deep and 60 feet long, and 2 to 3 feet in height were built along the Vanness bikeway between Joyce and Boundary to increase the adjacent community garden area.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improve access to green spaces

Perimeter Floral Beautification (\$500)

Tenants of the 3484 Kingsway building cleaned up the area along the east side of the building and planted hydrangeas, variation of annuals and roses to beautify and soften the façade of the building.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green spaces; green buildings

WEST SIDE VANCOUVER COMMUNITY

Bee Best (\$530)

Additional bee hives were included at Maple Community Gardens.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Old Bikes Back on the Urban Commute (\$1000)

Three all-day workshops were held and neighbours were encouraged to bring their old bikes to teach them about overhaul and maintenance. Simple materials such as spokes, puncture repair patches, brake shoes, ball bearings, lubricants were provided. As a plus, owners were shown how to completely overhaul a classic 3 speed hub gear.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation; Creating zero waste

Japanese FUROSHIKI Four Rs of Sustainability (\$1000)

This project revived the Japanese concept of "mottainai", that follow the three Rs of sustainability. A workshop was held to teach community members on how to use the square Japanese cloth called FUROSHIKI, a type of traditional Japanese wrapping cloths for transporting clothes, gifts, or other goods. The project promoted sustainable practice and innovation by teaching participants on how they can make their own FUROSHIKI.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste

Kitsilano Plastics Recycling (\$900)

Continuing from the past three years, project leaders continued to collect and recycle both hard and soft plastics, including foil-lined bags, as well as large format styrofoam that don't get taken in city blue boxes by collaborating with Victoria-based Pacific Mobile that picks up and recycles the items.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste

Urban Permaculture Stories & Film Screening Night (\$900)

A series of neighbourhood meet-ups and screenings were held to raise awareness of permaculture, share best practices, and build neighbourhood connections around stories about our permaculture practice.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Westside Women's Biking - Support Group (\$790)

Women of all ages and cultural backgrounds came together for five series of bike rides following common commuting routes to promote bike riding and develop friendships with women bikers. The bike rides were completed with a picnic in a public park. Workshops on basic repairs and bike safety were provided to participants.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

Native Plant Biodiversity Sampling in Jericho Park (\$565)

Community members participated in a three hour native plant sampling activity in Jericho Park. The purpose of this project is to engage the community in citizen science, increase public awareness about invasive plants in urban parks and gather important plant biodiversity data for the community stewardship groups that work in the park. Community members were divided into small groups and asked to complete the sampling of several sites along the paths with a volunteer leader. A blog was created to show the data that is collected in the form of Geographic Information System (GIS) maps.

Greenest City Targets: Access to green spaces

Conquerors of Pinterest (\$1000)

Creative and sustainability based workshops were held with community members. The first workshop was about using diverted waste materials (from businesses, and those easily found at home) to make trendy and beautiful small projects. The second one was about fixing broken items in homes and transforming them to usable items. The third was about falling in love with old items, instead of sending them to the dump.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Lighter footprint

WORMS GALORE: Composting classes and creating a community worm bin (\$1000)

A community based large multi-stage composting bin / red wiggler bed was developed so the worms could survive outdoors throughout the winter. Series of workshops were held to teach newbies about composting and provide new gardeners with black gold soil and new urban composting folks with a starter bucket of worms.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste

Pt. Grey Permaculture Blitz (\$1000)

Two part educational permaculture blitz were held at Aberthau Mansion garden hosted by Village Vancouver and shared by community members, local artists, and the WPG preschools. A variety of annual and perennial plants e.g. veggies, fruits (e.g. berry bushes), herbs and flowers, including pollinator attractants were planted at the garden. The blitz was also used to demonstrate water conservation and waste reduction to participants.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Creating zero waste; Water conservation

Greening Your Neighbourhood Party - Artistically (\$1000)

A lending library was created for Kits residents to use toolkits and recycled materials to create décor for block parties and other community events. Supplies included bunting and flags made from recycled coffee bags and used fabric kits for collaging name tags. The kits and equipment can be borrowed for a week to two months. The kits with instructions and equipment were used at Kits CarFree Days, Kits House and Arbutus block party.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste

Kitsilano Pollinator Corridor (\$1000)

Mason bee boxes were distributed in Kitsilano neighborhood to local residents. The project leaders helped residents and their children to help identify the best locations for the boxes. Children and adults placed the boxes and inspect them periodically, noting the changes that occur throughout the growing season. Two workshops were organized around the subject of pollinators and their importance in creating and sustaining a liveable world.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Nature Club Community Garden (\$1000)

Five raised bed vegetable gardens were built at Ecole Jules Quesnel outdoor space and by Lord Byng Pool. Residents from Southlands Farms and nearby businesses including Hearts and Greens Microgreens, UBC Botanical Gardens and David Hunter Garden Centre offered discounts and donations.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Green Streets Garden (\$1000)

Two Green Street spaces at the corner of 8th and Balsam were built last year to grow food providing an ecological and community enhancing benefit to the neighbourhood, including food for folks passing by. The focus in 2015 was on growing pollinator attractants, including milk weed for Monarch Butterflies, as well as some food like blueberries and strawberries. Drought tolerant plants were also planted this year.

Greenest City Targets: Improve access to green spaces

Broadway Blossoms (\$1000)

Small boulevard gardens have been created on Broadway between the Alma and McDonald area for about 4 years now. This has encouraged citizens to treat this otherwise heavily littered part of Broadway with more respect. It has created an opportunity for dialogue; as people would stop by and chat with volunteers tending the gardens. The 2015 project was to continue to beautify the area by planting indigenous and bee/butterfly/ladybug-friendly plants and teaching people about their importance.

Greenest City Targets: Improve access to green spaces

Community Roosting Area (\$1000)

Four hens were purchased and daily gatherings and duties were shared amongst neighbours. The grant funds were used towards hosting an invasive plant removal kick-off party and towards the purchasing of a fully predator-proof chicken coop, all materials (including benches for neighbours to gathering, fencing, etc.), chicken feed and seeds, a compost station, and for four locally bred heritage hens.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to local food

Community Shared Vertical Hydroponic Garden (\$380)

Neighbours learned skills of designing a vertical hydroponic garden system using recycled bottles and vegetables grown were shared amongst neighbours.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to local food

MOUNT PLEASANT AND LITTLE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITIES

Butterfly and Bee Pollinator Sidewalk Garden (\$590)

An 80m x 3m (approx.) border garden was built to host specific butterfly and bee attractant flowers. The garden borders the high foot traffic sidewalk of a rental apartment building in Mount Pleasant and is cared for by a neighbourhood garden committee.

Greenest City Targets: Improving access to nature and planting trees

Herb: Medical Use and Better Health (\$1000)

A community herb garden to grow diverse types of herbs was created at the corner of East King Edward Avenue and Glen Drive. During the inauguration of the garden, a workshop was held to inform residents about herbs and their benefits to human health.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Green Ideas Video Contest and Vegan Picnic Event (\$1000)

Green Ideas Video Contest was geared towards young people to showcasing their work on Youtube and Facebook. Prizes were given for the most views and/or the most likes. The project was concluded by bringing the filmmakers together for a vegan picnic.

Greenest City Targets: Reducing ecological footprint

#Culture (\$150)

Workshops were led by local experts describing the what, how and why of fermented foods such as kombucha, kefir, pickling, sauerkraut, kimchi, miso, and tempeh. Guests received education on cultural origin of fermented food, health/environmental impact of food preservation and how to use "ugly" food as ingredients.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Monthly Urban Permaculture Initiative in Mount Pleasant (\$950)

Four households in Mount Pleasant identified the back and side yard areas of 333 East 13th avenue as the ideal location for an urban permaculture garden and site of a monthly neighborhood workshop to foster awareness of sustainable living. The tenants used permaculture methods to their garden to increase their yield significantly. They also did workshops on basics of permaculture, composting, garden bed building, plant identification and the importance of bees.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

The Collaborative Garden at Creekside (\$350)

A new herb garden and garden signage were created for Creekside and neighbours collaborated with the Recreation Centre to host food and garden related events for the community.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Upcycle and Reinvent your Clothes (\$360)

Three workshops about transforming aging clothes into stylish new ones were held on three Saturday evenings for residents. Participants discovered techniques to turn old clothes into custom made must-have items. The workshop was led by an adult educator and designed for people who wish to find ways how to make the most of clothes that would otherwise land in the garbage.

Greenest City Targets: Lighter footprint; Creating zero waste

What Anyone Can Do ... Creating a Greener City (\$720)

A workshop was held on themes of sustainable urban living including organic gardening, practices such as rainwater collection, biking with route maps, and guides on how to participate in community gardens.

Greenest City Targets: Reducing ecological footprint; Lighter footprint

Cambie Square Pollinator Garden (\$480)

The Cambie Square Communal Garden has been growing vegetables and flowers for several years. This year, the gardeners created a pollinator garden to support their existing bee condo and encourage more pollinators into this area. Because of the shape of the garden (long and skinny), they planted more flowers along the beds to create a corridor for pollinators across our garden. In addition, they did a workshop on building bird and bee boxes that can be put up either in people's houses or in the neighbourhood.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Fungi Bike Grease Digester Project (\$1000)

Two open workshops were held at a greener business called Our Community Bikes (OCB) for community members to introduce a Fungi Bike Grease Digester, a container inoculated with oyster mushrooms that breaks down the complex toxins on bike rags so that they are no longer hazardous waste and potentially no longer waste. Bike grease is a hazardous waste material containing pollutants like Teflon - a persistent bio accumulative toxin that does not biodegrade, accumulates in our bodies and the environment. Oyster mushrooms have the amazing ability of metabolizing the complex protein.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation; Creating zero waste

MT Station (\$1000)

CityStudio students interested in promoting a greener transportation system transformed a bustling bus stop at Willow and Broadway into a playful imitation of a train station, providing new opportunities for conversations among the Broadway community about their transit system. The installation lasted for one day and was fully supervised. They wrapped the bus shelter with vinyl printing to make it look like a train car. The benches at the shelter were covered with blue vinyl seat covers to imitate the train seats.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

Community Composting (\$285)

The project leaders provided organics collection and proper disposal for an annual community barbeque and ice cream social. All the cutlery, dish cups and napkins provided were compostable. Clear signage and appropriate collection receptacles were also provided. One community member won a prize of take away compost collection bags and a counter top collection bin, to promote composting in home.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste

Growing our Community (\$850)

The project involved newcomer youth in taking ownership of the local resources so they feel part of the neighbourhood they have recently moved into. There will be a volunteer and a youth worker who will help with the gardening component. In April and May, the youth built a community garden by Prince Albert St. The youth met every week to maintain the garden and workshops were also held on gardening and community.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

Organics and Rooftop Composting (\$1000)

A roof top composting area was set up for residents to help offset the organics waste program and compost scraps created by the rooftop garden. Educational information was also distributed for residents and an event was hosted to explain the composting system.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Green buildings

Re-Skilling Workshops: (\$450)

A series of monthly workshops that teach people skills to reduce carbon footprint and to re-learn skills lost in the last few generations. They include: -Bike Maintenance - Bee Pollination Projects -Canning Demonstration -Sauerkraut In a Jar -DIY Cold Frames -Fall Food Gardening -Knitting 101 -Sewing 101 -Seed Starting & Seed Swap. The workshops were accompanied by a community potluck in order for neighbors to sit down together over a delicious meal.

Greenest City Targets: Reducing ecological footprint; Creating zero waste; Promoting greener forms of transportation; Lighter footprint

Beneficial Stumpery Gardens (\$420)

Artist and educator Lori Weidenhammer gave free workshops to the Two Block Diet Club on how to transform a shady corner of a back yard into a hotspot of biodiversity, attracting beneficial insects such as bumblebees and beetles. She demonstrated how drilling holes into tree stumps is a great way to attract tunnel nesting bees such as mason bees which help pollinate food crops. Beetles are also attracted to rotting wood and help keep aphids off food plants. Participants prepared and took home their own stumps and seeds for plants such as yarrow and nodding onions to attract many more kinds of good bugs and pollinators to their gardens.

Greenest City Targets: Improving access to nature; Growing and eating local food

James Communal Garden Fruit Trees and Plants Expansion (\$500)

Fruit trees and other plants were added to the James Communal Garden this year to attract pollinators. A workshop was also provided to gardeners about preparing fruit preserves such as jams and compotes.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food; increase access to green spaces

CARNEGIE, STRATHCONA, AND RAY-CAM COMMUNITIES

Union Lane Greening (\$500)

The grant was used to beautify and green a lane in the 600 block of Union Street between Prior and Union. Fruit bearing shrubs and trees were planted. Bird, bat and bee houses and plant flowers were also included. A landscape Architect in the neighbourhood helped identify what plants to use. **Greenest City Targets:** Growing and eating local food; Improving access to nature and planting trees

BAD MEDICINE ROUND-UP (\$500)

Neighbourhood seniors were encouraged to bring their inventory of personal medications to the Strathcona gymnasium. Retired Nurses and volunteer practitioners were available to sort the medication inventory and help sort those that have expired. The nurses educated seniors about the harmful impacts of improper disposal of expired medications. Seniors who participated were given energy saving light bulb free of charge.

Greenest City Targets: Creating zero waste; Clean water; Lighter footprint

Station Street Community Garden (\$500)

The Station Street Building which opened in 2011 provides housing to people who have been homeless or who were at risk of homelessness. The residents of the building have formed a garden committee with the support of building staff. The funds from this grant were used to beautify and improve the garden areas by amending and adding soil to the planters, where it has been depleted. Two cedar planter boxes were also built at the building entrance, where people gather to socialize. Medicinal, culinary and pollinator-friendly plants (native, drought tolerant and site-appropriate) were planted in the boxes. These garden improvements helped residents to learn about, grow and enjoy edible herbs to save money and enhance their meals.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food

South Strathcona Berry Patch (\$950)

The South Strathcona Berry Patch was built on pre-existing blueberry plants that the applicant has planted on the southern side of Atlantic Street near Trillium Park in a previous year. Several varieties of blueberry and raspberry plants were planted and maintained by local residents. The plants were labeled as to their varieties and distinct characteristics. The crop was shared, especially among the elderly and home-bound residents of the neighborhood.

Greenest City Targets: Growing and eating local food; Improving access to green spaces

Permanent Bike Air Pump and Bike Repair Station to be Installed at Oppenheimer Park (\$1000)

A sturdy - heavy duty bike air pump and bike repair stand with tools were installed at Oppenheimer Park. These pieces are available to all residents or anyone who happens to come to Oppenheimer and need to refill their bike tires with air, and/or repair or tune their bikes.

Greenest City Targets: Green transportation

Strathcona Environmental Green Week (\$500)

Diverse gardening projects around Strathcona School and McLean Park were organized throughout the summer for youth. This project helped enrich children on how to garden and be more aware of the environment and creating a green atmosphere around the community.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food; Improving access to nature

1st Annual RayCam Bike Rodeo (\$500)

The event was held on August 20th 2015 in the RayCam parking lot. The Bike Rodeo included an obstacle course for novice and intermediate riders, a bike tune up and repair kiosk, workshops and displays by local bike industry partners, prizes and give aways and entertainment. The VPD bicycle squad were invited to lead safety oriented workshops for all ages. A bicycle tour of Strathcona was organized to promote green transportation. Promotional water bottles, Stickers and T shirts and refreshments were available. Bike safety handouts were distributed.

Greenest City Targets: Green Transportation

Alexander Street Community Garden Revitalization Project (\$800)

The Alexander Street Community (ASC) is a purpose-built LEED building run by the PHS Community Services Society in partnership with BC Housing and Vancouver Coastal Health. Through the grant, a rooftop garden was built for community members to actively get engaged in gardening. The garden is devoted to food

production. The garden has expanded the opportunities for engagement not only in the garden, but in the kitchen - preparing and preserving the bounty.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food

Permaculture Demonstration Plot, Cottonwoods Community Garden (\$500)

A demonstration plot was built for teaching permaculture using discarded tree branches as a source of moisture and nutrients at Cottonwoods Community Garden. This raised area increased the area of the plot to grow squash and shade tolerant pollinator attractant on the northern side of the garden. This has increased the capacity of the keyhole garden with seasonal and perennial vegetables. Discussions were held over potluck lunches at garden work parties on topics such as zero waste, cultivating community resilience, energy reduction, sharing economy, cultivating a lighter footprint and climate change.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food; Creating zero waste, Lighter footprint

Garden Rain Barrel Project (\$260)

Two rain barrels were installed to be used for a rooftop garden located on a high-rise tower adjacent to the International Village Mall in order to educate residents about water conservation and help keep the garden watered with less dependency on sprinklers.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food; Water conservation; Green buildings

Strathcona Youth Beekeeper (\$750)

Quinn, a third generation beekeeper and her best friend, Sailor, shared their passion for bees and pollinators with youth in Strathcona. With the aid of Quinn's father; a master beekeeper and her mother; a hobbyist backyard beekeeper and gardener, youth in the neighbourhood were able to learn about the life cycle of bees. The group of youth met monthly, during the bee season to build hives, collect honey and learn about bees.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food

La Fierle (\$570)

Gardening planter boxes were placed in front of the Rainier Hotel, a women's recovery housing hotel. Residents helped in painting the boxes and in planting and maintaining the flowers. The project increased connections and ownership amongst the residents.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

Inner City Village Gardens (\$400)

Two expert gardeners were invited to Cottonwood Community Gardens to teach gardeners about the medicinal values of native plants and how and where they grow.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

Broken Branches Gardening (\$500)

The grantee organized neighbours in and around Oppenheimer Park and park patrons for gardening activities.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food; Increase access to green space

Pollen Nation (\$1000)

Strathcona Community Garden developed a large scale wildflower meadow within Strathcona Park by clearing a lawn area. The wildflower garden was analysed for the

duration of the growing season and ecological data was collected and released to the public to educate about the value of pollinators.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

Kids Garden Party (\$295)

A party was hosted in the garden at Princess and Cordova for children and families with the theme of learning about local bird species. Families from the downtown Oppenheimer and Strathcona area including from the newly opened Budzey building participated. Healthy food and refreshments were served.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

The Butterfly Garden (\$500)

Last year a butterfly garden was built at the Stamps building on Raymur Street and Keefer Street (near the green bridge). The grant fund this year was used to purchase more perennials and annuals to fill the garden back up as well as butterflies. The project is successful because it brought lots of bees and butterflies to the area, and created a resource for children who were curious about plants and wanting to learn more.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space; Green buildings

Community Garden (\$500)

A flowering/perennial garden was built near the Strathcona Childcare Centre. The children at the centre were able to learn gardening skills and spend more time outside, allowing them to be active participants in the life of the neighborhood. Leaf vegetables were planted and harvested by kids, community members and Centre staff. The area which was once dirt and was an eye sore is now beautified through this project.

Greenest City Targets: Grow and eat local food; Increase access to green space

Science World Landscaping (\$260)

Ten volunteers landscaped the area from Science World to Cambie Bridge. This is an area with lots of native plants and is not being looked after by the Park Board. The area was cleaned and raked throughout the summer.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

Zodiac Mosaic (\$565)

The project helped to beautify the front entrance area of Hastings Folk Garden located at 100 block of East Hastings with the support of neighbours. They partnered with the Smiling Buddha Skate Shop next door to paint the fence. Community members helped create a mosaic for everyone to enjoy.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

Pender Street Boulevard Beautification, Part II (\$300)

This project is a continuation from last year to beautify the north side of the Mau Dan Gardens Co-Op, east of Chinatown. Through the grant, replanting of the boulevard was completed which greatly improved the visual appearance of the neighbourhood.

Greenest City Targets: Increase access to green space

About the Greenest City Fund

The Greenest City Fund is a four-year, \$2 million fund that supports community-led green projects in Vancouver. The goal of the Greenest City Fund is to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020.

Funded by the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation, the Greenest City Fund comprises three granting programs: Generation Green Grants, which fund youth-led projects; Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants, which fund projects created by Vancouver residents that benefit their neighbourhood; and Greenest City Community Grants, which fund Vancouver projects led by community-based charitable organizations.

Find out more at: <https://vancouverfoundation.ca/initiatives/greenest-city-fund>.