

GREENEST CITY FUND



February 12, 2013
News Release

Grants from Greenest City Fund top \$500,000 in first year

Helping families connect to nature near their home; making small Vancouver businesses more energy efficient; holding bike skills courses for low-income individuals; and creating a sustainable, community-supported fishery for Vancouver. These are just a few of the 150 projects supported in the first year of the Greenest City Fund.

The Greenest City Fund is a unique, four-year partnership between the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation that is designed to help Vancouver become the greenest city in the world by 2020.

In April 2012, both organizations contributed \$1 million each to create the Fund. Since launching last year, the Greenest City Fund has made grants totaling \$538,492 and supported 150 projects that reinforce Vancouver's Greenest City Action Plan.

"The response in the first year of the Greenest City Fund has been gratifying," said Mayor Gregor Robertson. "Each grant category has been over-subscribed, and we are very encouraged by the public support and participation in the projects, from green jobs to waste reduction to energy efficiency. This year, we want to encourage even more people to get involved and raise awareness about our Greenest City goals.

"With this first year of granting from the Greenest City Fund, we have a great start."

"One of the important features of the Greenest City Fund," says Faye Wightman, President and CEO of Vancouver Foundation, "is that it provides an opportunity for the entire community to be involved. There are youth-led projects, projects led by neighbourhoods and individual residents, and projects led by community groups. This has resulted in an amazing diversity of projects – from restoring parts of Stanley Park, to helping neighbourhoods reduce their ecological footprint, to growing urban orchards.

"We hope that 2013 will bring even more interest in the Greenest City Action Plan, and that the grants jointly offered by the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation will continue to engage residents in finding local solutions, and building connections in their community."

Here is a breakdown, by category, of the projects supported by the Greenest City Fund in 2012:

Generation Green Grants

Support youth-led projects, with a special focus this year on sustainable food. The first round of grants were reviewed by Vancouver Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Council (YPC), a jury of volunteer youth.

19 applications were received, and 12 projects were supported, totaling \$73,197.

Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants

Support neighbourhood-based projects created by residents.

206 applications were received, and 121 projects were supported, totaling \$73,795.

Greenest City Community Grants

Support green programs developed by charitable organizations.

61 applications were received, and 17 projects supported, totaling \$391,500.

(A complete list of Greenest City Fund grant recipients for 2012 is attached below.)

The 2013 deadlines for the Greenest City Fund are:

- Generation Green Grants
Letter of Intent to Vancouver Foundation – February 22
- Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants – March 31
- Greenest City Community Grants – Fall 2013.

The Greenest City Fund is a four-year, \$2 million fund for community-led green projects that support Vancouver's Greenest City 2020 Action Plan goals. A partnership between 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. The goal of the Greenest City Fund is to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020. Find out more at:

www.vancouverfoundation.ca/greenestcityfund

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Generation Green Grants 2012 Grant Recipients

Annual Earth Day Vancouver Celebration (\$3,300)

This youth-driven Earth Day celebration takes place in the Grandview Park area and includes a parade on Commercial Drive. Approximately 2,000 people will gather for the occasion and raise awareness on sustainability and climate change issues.

Community Nursery (\$9,500)

The Environmental Youth Alliance will train high school students and low-income residents in horticulture and food gardening. Their goal is to raise and give away 7,000 plants, and train more than 700 people in small space food and ecological gardening practices.

Dream Green Peer Mentoring Program - South Vancouver Neighbourhood House (\$3,700)

This peer mentoring program will pass on knowledge gained by "BioCYCLE" – a cycling, composting and gardening project that received a Generation Green award in 2011.

Greening Henderson (\$1,260)

Another continuation of a Generation Green Awards project from 2011. This project will increase the size of the Spirit Garden at John Henderson Elementary School, and double the number of students who can grow organic food and learn about healthy eating and waste management.

Jarai Gardening Project (\$7,218)

This gardening project is designed and implemented by a group of 10 Jarai youth, part of an ethnic community from Vietnam, involved in the Vancouver School Board's Engaged Immigrant Youth program, providing an accessible space for Jarai youth to learn and share agricultural skills, and support them in connecting with elders through gardening activities.

Lord Kitchener Outdoor Classroom (\$10,000)

Researched and designed by students, this project will transform part of the school grounds into a food garden and natural play area. This space will provide hands-on learning about sustainability and the natural food cycle.

My World in a Garden - Sister Walls (\$10,000)

My Arms Wide Open will work with youth to build a living vertical garden at the Ray Cam Community Centre, bringing focus to food security and supporting the community with the garden's vegetable harvests. Youth will learn about growing, tending, harvesting, preparing and storing fresh vegetables and fruit.

Still Creek Stewardship - Still Moon Arts Society (\$10,000)

Renfrew Ravine is the only ravine in Vancouver with a creek running through it. This mentorship project will teach Windermere Secondary students to become leaders of habitat restoration in this delicate ecosystem.

WE-CYCLE: Youth Cycle for Greener Transportation (\$1,419)

The McCreary Youth Advisory & Action Council will promote greener transportation among young people through a series of youth-led bicycle workshops in the Spring of 2013.

Windermere Organic Garden (\$3,000)

Students at Windermere Secondary are expanding their already thriving organic garden. In addition to the goals of gardening education, relationship building, and community engagement, the students want to produce enough food to sell to the school cafeteria.

Youth Urban Agriculture Project (\$7,000)

This youth-led urban farm project is a continuation from the 2011 Generation Green award to the Purple Thistle—a youth-run community centre for arts and activism—and dedicated to reclaiming public space through growing food, permaculture, and ecosystem regeneration.

Zero Waste, Infinite Possibilities: Musqueam Youth for Community Sustainability (\$6,800)

This project contains three complementary components: youth will work to eliminate waste from the Musqueam Youth Centre; participate in a sustainability multimedia contest; and host a zero waste exhibit and gala. Through these three mini-projects, the Musqueam Indian Band will provide youth with the tools they need to be community leaders in sustainability.

Generation Green Grants support youth-led projects in support of Vancouver's Greenest City 2020 Action Plan goals. The grants are part of the Greenest City Fund program, a partnership between the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation. The goal of the Greenest City Fund is to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020. Find out more at:

www.vancouverfoundation.ca/greenestcityfund

For more information on the Generation Green Grants, visit Vancouver Foundation's Youth Philanthropy Council website at www.vancouverfoundation.ca/ypc

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Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants 2012 Grant Recipients

Neighbourhood: South Vancouver – Collingwood

The Magic Roundabout	\$ 930
Schoolyard Community Chicken Coop	1,000
Windermere Organic Garden Project	400
Collingwood Green Program	385
The Moss is greener on the other wall	400
Norquay Community Learning Orchard	535
Climate Change Conference	400
Sir Wilfrid Laurier School Garden	1,000
Prayers in Garden	500
Sexsmith School Sustainability Program	500
Beautifying Fraser Street	1,000
Oil Dependency education station	950

Neighbourhood: Cedar Cottage, Kensington and Hastings-Sunrise

Salsbury Herb Garden	\$ 650
Pollinating our Communities	1,000
Adanac Growing & Harvesting Community Projects	700
Community Seasonal Food Celebrations	1,000
Neighbourhood Harvest and Seed Trade	200
Garden School	1,000
Cedar Cottage Bee and Tree Project	1,000
Pollinating for the People	900
My Own Backyard Community Garden (MOBY)	500
Cooking off the Grid	500
Accessibility at Copely Community Orchard	1,000
Community Mural	550
Natural Playground	1,000

Neighbourhood: West End

Public Art Intersection	\$ 1,000
Compost Bins	1,000
Styro Free Challenge	1,000
Recycling Hard Plastics	450
Community Garden	900
Organic Coop	900
Community Link	500
Community Fair	1,000
Roof Top Garden	500
Community Garden	100
Organic Rooftop Garden	975
Street Garden	1,000
Street Garden Irrigation	1,000
Bike Co-op - Green Transportation	1,000
Butt-Out Ashtrays	1,000
Home Harvest	1,000
Cycling Initiative	1,000
Compost Initiative	1,000

Neighbourhood: Kitsilano

Kitsilano Composts	\$ 1,000
Boulevard VEG (Boulevard Vancouver Edible Gardens)	1,000
Westside Community Kitchen	1,000
Kits Car Free Day Block Parties	800
Permaculture Blitz at 2078 W. 5th	850
Lord Kitchener Outdoor Classroom	1,000
Neighbourhood Composter	1,000
Victory Collaborative Garden	1,000
LocoMotoArt Events	1,000
Kits Meals: Drop-in "Spaghetti" Nights	1,000
Kits Urban Bees Collaborative	1,000
Maple St Medicinal Herb Garden	600
Kits Village Collaborative Garden	1,000
Kitsilano Bees	800
Envisioning Community Food Resilience on the Westside	1,000
3 Bin Compost System for Queen Elizabeth Annex Garden	500
Cultivating Collaborative and Community Gardening	1,000
Community Garden (SGSC)	500
False Creek Children's Garden	487.50
Community Bike Pick-up recycling program	487.50
Playhouse and Sandbox	487.50
Community zero waste educational art project	487.50

Neighbourhood: Mount Pleasant, Little Mountain

Ten Vancouver Earth Walks	\$ 150
Permaculture Demonstration	150
Community Garden	200
Food Waste Diversion Film	200
Edible Garden Project	200
Bike Rally/Ride	200
Clothing Project	240
Online Food Project & Event	250
Neighbourhood Clean-up	250
Fall Harvest Party	250
Green Block Dinner & Discussion	250
Community Garden	300
Medicinal Herb Garden	300
Community Space Project	300
Restaurant Herb Garden	300
Park Fruit Tree Project	350
Green Initiatives Block Party	350
Bending Bench	350
Boulevard Garden	350
Playground & Garden	350
Living Fence	350
Community Garden	350
Social Community Garden	350
Youth Garden Project	350
Laneway Planters	350
Local Food Project	350
Dickens Children's Garden Project	350
Beekeeping Project	375
Beekeeping Project	375
Community Honey Extraction	400
Green Grant Video Project	400
Bike Rack & Community Garden	450
Recycled Arts Workshops	600
Community Kitchen & Garden Project	660
Rain Barrel Installation	700
Food Scraps Drop Spot	800

Neighbourhood: Carnegie, Strathcona, Ray-Cam

Community Herb Garden and Celebration	\$ 400
Organic herb, veggie, and flower garden	400
Strathcona Community Garden Lammass Day Celebration Aug 1	250
Neighbourhood Seed Library	300
Junk to Funk - Recycle Art Project	250
The Mavis McMullen Growing Community Project	500
Heritage Plum Trees	250
At Risk Youth Housing Food Security and Education Garden	1,000
Railway Street Garden	500
Community Kitchen	350
Green House for my school or daycare	500
Alma Blackwell Garden Project	500
Banana Beat/Mobile Smoothies	750
Pedaling Counter	1,000
EAST WEST Park Garden Project	320
Urban Seed Project: Truck Farm	1,000
Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House Grows Indoors	750
BAG a Plant	500

Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants support projects created by Vancouver residents that benefit their neighbourhood and support Vancouver's Greenest City Action Plan goals. The grants are part of the Greenest City Fund program, a partnership between the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Foundation. The goal of the Greenest City Fund is to help make Vancouver the greenest city in the world by 2020. Find out more at:

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For more information on the Greenest City Neighbourhood Small Grants, visit:

www.vancouverfoundation.ca/nsg-greenestcityfund

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Greenest City Community Grant 2012 Grant Recipients

16th and Pine Community Garden Expansion (\$5,000)

This grant to Kitsilano Christian Community will expand the 16th and Pine St. Community Gardens to include an additional nine plots (two of which will be designed to be accessible for people with disabilities) and an herb garden. The project will foster neighbourhood connections, and link children and the community with their food source.

Build-a-Bicyclist (\$27,000)

This grant to HUB: Your Cycling Connection will be used to create a program to deliver bicycle skills courses and bikes to low-income individuals who have an interest in using a bicycle as a regular form of transportation but who have barriers to doing so.

EMBERS Energy-Efficiency Retrofits for Businesses - Pilot Project (\$35,000)

This grant to Eastside Movement for Business and Economic Renewal Society will help make small- and medium-sized Vancouver businesses more energy efficient and create green jobs by hiring individuals with barriers to employment.

Fresh Roots Schoolyard Market Gardens (\$35,000)

This grant to Fresh Roots Urban Farm Society with School District No. 39 (Vancouver) will help develop schoolyard market gardens at Vancouver Technical and David Thompson Secondary High Schools. The project connects organic growing practices with environmental education and will also be used for food sales with two market gardens that function as classrooms.

Green Bloc (\$35,000)

This grant to Evergreen will help residents of the Green Bloc reduce their ecological footprint and develop a toolkit for neighbourhoods across Vancouver to use in their own greening projects.

The Green Hub (\$20,000)

This grant to Strathcona Business Improvement Association, with Judith Marcuse Projects Society, will help develop a Green Hub, which will help businesses in the False Creek Flats and surrounding areas, be more sustainable through the implementation of zero waste, green building and local food strategies.

Growing Vancouver's Largest Urban Forest (\$15,000)

This grant to Stanley Park Ecology Society will be used for restoring compromised areas of Stanley Park through planting native species while working with local environmental artists to re-purpose invasive plant materials.

More than Just Trash Talk - From Dialogue to Action (\$35,000)

This grant to Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, with the Association of Neighbourhood Houses, will be used to engage residents of multi-unit residential buildings in Vancouver to create recycling programs for food scraps and other materials.

Nature in your Neighbourhood (\$9,000)

This grant to Young Naturalists' Club of BC Society will help connect Vancouver families to nearby nature through volunteer-led clubs, community mentors, family programs and resources.

Public Bike Share Maintenance and Repair Program (\$35,000)

This grant to Pedal Energy Development Alternatives Power Association will create a maintenance and repair program for the Public Bike Share system (conditional upon Bike Share Program being finalized).

Sea to Fork: Building Sustainable Seafood Connections for Vancouver (\$22,000)

The intent of this grant to Living Oceans Society, with T Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation, is to promote low-impact purchasing and seafood choices; increase access to local sustainable seafood for Vancouver; and increase the variety of local, quality seafood for the city.

Tree Keepers (\$25,000)

This grant to Tree City Canada Association, with Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation, will support residents and businesses to plant trees on their own property by offering training in tree care, leadership and community organizing.

Treehouse Treats (\$1,500)

This grant to Vancouver Fruit Tree Project Society will help with the operations of Treehouse Treats — a youth-led social enterprise that turns excess fruit into baked goods to sell at community events.

Urban Orchard (\$50,000)

This grant to Sole Food Farm, with Cultivate Canada Society, will help to develop an urban orchard to increase the amount and diversity of local food in the community. It will also reduce food miles, increase the urban tree canopy, and diversify native pollinator food sources. Residents from the Downtown Eastside will be employed and provided with hands-on skills training.

The Westside Mobile Produce Market (\$12,000)

This grant to Westside Food Collaborative, with South Granville Seniors Friendship Centres, is for a feasibility study and pilot to create a mobile produce market. The market would increase access to local, healthy, and affordable fruits and vegetables for vulnerable populations on Vancouver's Westside.

Windermere Secondary Community Garden Expansion (\$5,000)

This grant to Windermere Organic Garden Committee, with School District No. 39 (Vancouver), will add garden beds to increase food production for the school cafeteria and Community Schools Program. The area will also be converted to a community gathering space with benches and pathways.

Youth-Lead Green Project for the Chinese Community (\$25,000)

This grant to S.U.C.C.E.S.S. is to be used towards a youth-led project to help green the organization and local businesses.

The next grant cycle for Greenest City Fund's Community Grants will take place in the fall of 2013. A call for submissions will be announced in early summer. For more information on Greenest City Community Grants, go to the Vancouver Foundation website at <https://vancouverfoundation.ca/greenestcityfund/communitygrants/>

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