



Green Streets
Vancouver



Mayor's Preface

Vancouver City Council, 2008-2011

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Green Streets Vancouver is a tribute to the many people who develop and maintain our city's gardens, and in the process enrich and beautify Vancouver's neighbourhoods. The contributions from our Green Streets volunteers create colourful streets, personalized neighbourhoods, and foster a sense of community pride and ownership. Our entire city benefits from their work.

To all Green Streets gardeners, thank you for sharing your passion and love of gardening with us. I would also like to congratulate the dedicated staff in the Greenways and Neighbourhood Transportation Branch of Engineering Services who compiled the stories and images of some of Vancouver's most beautiful Green Streets gardens for this book.

I hope that *Green Streets Vancouver* inspires everyone to create a greener Vancouver, and encourages cities around the world to celebrate and encourage their own Green Streets gardeners.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregor Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gregor Robertson
Mayor of Vancouver

A close-up photograph of a sunflower head, showing the green bracts and the bright yellow petals. The petals are in various stages of opening, some are fully extended while others are still curled. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green.

The Beginning...



In 1994, a series of traffic circles and corner bulges was built in Vancouver's Mount Pleasant neighbourhood to slow traffic in the area. A load of compost was delivered to the corner bulge at Manitoba Street and 14th Avenue in advance of the planting of shrubs and groundcover in the autumn. A neighbour, cleaning out his bird feeder before leaving on vacation, scattered the spent seed husks on the bulge to go with the compost.

Upon his return from holidays he was surprised to discover dozens of sunflower plants had sprouted from seeds the birds had missed and thrived in the fertile soil!

The sunflowers grew and blossomed and City Hall started getting phone calls from neighbours asking if they could plant the traffic circles and corner bulges near their homes. Others wondered if they could take care of the street gardens the City planted. This led to the pilot project for the Green Streets Program with 15 volunteer street gardeners.

Fifteen years later, hundreds of volunteer gardeners in over 300 Green Streets gardens are expertly demonstrating what can be accomplished when neighbours are given the opportunity to beautify their neighbourhoods. Green Streets gardeners have created a remarkable and significant legacy, generating an interest and an enthusiasm that continues to motivate and encourage others to this day.







Jervis Nelson

Shrubs



Shrubs for traffic circles and corner bulges: 0.7 metres (2' 4") or less

Ceanothus gloriosus
Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald 'n Gold'
Genista pilosa 'Vancouver Gold'
Helianthemum nummularium
Lavandula angustifolia 'Hidcote'
Lavandula angustifolia 'Munstead'
Lonicera pileata
Nandina domestica 'Fire Power'
*Mahonia nervosa
Rosa explorer 'Charles Albanel'
Rosa explorer 'Henry Hudson'
Rosa explorer 'Simon Fraser'
Rosa meidiland 'Pearl'
Rosa meidiland 'Red'
Rosa meidiland 'White'
Rosmarinus officinalis 'Prostratus'
Santolina chamaecyparissus

Point Reyes Ceanothus
Emerald 'n Gold Wintercreeper
Vancouver Gold Woodwaxen
Sun Rose
Hidcote Lavender
Munstead Lavender
Shrubby Honeysuckle
Fire Power Heavenly Bamboo
Longleaf Mahonia
Charles Albanel Explorer Rose
Henry Hudson Explorer Rose
Simon Fraser Explorer Rose
Pearl Meidiland Rose
Red Meidiland Rose
White Meidiland Rose
Creeping Rosemary
Lavender Cotton

Shrubs for corner bulges only: 1.0 metre (3') or less

Buxus microphylla 'Winter Gem'
Cornus stolonifera 'Kelsey'
Escallonia 'Newport Dwarf'
Euonymus fortunei 'Emerald Gaiety'
Hebe rakaiensis
Ilex crenata 'Green Thumb'
*Mahonia aquafolium 'Compacta'
Potentilla fruticosa
Prunus laurocerasus 'Otto Luyken'
Rosa explorer 'Champlain'
Rosa explorer 'Frontenac'
Spirea japonica 'Gold Flame'

Littleleaf Boxwood
Dwarf Red Osier Dogwood
Newport Dwarf Escallonia
Emerald Gaiety Wintercreeper
Hebe
Japanese Holly
Dwarf Oregon Grape
Shrubby Cinquefoil
Otto Luyken Laurel
Champlain Explorer Rose
Frontenac Explorer Rose
Gold Flame Spirea

Perennials & Grasses



Gardens

Green Streets

