

File No.: 04-1000-20-2023-584

December 19, 2023

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: **Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")**

I am responding to your request of September 19, 2023 under the ***Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*** for:

Record of reports, memos, briefing notes, and similar documents held by Mayor Ken Sim or Councillor Adriane Carr regarding community-based policing programs, non-profit organizations (such as Downtown East Side Women's Centre), and police reform policies. Date range: August 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed (blacked out) under s.15(1)(l) of the Act. You can read or download this section here: http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00.

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, info@oipc.bc.ca or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2023-584); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,

[Signed by Cobi Falconer]

Cobi Falconer, MAS, MLIS, CIPP/C
Director, Access to Information & Privacy
cobi.falconer@vancouver.ca
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Alternatively, you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604-871-6584.

Encl. (Response package)

:pm

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" s.15(1)(l)
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL" s.15(1)(l)
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>
Date: 11/5/2022 1:30:55 PM
Subject: Confidential update: VANDU service contract

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mayor and Council,

I am writing to inform you that the City is ending its contract with the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU) for the Block Stewardship Pilot Program for the 000-300 blocks of East Hastings Street, effective December 07, 2022.

Background

The City of Vancouver contracted the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users (VANDU) for a six-month period (July 2022 - January 2023) to support the development and implementation of a Block Stewardship Pilot Program for the 000-300 blocks of East Hastings Street, seeking to explore the potential for such a program to offer support for sidewalk cleanliness and as a potential alternative to requesting VPD support for Street and Traffic By-Law enforcement.

Program Assessment

After an interim program assessment, it is evident that VANDU placed emphasis on community development rather than street cleaning. While this has value, and a forthcoming evaluation will provide further information for future consideration the City requires a focus on cleaning, and as a transition, will engage with other community groups to provide cleaning services.

Over the long term, the City believes there are opportunities to engage community organizations in the development of sustainable solutions and we plan to seek proposals from community-based organizations to support future program development and operation. In the coming weeks, a grant opportunity will be made available to non-profits with capacity and experience working with communities experiencing marginalization to deliver focused cleaning programs.

City crews will continue their daily efforts to clean the streets and remove material from the area.

Key Messages

We would appreciate you referring media inquiries to media@vancouver.ca. If you are approached for comment by media or constituents, here are some proposed key messages:

- The City thanks VANDU for their efforts and work along East Hastings.
- After an interim assessment of the program, it is evident that VANDU placed emphasis on community development rather than street cleaning.
- The City requires a focus on cleaning, and as a transition, will engage with other community groups to provide cleaning services.

- City crews will continue their daily efforts to clean the streets and remove material from the area.
- A grant opportunity will be made available to non-profits with capacity and experience working with communities experiencing marginalization to deliver focused cleaning programs

While VANDU is verbally apprised of this development, we would appreciate you keeping this information confidential until the organization receives written notice on Tuesday, November 8.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Sandra Singh Sandra.Singh@Vancouver.ca or Lon LaClaire Lon.LaClaire@Vancouver.ca.

Best,

Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca
604.873.7666



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x'm k'y'm (Musqueam), S'wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s'ílwl'á (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>

To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" s.15(1)(l)

CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL" s.15(1)(l)
"O'Donnell, Theresa" <Theresa.O'Donnell@vancouver.ca>

Date: 12/9/2022 4:49:53 PM

Subject: Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society 1656 Adanac Street (Alma Blackwell) Project Update

Attachments: Memo to Mayor & Council - Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society 1656 Adanac Street (Alma Blackwell) Project Update.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

The attached memo from Theresa O'Donnell is in response to a request for more information by Council, as it relates to the proposed redevelopment at Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society located at 1656 Adanac Street (Alma Blackwell). The memo provides background information on the site, an overview of the Development Permit application and associated Tenant Relocation Plan (TRP) requirements, as well as timing and next steps.

If there are any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Theresa O'Donnell (theresa.o'donnell@vancouver.ca).

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca
604.873.7666



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x'm k'y'm (Musqueam), S'wxwú7mesh (Squamish), and s'ílilw'ta' (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

December 9, 2022

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Rosemary Hagiwara, Acting City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Kareem Allam, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Director of Operations, Mayor's Office
David Grewal, Senior Advisor, Mayor's Office
Dan Garrison, Director, Housing Policy and Regulation

FROM: Theresa O'Donnell
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society 1656 Adanac Street (Alma Blackwell)
Project Update

RTS #: N/A

This memo is in response to a request for more information by Council, as it relates to the proposed redevelopment at Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society located at 1656 Adanac Street (Alma Blackwell). The memo provides background information on the site, an overview of the Development Permit application and associated Tenant Relocation Plan (TRP) requirements, as well as timing and next steps.

Background on the site:

The building is located at 1656 Adanac (Alma Blackwell), which includes a four-storey purpose built rental building, occupied since 1986. It includes 46 rental units (six one-bedroom units, 24 two-bedroom units, 14 three-bedroom units and two four-bedroom units). The building is owned and operated by non-profit society Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society (ENFHS) (the applicant). The applicant is seeking to redevelop the existing building to provide a 6-storey social housing building (the project).

On April 20th, 2021 Council approved amendments to the RM-3A and RM-4 zoning districts to enable 100% social housing up to six storeys. The intent of the zoning amendments as approved in RM-3A and RM-4 is to align with direction in existing community plans to allow modest increases in height and density to assist existing social housing providers with renewing

their existing sites. The zoning amendments provide a streamlined process under zoning rather than the previous rezoning process for social housing to access six stories. Additional detail on the approved zoning amendments is available in the [Staff report](#); the updated zoning districts and guidelines are available in the [Zoning and Land Use Document Library](#).

Overview of proposal:

The applicant submitted a Development Permit application under existing RM-4 zoning to the City on July 20th, 2022. The proposed development is designed by DYS Architecture and comprises a six-storey building with 97 social housing units. The new 97-unit building will replace the existing 46 social housing units, and deliver an additional 51 social housing units on the site.

The Development Permit application prioritises housing for families, comprising 50% family sized units (of which 34% are two-bedroom units, 14% are three-bedroom units and 2% are 4-bedroom units). In addition, a priority intention of the redevelopment is to keep rents as low as possible, given funding parameters, and to provide replacement units to match current unit types at Alma Blackwell.

ENFHS is one of only four successful applicants in Vancouver to receive BC Housing's Community Housing Fund (CHF) grant through its 2021 proposal call. Through the CHF program, the unit mix and affordability qualifications will be as follows:

- 50% rent geared to income (RGI) units for households on BC Housing's Housing Registry (rent ranges of approximately \$900 to \$1,500).
- 20% deep subsidy (RGI deep subsidy) units for households on BC Housing's Housing Registry (rent ranges of approximately \$375 to \$700).
- 30% low-end of market (LEM) units for households with moderate incomes between \$75,730 and \$117,080, depending on household size (rent ranges of approximately \$1,500 to \$2,500).

TRPP Requirements:

Similar to other social housing projects (e.g. Brightside project at 2924 Venables Street), the City's Tenant Relocation and Protection Policy (TRPP) requirements apply regardless of whether the redevelopment must go through a rezoning or DP process. The requirements for tenant assistance, relocation and compensation are the same in either process and staff will ensure they are followed.

A Tenant Relocation Plan (TRP) is not required to be submitted prior to a Development Permit application to the City. However, ENFHS chose to engage with tenants earlier than required in order to provide more time to successfully meet their needs. Determining the right time to inform tenants of redevelopment intentions is always difficult, but it is generally considered best practice to engage residents early in the process.

The proposal from ENFHS to redevelop the Alma Blackwell project triggers the City's Tenant Relocation and Protection Policy (2019). Under TRPP Section 4.2 - Non-Profit Social Housing, eligible tenants must receive a TRP which includes the following components:

1. A permanent rehousing option
2. Suitable and affordable replacement accommodation
3. Support with relocation, including moving expenses, compensation equal to one month free rent, and additional support for those with special circumstances
4. Ongoing community and engagement with residents, including a Four Month Notice to End Tenancy
5. Right of First Refusal to return to the building at affordable rents (or demonstration of all reasonable efforts to do so).

Housing Staff met with the applicant in June 2021 to outline their obligations under the TRPP. The applicant has been advised by Staff of their obligations to tenants under the TRPP 2019 Section 4.2. which includes to:

1. Notify tenants in writing of their rights under the TRPP prior to Development Permit application submission, and to invite them to a tenant meeting to discuss the TRP process.
2. Submit a copy of the TRPP Application Form and Appendix A as part of the Development Permit application.

In December 2021, the applicant invited Brightside Community Homes Foundation ('Brightside') to provide Tenant Relocation Consultant services on the project and to oversee the Tenant Relocation Plan implementation.

On February 2, 2022, ENFHS and Brightside hosted a virtual Tenant Information Meeting, a mandatory step in the TRPP process. The tenant meeting provides an opportunity for the applicant describe the supports offered to tenants and the anticipated project timeline, and for tenants to ask questions. Housing Staff attended and were available to answer questions.

Brightside subsequently provided a letter to all tenants confirming in writing the approach to the TRPP being provided. The letter explained that ENFHS and Brightside will:

- ✓ Have a dedicated staff member to meet with tenants, discuss their individual needs, and work together to find suitable alternate accommodation options for either
 - a) permanent housing or
 - b) for the duration of the redevelopment process.
- ✓ Provide tenants with relocation supports, including moving expenses and compensation equal to at least one month's free rent. Tenants relocating into market housing will receive financial compensation based on length of tenancy, in line with Section 3.2 of the TRPP. For example, tenancies of up to 5 years will receive 4 months free rent.
- ✓ Rehouse tenants within either ENFHS or Brightside's portfolio, where possible, and will work with other non-profit housing societies, the City of Vancouver, BC Housing, and the BC Non-Profit Housing Association to find appropriate housing for tenants. Finding suitable alternative housing will consider factors that are important to each household (i.e. rents, proximity to schools, transit, neighbourhoods, etc.).
- ✓ Offer tenants the first opportunity to return to the redeveloped building at new rent rates, if eligible based on income levels.
- ✓ Provide a minimum Four Month Notice to End Tenancy, only issued once all permits are received from the City.

Tenants that have resided at Alma Blackwell for a minimum of one year at the time of Development Permit application are eligible for compensation and assistance under the City's TRRP. ENFHS are offering flexible compensation packages for tenants who chose to leave the building before the City's eligibility window through the TRRP.

Brightside have advised Housing Staff that, at the time of writing this memo, 26 households have been successfully relocated or have an alternative housing secured and are in the process of relocating into suitable alternative accommodation. Of these households:

- 12 households have relocated, or will relocate, within ENFHS or Brightside's own portfolios;
- 2 households have relocated, or will relocate, into other non-profit housing, and
- 12 have relocated, or will relocate, into market housing.

Fifteen households still living in the Alma Blackwell building do not yet have secured alternative housing. All of these tenants have been provided with Needs Assessment Surveys and have been offered individual interviews with Brightside staff. Brightside have assured Housing Staff they will continue to be available to all tenants to provide support and assistance in their relocation.

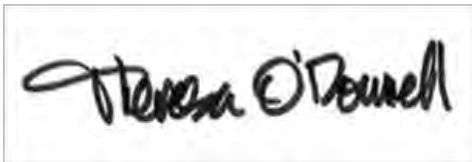
The approach described above meets the requirements of the Tenant Relocation and Protection Policy. At the time of writing, Brightside and ENFHS have not failed to meet any of their obligations under the TRPP or to meet TRPP protocol as advised by City staff. Staff are aware of the tenants concerns and has been working with ENFHS to discuss the situation and approach. Staff will continue to provide information to support tenants through this process.

Timing and next steps:

The Development Permit application, submitted in July 2022, is currently under staff review. Staff are targeting the project for Director of Planning (DoP) decision in mid-December 2022. Should the project receive conditional approval Staff anticipate the Development Permit is could be issued by the end of Q2, or early Q3 2023. The Building Permit process is expected to take approximately 5 months. ENFHS have advised tenants that they will not need to move out until late 2023 at the earliest, pending appropriate permits being in place.

Staff understand that news of your home being planned for redeveloped is among the most upsetting news a tenant can receive. Staff will work diligently with the applicant team, including ENFHS, City Spaces Consulting, and BC Housing to ensure that TRPP requirements are met and that residents are supported through the redevelopment process.

Should Council have any questions on this matter, please don't hesitate to contact me directly.



Theresa O'Donnell
General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

604.673.8434 | theresa.o'donnell@vancouver.ca

From: "Carla Pellegrini" <director@foodstash.ca>

To: "Carr, Adriane" <Adriane.Carr@vancouver.ca>

Date: 10/31/2022 9:39:25 PM

Subject: [EXT] Food policy and research for CoV

Attachments: Food waste policy and research for CoV 2022Oct31.pdf

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hi Adriane,

Apologies again for the delay. Please find attached a high level summary of some key food waste and food insecurity related policies, research documents and recommendations. I've also listed some key CoV staff contacts. Do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or clarifications. Thank you again for your interest in these important policy matters and work to prioritize them.

Kind regards,

Carla Pellegrini

Executive Director (she/her)

(236) 866-5227

100 - 290 East 1st Ave, Vancouver, BC, V5T 1A6



Donate [\[foodstash.ca\]](https://foodstash.ca) |

Website [\[foodstash.ca\]](https://foodstash.ca) | Instagram [\[instagram.com\]](https://www.instagram.com/foodstash) | Facebook [\[facebook.com\]](https://www.facebook.com/foodstash)

Food Stash Foundation operates on the unceded land of the s̓ilw̓ ta̓ (Tsleil-Waututh [\[twnation.ca\]](https://twnation.ca)),
S̓wxwú7mesh ([Squamish \[squamish.net\]](https://squamish.net)) and x̓m̓ k̓ y̓ m̓ ([Musqueam \[musqueam.bc.ca\]](https://musqueam.bc.ca)) Nations



Councillor Adriane Carr

3rd Floor, City Hall
453 West 12th Ave
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4
Adriane.Carr@vancouver.ca

October 31, 2022

Re: Food Research & Policy Recommendations in the City of Vancouver

Dear Councillor Carr,

As discussed, please find attached a brief summary of key issues around food waste and food insecurity, as well as relevant research and policy recommendations. Do not hesitate to reach out for any clarification or for further information. Thank you for your hard work to centralize these core issues within Vancouver's policy agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carla Pellegrini'.

Carla Pellegrini

Executive Director
Food Stash Foundation
director@foodstash.ca
236-866-5227

Key Issues - Environmental

- If food waste were a country, it would be the 3rd largest greenhouse gas emitter in the world
 - It is not addressed in Vancouver's [Climate Emergency Action Plan](#)
 - Business case for adding food waste to the plan is [here](#) (Vancouver's avoidable food waste is valued at over \$250M per year)
- Food waste reduction was part of the [City's Greenest City Action Plan](#) (GCAP) with a goal of reducing food waste by 50% by 2020; it is also part of the [Vancouver Zero Waste 2040 Strategic Plan](#) (ZW2040) which acknowledges a need to better track and report on food waste data in order to measure progress, but:
 - There is no required or standardized way to collect and report on food waste data and the City itself doesn't even report its own food waste data
 - Draft motion for food waste reporting [here](#)
- [Section 11 of the new Vancouver Plan](#) outlines high level goals for a more just and sustainable food system; policies and funding must follow

Key Issues - Social

- [Latest food insecurity data](#) show that 1 in 7 BC households are food insecure
- In BC there are [6 food charities for every 1 grocery store](#) - the 'normal' ways of accessing food are inaccessible for a large subset of the population
- Food charities are not funded by the City, despite the fact that they are providing a public good and service to those in need who are otherwise left out and not served by the government
 - Social policy staff have advised Food Stash Foundation that **its work to rescue and redistribute surplus food does not align with City priorities and will not be funded**; grant applications submitted for the Greenest City Program and Core Support Program were denied in 2021. Sustainable Food Systems grants only fund neighbourhood houses.
 - Food charities not funded by the City in 2021 include Food Stash Foundation, A Better Life Foundation, Sole Food Street Farms, Vancouver Food Runners
 - Yet many of the 35 other nonprofits and charities that Food Stash Foundation delivers food to receive funding from the City (Atira Women's Resource Society, DUDES Club, Downtown Eastside Women's Centre, Family Services of Greater Vancouver, La Boussole, KidSafe, The Dugout Drop-In, Kettle Society, Little Mountain Neighbourhood House, Lu'ma Native Housing Society, RainCity Housing, Urban Native Youth Association, Writers' Exchange). These nonprofits and charities would struggle to address the City's priority funding areas of reconciliation, gender-based violence and accessibility without first meeting their clients' basic food needs.

Key Contacts at CoV

- Erin Nichols, Senior Project Manager – Zero Waste
 - Erin.Nichols@vancouver.ca
 - 604-829-9358
- Caitlin Dorward, Social Planner – Food Policy
 - Caitlin.Dorward@vancouver.ca
 - 604-873-7764
- Peter Bruckmann, Social Planner - Grants
 - Peter.Bruckmann@vancouver.ca
 - 604.871.6682

Research and Policy Recommendations

- Vancouver-specific research (funded by CoV Greenest Scholars Programmed, commissioned by Erin Nicols)
 - [Juan Martinez](#) - Policies, incentives, and measurement protocols for food waste reporting by businesses (2021)
 - Outlines current food waste context in Vancouver, highlights relevant case studies from around the world, and articulates tangible paths forward (voluntary agreements, regulations) to help move the dial on reducing food waste in Vancouver
 - [Kat Jin](#) - Best Practices for a Business Sector Campaign to Reduce Wasted Food: Encouraging Behaviour Change and Sustainable Practices (2020)
 - Summarizes food waste reduction campaigns from around the world and articulates an approach that would work in Vancouver
 - [Andrea Byfuglien](#) - Best Practices for Food Waste Avoidance in Retail (2019)
 - Summarizes ways that the City can support behaviour change around food waste at the grocery level
 - **Compliance program to enforce landfill ban** of organics only ran from 2017-2019 where businesses who did not indicate that they had an organics program in place received follow-up letters; City is no longer tracking or enforcing this important legislation
 - Opportunity to require, that businesses donate their surplus food (California recently passed [this legislation](#)), or at least work to better [connect them to local food charities here](#)
 - Could incorporate a question on business licence renewal forms asking if surplus food is donated
 - **Food insecurity is a result of poverty.** Temporary food aid is important until we can address systems-level change, but to really address food insecurity, [we must tackle poverty](#).

- Canada-specific research (produced by [Second Harvest](#))
 - [Wasted Opportunity](#) (2022)
 - Only 4% of edible surplus food is being donated
 - [Canada's Invisible Food Network](#) (2021)
 - More than 60,000 nonprofits and charities across Canada providing critical food aid to nearly 7 million Canadians each year
 - For every 1 grocery store in BC, there are 6 nonprofits working in the food sector
 - [The Avoidable Crisis of Food Waste](#) (2020)
 - Nearly 60% of food produced in Canada (35.5 million tonnes) is lost and wasted each year
 - 32% of that food is edible and could be redirected to support people in our communities
 - The total financial value of this potentially rescuable lost and wasted food is \$49.46 billion

From: Stacey Forrester
To: Stewart, Kennedy
Cc: Bligh, Rebecca; Boyle, Christine; Carr, Adriane; De Genova, Melissa; Dominato, Lisa; Fry, Pete; Hardwick, Colleen; Kirby-Yung, Sarah; Swanson, Jean; Wiebe, Michael; vancoyver@goodnightoutreach.org
Subject: [EXT] Good Night Out GED Letter to Mayor with Council cc"
Date: Monday, August 29, 2022 12:28:25 PM
Attachments: [GNO GED Letter to Mayor Stewart.pdf](#)
[GNO GED Street Team Summer Data.pdf](#)

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Hello Mayor Stewart,

Please find attached a letter from Good Night Out Vancouver regarding safety and nightlife in the Granville Entertainment District, sparked by your [press release \[bc.ctvnews.ca\]](#) earlier this summer. Additionally, please find attached the Good Night Out Granville Outreach Team's Summer Report on the data collected while out in the GED.

Please note, as the Good Night Out Granville Outreach Team is currently partially funded by the City, I have included council on cc as well.

Thank you,

--



Stacey Forrester
Education Coordinator
she/her/hers

Good Night Out acknowledges that this project was born on the occupied and unceded ancestral territories of the [xwməθkwəy̓](#) [musqueam.bc.ca], [skx̣ \[squamish.net/wu7mesh \[squamish.net\], and səliwətaʔ \[en.wikipedia.org\]](#) people. As a feminist organization addressing violence against marginalized genders, we are committed to making the links between colonization, settler-imposed power structures, and sexual violence.

GOOD NIGHT OUT VANCOUVER



Mayor Kennedy Stewart
3rd Floor, City Hall
453 West 12th Ave
Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4

August 29th, 2022

Dear Mayor Kennedy Stewart

My name is Stacey, and I am a part of Good Night Out Vancouver (GNO). We are a local non-profit that works to address sexual violence in nightlife, music and hospitality. Our two core programs are an education program and an outreach team that operates in Vancouver's Club district on the weekends. Good Night Out's unique lens on worker AND patron safety, has meant we work with establishments, artists, and festivals across North America.

Our education program was recently awarded a grant to implement a pilot project to act on a 2019 motion to address sexual violence in Vancouver's hospitality industry. Our organization will be selecting 10 establishments to work closely with for a year in partnership with the City of Vancouver, building workers prevention and response skills, writing policy, and utilizing reporting methods for the public and workers. This pilot will have a heavy (but not exclusive) focus on the Granville Entertainment District (GED).

Since 2017, we have also operated an outreach team that works midnight to 4 a.m. on weekends in the GED. When we launched this program, it was the first of its kind in North America, modeled after many European nightlife districts, many of whom also use a Nightlife office or Night Mayor model. Our team was on hiatus during most of the COVID restrictions and restarted as soon as nightclubs were given permission to re-open. Since this restart we have been markedly busier than *any* of the previous months this team has operated in. There was a theory that society would enter a "roaring 20's" as we emerged from the pandemic, and from our perspective on the ground this is true and then some. Our team used to typically start to get busy around 1:45 a.m. They are now 'full tilt' from the time they start, with people visibly intoxicated and in need of help much earlier than even Midnight. This increased demand is amplified by the additional shelters and SRO buildings in the area now. 'Safety' for us means safety for everyone who spends time in the GED, and so we are now also distributing food socks and harm reduction supplies to those populations in additions to our core mandate.

We carry out this work on the occupied and unceded ancestral territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səliłwətaʔ people. As a feminist anti-violence project and as settlers, we are committed to unpacking the links between colonialism and all forms of violence and oppression, as well as making space in our work to call attention to the continuing colonial genocide that is non-consensual land occupation and resource extraction, and the ongoing and unsolved cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG). To learn more about MMIWG, [please click here](#).

GOOD NIGHT OUT VANCOUVER



The week this team launched in 2017, we got nearly 50 press hits in 3 days. This team was even called ["The Guardian Angels of Vancouver's Club District"](#) by Vice. Despite this attention, to this day, we have yet to start the fiscal year with the funding needed to run the team for a full year. We must solicit donations from stores for supplies and from the public. We ask the coordinator to schedule, shop, hire, train, and critical incident debrief on a weekly basis within a budget that only allows for 10 hours of work per week. This could easily be a 20 hour a week role. We run this

team on a thread-bare budget, despite providing a vital safety service with increasing demands. The team collects detailed data about the services provided every weekend in the GED. The full data set for the summer is attached as a separate document, along with comments from the nightly sheets, but some noteworthy comments are:

- *"Spotted guy with bloody face. Checked in, was ok. Refused first aid."*
- *"Single guy totally passed/greened out on a corner. Breathing, opened eyes for a moment, otherwise unresponsive."*
- *"Woman found on ground with 2 people assisting. Unresponsive, administered Narcan. Put in recovery position. Suspected GHB overdose. {Removed} bouncer implicated a suspect already apprehended."*
- *"Noticed intoxicated woman puking, checked in and provided support. Got them in a taxi and they left."*
- *"Giant dumpster fire behind {removed} called fire. Police showed up and then fire services."*
- *"Tourists asking us info about places to go out on Granville and gave appreciation for doing what we do."*
- *"Two men were talking to this female presenting person who looked visibly uncomfortable. Came over, checked in and the female left while I was asking the men if they wanted water. Made sure the men went off in a different direction than the female. Will be keeping an eye out for them the rest of the night."*

In the press release that came out at the end of June, it is mentioned that the nightlife office is already looking into increasing capacity limits and extending closing hours to 3 a.m. for bars and nightclubs in the downtown core. We did not write this letter right away, as we were hoping to be contacted for consultation over the summer, given our presence in this area and the fact that we are being trusted to lead the pilot project which will focus on the GED mentioned above. In fact, we are humbly accepting an award in a couple of weeks touting the team as "Emerging Leaders" for our work in the GED.

We carry out this work on the occupied and unceded ancestral territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səliłwətaʔl people. As a feminist anti-violence project and as settlers, we are committed to unpacking the links between colonialism and all forms of violence and oppression, as well as making space in our work to call attention to the continuing colonial genocide that is non-consensual land occupation and resource extraction, and the ongoing and unsolved cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG). To learn more about MMIWG, [please click here](#).

GOOD NIGHT OUT VANCOUVER



Sexual Assault in Canada is the [highest it has been in 16 years](#). In fact, the Crime Severity Index for Canada, [rose 5% recently](#) and this was largely due to the increase of Level 1 sexual assaults. Level one sexual assaults are acts such as “groping” of which our team hears about dozens of times a night in GED. The Central Business District, in which the GED is located is the neighborhood in Vancouver with the [highest rate of sexual assault](#). Sexual assault in Vancouver is on the rise, which is contrary to targets laid out in both the Healthy City Strategy and the Women’s Equity Strategy, and echos the work that has been completed to date in the working being done on the UN Safe Cities for Women Scoping Study.

We obviously have concerns about more people in the GED for longer hours. We have shared the data here to justify our concerns. However, we think the best way to illustrate our concerns is to invite you do a shift with the team. To help get a sense for what it would be like with longer hours and more people, we invite you to join us on the upcoming long weekend, or the first weekend after the Universities are back in session. We have cc’d council on this letter, and extend the invite to any one at the City who is interested. Please let us know if you would like to join us, as well as your required T Shirt size, and we would be happy to bring you out with us.

Stacey Forrester
Education Director, Co-Founder
Good Night Out Vancouver

goodnightoutvancouver.com
Instagram: [goodnightout_vancouver](#)
Twitter: [goodnightoutVAN](#)
Facebook: [Good Night Out Vancouver](#)

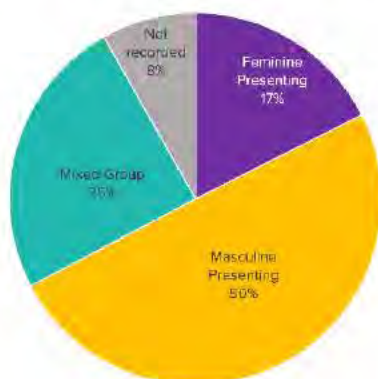
We carry out this work on the occupied and unceded ancestral territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səliłwətaʔl people. As a feminist anti-violence project and as settlers, we are committed to unpacking the links between colonialism and all forms of violence and oppression, as well as making space in our work to call attention to the continuing colonial genocide that is non-consensual land occupation and resource extraction, and the ongoing and unsolved cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls (MMIWG). To learn more about MMIWG, [please click here](#).



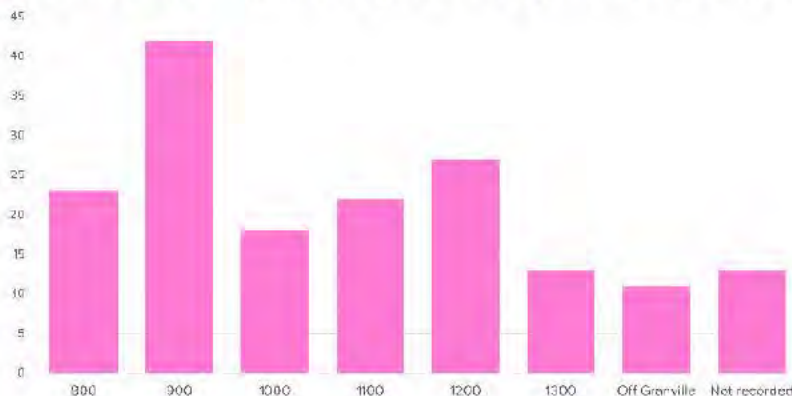
note: team was not operational June 2021,
2020, or 2019, so comparison not available



Breakdown of contacts by gender presentation:

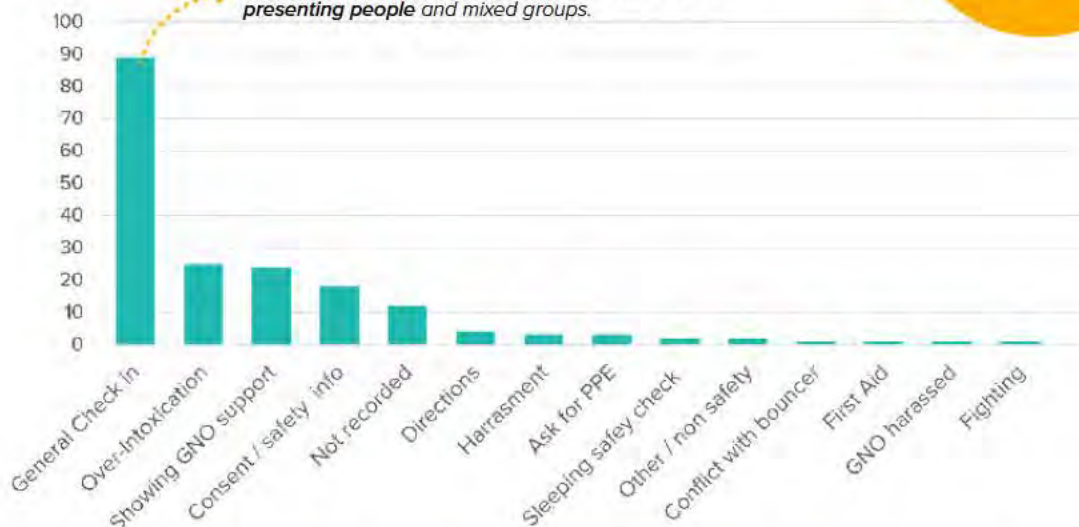


Location of contact organized by Granville block:



Nature of Contact:

Most common support for feminine and masculine presenting people and mixed groups.



171
contacts
serving 359
people.



64%

of contacts
happened
between
before 2 am

No demographic information is asked of the public, but team members do enter observations as part of reporting requirements for funders. We do realize that some of these rely on traditional assumptions within a problematic gender binary.

Contacts = any situation the team encounters. Mixed groups = more than one person of differing gendering presentations. Nature of contact = support services provided. Contacts might require more than one service. Upon testing, it has been shown that approximately 10-12% of contacts are not recorded during peak times on shift.

DESTINATION
VANCOUVER

downTOWN 311

CITY OF VANCOUVER

VIVA VAN

additional notes

June



"Puke bag, wet wipes."

"Spotted guy with bloody face. Checked in, was ok. Refused first aid."

"Single guy totally passed/greened out on a corner. Breathing, opened eyes for a moment, otherwise unresponsive. Nick & David is staying to make sure he's ok. Update 2:10am: guy woke up, refused assistance. Walked away."

"Man was totally passed out on ground. Friends literally picked him up and carried him into their car. Just needed sleep."

"Asked for IV drug supplies."

"Argument, yelling. Affirmation from female presenting that they did not want help. Gave tissues."

The Good Night Out Vancouver street team operates on Granville between Robson and Drake. Spot them in their pink Friday and Saturdays Midnight - 4 am.

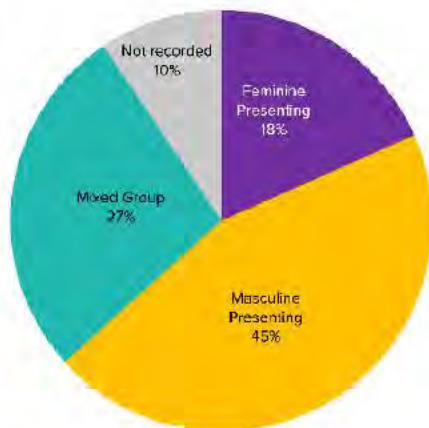
Learn more:

www.goodnightoutvancouver.com/granville-street-team

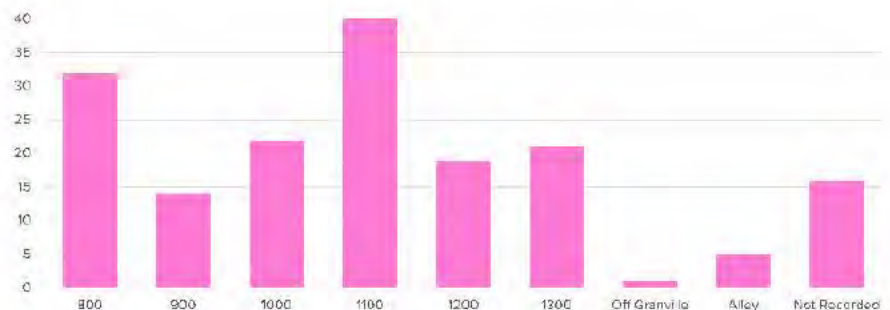




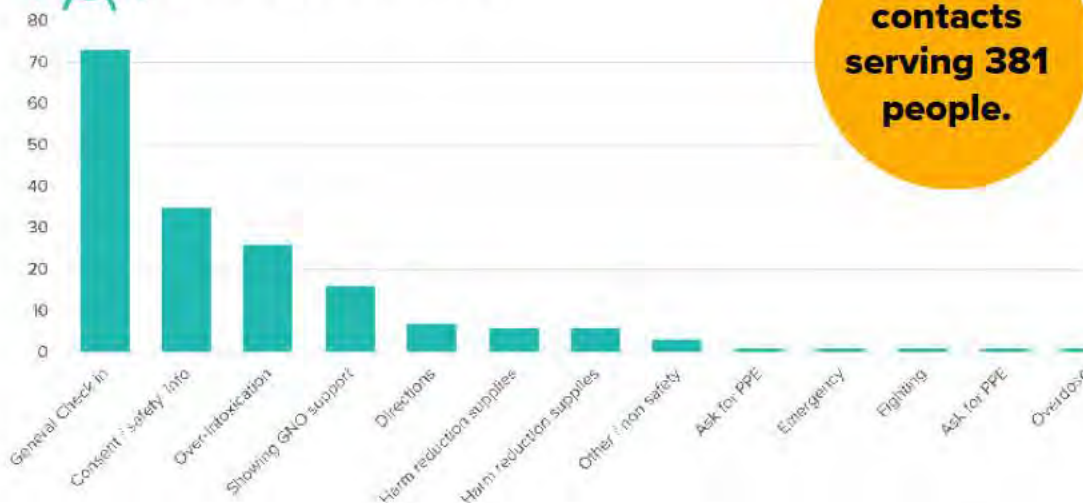
Breakdown of contacts by gender presentation:



Location of contact organized by Granville block:



Nature of Contact:



170
contacts
serving 381
people.



1-2am

was the busiest
hour this month!

No demographic information is asked of the public, but team members do enter observations as part of reporting requirements for funders. We do realize that some of these rely on traditional assumptions within a problematic gender binary.

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DESTINATION
VANCOUVER

downTOWN 311

CITY OF VANCOUVER

VIVA VAN

Good Night Out on Granville

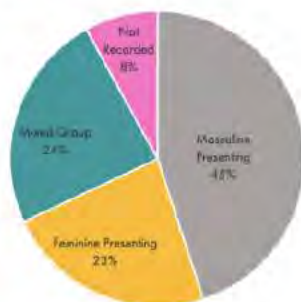
for comparison

note: team was not operational July 2020

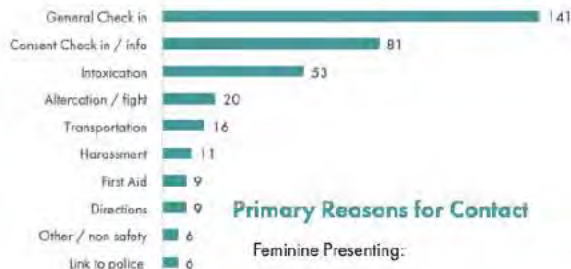


97 contacts recorded, supporting 148 people

Breakdown of Contacts by Gender Presentation



Nature of Contact



Primary Reasons for Contact

Feminine Presenting:

- #1 General Check in
- #2 Consent Check in / info
- #3 Intoxication

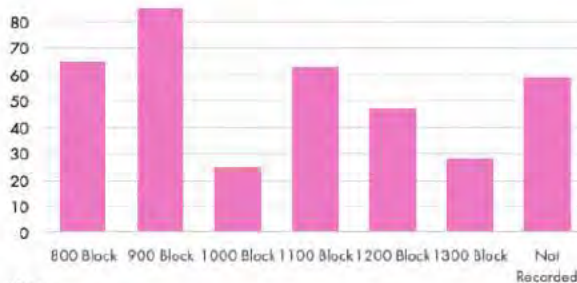
Masculine Presenting:

- #1 General Check in & Consent Check in /
- #2 Intoxication
- #3 Fighting

Mixed Group:

- #1 Intoxication
- #2 Consent Check in / info
- #3 General Check in

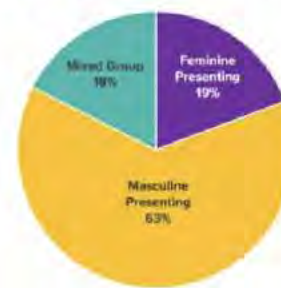
Location of Contact



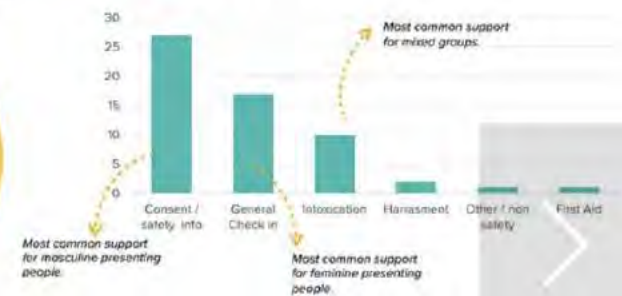
Notes:
Groups of mixed gender presentation are counted as 1 contact & supports are listed under "mixed groups." Nature of Contact = services provided. Contacts could need more than 1 support service. It is estimated that 10-12% of contacts are missed during peak times of shift.



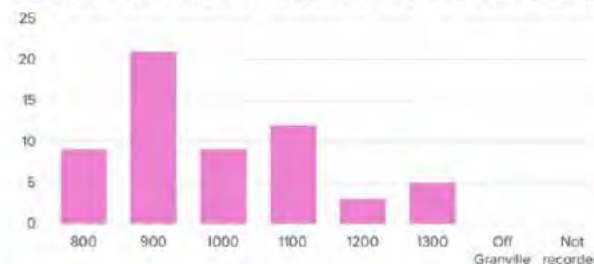
Breakdown of contacts by gender presentation:



Nature of Contact:



Location of contact organized by Granville block:



No demographic information is asked of the public, but team members do enter observations as part of reporting requirements for funders. We do realize that some of these rely on traditional assumptions within a problematic gender binary.

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58 contacts serving 102 people.



48%

of contacts happened between 2am - 3am



additional notes July



“Visibly intoxicated man, swaying a lot. Checked on him, refused assistance. Advised him to find better stability - maybe enter the fenced-in seating area, instead of standing off the edge of the street; was sweating profusely, eyes unfocused.”

“Woman found on ground with 2 people assisting. Unresponsive, administered Narcan. Put in recovery position. Suspected GHB overdose; Roxy bouncer implicated a suspect already apprehended. Emergency services / ambulance arrived nearly immediately.”

“Indigenous man we met earlier in the night felt he was being followed by 2 big guys in black, for more than 2 blocks. Asked to accompany us for a bit. Split off when we found the unresponsive guy on the corner.”

“Fight broke out in front of aura. Loud firework went off. Fight dissipated after a few min.”

“Woman passed out; barely responsive. Found man helping her. Gave Narcan & other supplies; requested IV supplies. Will come back to check on her. 1am update: they’re gone; as nothing was left behind, we assume they didn’t leave in a rush.”

“Group of 6 VS group of 4; observed a near-fight in front of Donair Town. 1 man was shoved; fight de-escalated after a few minutes.”

The Good Night Out Vancouver street team operates on Granville between Robson and Drake. Spot them in their pink Friday and Saturdays Midnight - 4 am.

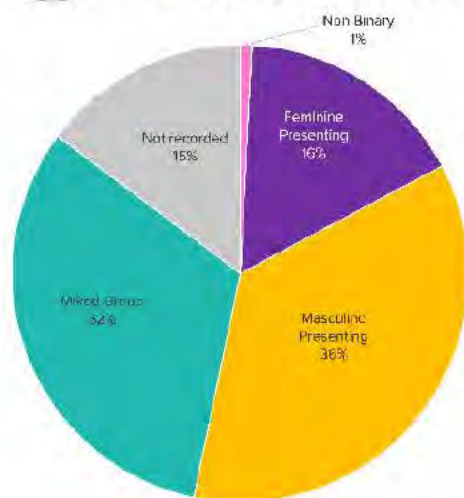
Learn more:

www.goodnightoutvancouver.com/granville-street-team

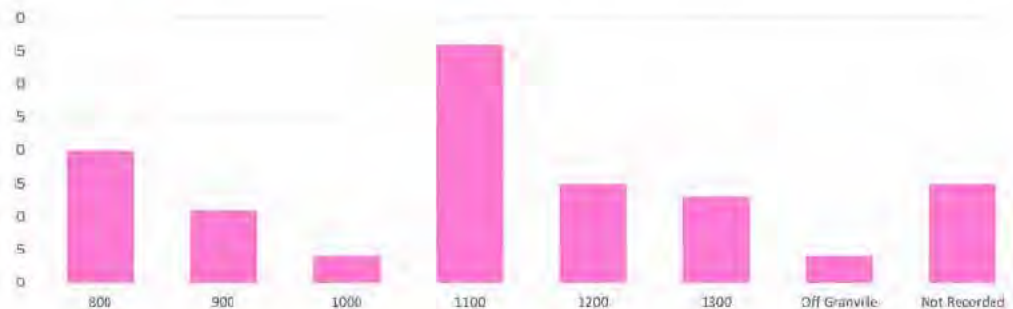




Breakdown of contacts by gender presentation:



Location of contact organized by Granville block:



**120
contacts
serving 253
people.**



Nature of Contact:



61%

**of contacts
happened
between
before 2 am**

No demographic information is asked of the public, but team members do enter observations as part of reporting requirements for funders. We do realize that some of these rely on traditional assumptions within a problematic gender binary.

Contacts = any situation the team encounters. Mixed groups = more than one person of differing gendering presentations. Nature of contact = support services provided. Contacts might require more than one service. Upon testing, it has been shown that approximately 10-12% of contacts are not recorded during peak times on shift.

DESTINATION
VANCOUVER

downtown 311

CITY OF
VANCOUVER

VIVA VAN
COU

Good Night Out on Granville

for comparison

note: team was not operational August 2020



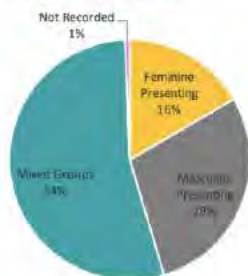
GOOD NIGHT OUT ON GRANVILLE

AUGUST 2019

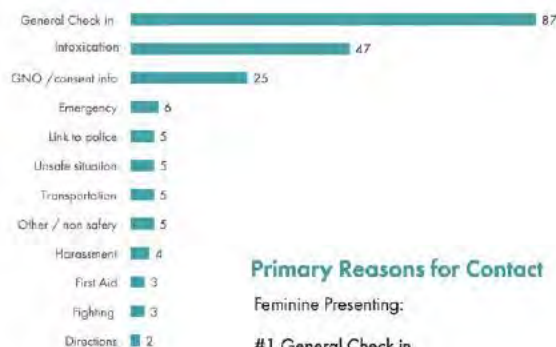


197 contacts recorded, supporting 263 people

Breakdown of Contacts by Gender Presentation



Nature of Contact



Primary Reasons for Contact

Feminine Presenting:

- #1 General Check in
- #2 Intoxication
- #3 Unsafe Situation

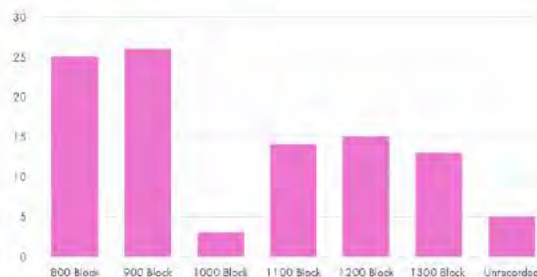
Masculine Presenting:

- #1 General Check in
- #2 Intoxication
- #3 Consent Info

Mixed Group:

- #1 General Check in
- #2 Consent Check in / info
- #3 Intoxication

Location of Contact



Notes:
Groups of mixed gender presentation are counted as 1 contact & supports are listed under "mixed groups." Nature of Contact = services provided. Contacts could need more than 1 support service. It is estimated that 10-12% of contacts are missed during peak times of shift.



Good Night Out on Granville

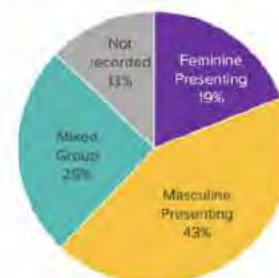
AUGUST 2021



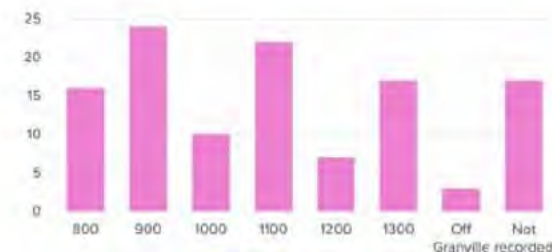
*Team did not operate Aug 14 and 28



Breakdown of contacts by gender presentation:



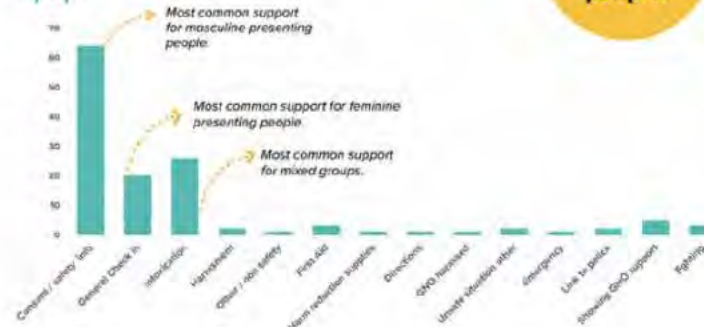
Location of contact organized by Granville block:



117 contacts serving 232 people.



Nature of Contact:

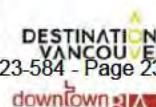


40%

of contacts happened between 2am - 3am

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additional notes

August



“Noticed intoxicated woman puking, checked in and provided support. Got them in a taxi and they left.”

“Giant dumpster fire behind Cabana, called fire. Police showed up and then fire services.”

“Tourists asking us info about places to go out on Granville and gave appreciation for doing what we do.”

“Two men were talking to this female presenting person who looked visibly uncomfortable. Came over, checked in and the female left while I was asking the men if they wanted water. Made sure the men went off in a different direction than the female. Will be keeping an eye out for them the rest of the night.”

“You should have signs over your heads that day HEROES.”

“Checked in with two femmes that were visibly uncomfortable talking to an older man. Man was stereotyping and general icky behaviour.”

“Helped a very intoxicated man clean himself up and make contact with a ride home.”

The Good Night Out Vancouver street team operates on Granville between Robson and Drake. Spot them in their pink Friday and Saturdays Midnight - 4 am.

Learn more:

www.goodnightoutvancouver.com/granville-street-team



From: [Yiman Jiang](#)
To: [Carr, Adriane](#); adriane.carr@vangreens.ca
Subject: [EXT] Nice speaking with you yesterday / Cedar Cottage Community Garden
Date: Monday, August 22, 2022 3:47:20 PM
Attachments: [2022-01-20-CCCG-is-aligned-with-PBgoals.pdf](#)

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Dear Adriane,

It was really nice speaking with you in person at the farmers market yesterday. As you know, we are looking for an alternative location so that we can continue our gardening and related activities. Thank you for following up with VSB on their interest.

As mentioned, Parks Board approved the John Hendry renewal plan in May this year, which didn't include a community garden. The commissioners unanimously voted in favour of an amendment to the plan (<https://parkboardmeetings.vancouver.ca/2022/20220516/DECISION-JohnHendryTroutLakeParkRenewalPlan-20220516.pdf>), which states,

"THAT the Park Board asks staff to explore inclusion of community garden plots in the renewal plan."

We are waiting to hear where that might land.

In January 2022, I submitted to Parks Board the attached document (<https://bit.ly/33QQ1rq> [\[bit.ly\]](#)) outlining CCCG's achievements over the 15-year of its existence, and demonstrating what we had already put into action, since the inception of our garden, aligns very well with the four goals of the Local Food System Action Plan (LFSAP) 2021, and how a collaborative community garden like ours could play an integral role in Parks Board's reconciliation and decolonization efforts.

To highlight a few of our achievements:

- Our garden was founded by Vancouver Native Health Society, Vancouver Community Agriculture Network and Cedar Cottage Food Network, and created through community work led by T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss and David Tracey.
- CCCG continues its collaboration with urban Indigenous members.
- At its inception, CCCG established a meal program where members volunteer to grow food for donation to those in need. In the past three years we donated 900lb of garden-grown organic produce.
- Pre-COVID, CCCG frequently hosted two community events each year: a Spring Fling community event and a fall community harvest dinner.
- CCCG has collaborated with a long list of partner organizations, and facilitated their programs to meet their specific needs.
- CCCG boasts of a large variety of plants, berry bushes, 30 fruit trees, and many indigenous species.
- Each year CCCG provides over 100 gardeners and their families the opportunity to grow their own food and, as has been observed by many, a very productive and lush garden.
- CCCG is a green wonderland appreciated by many who wander through and sit down,

enjoying its natural beauty.

Here are some more reference materials for our garden:

- CCCG movie “Our Garden Needs a New Home”: <https://youtu.be/THtQTLyMb-8> [\[youtu.be\]](#)
- T’uy’t’anat-Cease Wyss speaking at CCCG 10th anniversary celebration community dinner in 2018: <https://youtu.be/RGzySLnQJf4> [\[youtu.be\]](#)
- Many photos of the garden and activities at <https://www.cedarcottagegarden.org/history> [\[cedarcottagegarden.org\]](#)

Thank you so much for all your hard work and your continued support for our garden. All the best in the upcoming civic election!

Yiman Jiang
CCCG Chair
604-838-7088



Cedar Cottage Garden Society

www.cedarcottagegarden.org

www.facebook.com/cedarcottagegarden

Mailing address:

Cedar Cottage Garden Society

Unit 403-1888 Victoria Diversion

Vancouver, BC, V5N 0C4

January 20, 2022

Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation
2099 Beach Avenue
Vancouver, BC, V6G 1Z4

Dear Commissioners and Parks Board staff and consultants,

As you may know, Cedar Cottage Community Garden (CCCG) submitted an application (<http://goo.gl/hjzdaN>) to Parks Board in July 2018 to create a community garden in John Hendry (Trout Lake) Park (JHP). In October 2019, CCCG also submitted to you 56 letters we received in support of a community garden in JHP along with a petition signed by over 700 individuals (<https://bit.ly/3E9FNiw>).

During the JHP Phase-1 public consultation in 2019 this initiative was overwhelmingly endorsed by the community – for every one person opposed, over eight were in support of a community garden in JHP. Throughout the process, we received only positive indications that our proposal was favourably received by Parks Board. After many delays (due to the COVID 19 pandemic), Parks Board published a JHP draft plan in November 2021. However, the community garden had been entirely dropped from this draft plan. The JHP Phase-2 public consultation that occurred in November-December 2021, primarily via an online survey, sought no community input on this subject.

In this document, I want to show you how well our work in CCCG aligns with the four goals of the Local Food System Action Plan (LFSAP) 2021, and how a community garden could play an integral role in Parks Board's reconciliation and decolonization efforts. We truly believe a garden for the community would be an ideal place to facilitate reconciliation at the personal and community level, to bring the community together, and to model reciprocity with the land and its first peoples. CCCG has the support of and will continue its collaboration with urban

Indigenous members and organizations in the co-creation of a community garden in JHP, should this initiative be approved by Parks Board.

Besides this document, I encourage you to watch two short videos to get a better understanding of our garden and what it stands for:

- T'uy't'tanat-Cease Wyss speaking at CCCG 10th anniversary celebration community dinner in 2018: <https://youtu.be/RGzvSLnQJf4>
- CCCG movie "Our Garden Needs a New Home" on CCCG website: www.cedarcottagegarden.org

The Vancouver Affordable Housing Agency (VAHA) recently notified us that our lease on CCCG's current garden site will end April 30, 2022. So, I invite you to come and visit our garden in the spring before the garden is demolished and construction begins. Then you can see for yourself the beautiful green space our community has created and maintained since 2008. At the start of the COVID pandemic, community gardens were designated as an essential service by all levels of government, due to their significant role within society. Our neighbourhood needs a community garden more than ever as we will soon lose the current CCCG site.

With that, I strongly urge you to reconsider the decision of including a community garden in JHP, and to allow the community that has been growing over the past 15 years to continue.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Yiman Jiang

CCCG Chair, on behalf of CCCG board, CCCG members and community partners
604-838-7088

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Summary

CCCG is a community garden aligned with Parks Board goals

This report provides an overview of CCCG's history, our actions and our future plans. It demonstrates clearly how well our community garden has aligned with the four goals of the Local Food System Action Plan (LFSAP) 2021, since the garden's inception. A community garden in John Hendry Park could play an integral role in the Park Board's reconciliation and decolonization efforts.

LFSAP 2021 Goals

CCCG Actions and Future Plans

	<p>GOAL 1:</p> <p>CENTRE INDIGENOUS VOICES IN FOOD SYSTEM WORK TO HONOUR THE TEACHING THAT "FOOD IS MEDICINE"</p> <p>Desired Outcome: Improved access to Park Board land for x̣ṃəθḳẉəỵ əṃ, Ṣḳẉx̣ ẉú7mesh, and səliẉətaɫ First Nations and Urban Indigenous peoples for food and medicine practices and increased funding allocated to Indigenous-centered food spaces and initiatives.</p>	<p>Indigenous voices were integral to the creation of CCCG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2008, the work of T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss and other community organizers led to the establishment of a partnership between the Vancouver Native Health Society, Cedar Cottage Food Network (CCFN) and CCCG to put forward a proposal to create a community garden. <p>CCCG provides access to Indigenous-centred food spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss brought Indigenous teachings and knowledge to the creation of the garden, which led to a strong presence of Indigenous plants, berries, and medicinal herbs that continue to flourish today. Since its creation in 2008, CCCG has been engaging with the Indigenous community on an on-going basis. <p>A garden in JHP would honour the teaching that "food is medicine":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCCG has the support of and will continue its collaboration with urban Indigenous members and organizations in the co-creation of a community garden in John Hendry Park. More recently CCCG discussed collaboration with Lu'ma Medical Center and CCFN, and all three organizations plan to work together to grow a food garden along with a medicine garden in JHP. CCCG members would also like to engage with aboriginal artists to honour First Nation's art in the design of the future garden.
	<p>GOAL 2:</p> <p>IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS</p> <p>Desired Outcome: Decreased barriers for collective and low-barrier food growing initiatives in historically underserved areas of the city and increased access and funding for food programs and events led by equity-denied groups.</p>	<p>CCCG promotes collective and low-barrier food growing initiatives for underserved community members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 64% of the garden areas at CCCG are gardened collectively, and a garden plaza (10%) is maintained for public use and enjoyment. Work parties are held 10-15 times a year for members to garden collectively, and to share the harvest, knowledge, and laughter. Since its inception, CCCG has established a meal program where members volunteer to grow food for donation to those in need. In the past three years we donated 900lb of garden-grown organic produce. Pre-COVID, CCCG frequently hosted two community events each year: a Spring Fling community event and a fall community harvest dinner. Although CCCG has a \$30 annual membership fee due to the operating cost of a garden, we established a policy to ensure finances are not a barrier to involvement in the garden.



GOAL 3:

STRENGTHEN FOOD PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION TO SUPPORT A SUSTAINABLE AND JUST FOOD ECONOMY

Desired Outcome: Increased staff time and funding dedicated to the implementation of the plan, prioritized cross-departmental and partner collaboration, increased opportunities and access to fieldhouses, community food markets, and community centre kitchens to target gaps in service and address food insecurity.

CCCG's partnerships support a sustainable and just food economy:

- CCCG has collaborated with a long list of partner organizations, and facilitated their programs to meet their specific needs, including:
 - Vancouver Native Health Society
 - Urban Native Youth Association
 - Helping Spirit Lodge Society
 - Cedar Cottage Food Network
 - Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House
 - Environmental Youth Alliance
 - FarmFolk CityFolk
 - Community Studio
 - Collingwood Community Policing Center
 - Trout Lake Farmer's Market
 - Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society
 - Development Disabilities Association
 - Canuck Autism Network
 - Japanese Language School
 - Gladstone Secondary
 - UBC – Community Food Assessment Project
 - Frank Hurt Secondary – Global Issue Club
 - 180th Pacific Coast Rover Scout Group
 - Afro Van Connect
- We look forward to strengthening these partnerships
- We look forward to more collaborative educational opportunities with Trout Lake Community Centre as well as Trout Lake Farmers Market, should we be given the opportunity to garden in Trout Lake Park.



GOAL 4:

BUILD LONG-TERM FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND INCREASE BIODIVERSITY

Desired Outcome: Increased food and garden educational opportunities, contributed to future emergency food planning, and contributed to city-wide goals by increasing Biodiversity and zero waste initiatives.

CCCG is committed to increasing food resiliency, biodiversity and sustainability:

- CCCG is a green wonderland, composed of a large variety of plants, bushes and trees, many of which are Indigenous species.
- This richly diverse environment provides many wildlife and pollinators with food and nesting grounds.
- Each year CCCG provides over 100 gardeners the opportunity to grow their own food and, as has been observed by many, a very productive and lush garden.
- CCCG provides a wide array of benefits: physical, mental, social, educational and environmental to many people.
- CCCG provides many organizations, school groups, individuals and families with both structured and unstructured learning opportunities about food systems, growing food and many aspects of the world we live in and its ecology.
- We have a bee yard hosting 2-3 honey bee hives and the garden also attracts a large variety of native bees and other pollinators.
- We have a five-bin compost system for food and garden waste that is used by both garden members and by people living in the neighbourhood.

The Beginning of CCCG

How Cedar Cottage Community Garden Was Created



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 1 – 'CENTRE INDIGENOUS VOICES IN FOOD SYSTEM WORK...'

During 2007-2008, through the community work of T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss (Vancouver Native Health Society), David Tracey (Vancouver Community Agriculture Network), Paula Luther (Vancouver Farmers Market) and Jill Dalton (Cedar Cottage Food Network), residents from the neighbourhood were brought together to discuss the creation of a new community garden on the vacant City lot near Victoria Drive and Hull Street and the adjacent site under the SkyTrain guideway managed by Translink.

This group of community members met almost weekly month after month, to learn together, envision, plan and organize collectively. In May 2008, a partnership between Vancouver Native Health Society (VNHS), Cedar Cottage Food Network (CCFN) and CCCG was established to put forward a proposal to Translink to request the use of said property for a community garden; as described in the proposal, "funding for this project is tied to local First Nation organizations".

In June 2008, on behalf of VNHS, T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss signed the lease agreement for the garden with Translink, and secured the funds for the first year of insurance. On August 10, 2008, T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss gave her blessings at the garden and celebrated the completion of the first garden bed with songs and drumming. Thus began the story of CCCG.

Thank goodness for community gardens. Thank goodness for community kitchens. Thank goodness for community. Because that is the keyword, community.

When we started here, we did a lot of meetings at Cedar Cottage. People weren't really sure if we could pull this off. I said you know if we start small, it will do its thing, it will grow in the way it wants to grow, and the people who wants to be part of it will be there. It has always blow my mind how powerful the work parties have been here over the years, even expanding into the other section.

– T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss speaking at CCCG 10th anniversary celebration community dinner on July 21, 2018 (<https://youtu.be/RGzvSLnQJf4>)

What We Have Achieved

Indigenous presence at CCCG



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 1 – ‘CENTRE INDIGENOUS VOICES IN FOOD SYSTEM WORK TO HONOUR THE TEACHING THAT “FOOD IS MEDICINE”’

T’uy’t’anat-Cease Wyss not only helped to create CCCG, she also brought Indigenous teachings and knowledge to the garden, which led to a strong presence of Indigenous plants, berries, and medicinal herbs in the garden from the very beginning, and they continue to flourish in the garden today. Through T’uy’t’anat-Cease Wyss, members of Vancouver Native Health Society and Urban Native Youth Association were also involved in the early years of CCCG.

There is a dedicated native garden section at CCCG, but Indigenous and medicinal plants can be seen throughout the garden, including:

Oregon grape	elderberry	salmon berry	thimbleberry	chokeberry
red flowering currant	California lilac	kinnikinnick	yarrow	wild carrot
western sword fern	Indian hyacinth	wild strawberry	stinging nettle	valerian
California poppy	blue eyed grass	bleeding heart	calendula	wild rose
lady’s mantle	Herb Robert	phacelia	impatiens	chamomile
dandelion	red clover	<i>etc.</i>		



T’uy’t’anat-Cease Wyss at CCCG 10th anniversary celebration community dinner in the garden (2018)

CCCG has been engaging with the Indigenous community on an on-going basis. Lori Snyder is a Métis herbalist and educator who shares the wisdom and traditions of her Indigenous roots.



Lori Snyder teaching at CCCG Spring Fling community event (2019) on Indigenous plants and their medicinal uses

Indigenous cultural facilitator Leona Brown, from the Gitxsan Huwilp nation, is deeply involved in the study of Indigenous plants in the urban setting, and a strong advocate for the re-introduction of Indigenous medicinal plants into city parks, school gardens and public places.



Leona Brown joined us at CCCG community harvest dinner (2019) and spoke to us on the importance of the garden work

Some examples of our garden's community sharing:

- Through CCCG's partnership with CCFN, some years the elderberry harvested from our garden was used in the elderberry syrup making workshops at Trout Lake Community Center.
- In 2019, some garden members grew tobacco plants in a communal patch and the harvested leaves were offered to Leona Brown as a gift.

More than 50% of garden areas are communally grown / maintained



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 2 – ‘IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS’



Aligns with VanPlay 2040 Local Food Asset Targets – ‘All new community gardens on Park Board managed land have at least 50% of total area dedicated to collective food growing.’

CCCG started on the Translink property in 2008, and in 2010 CCCG expanded to the adjacent triangle lot near 2009 Stainsbury Avenue as its second phase. Over the years, another nearby vacant lot at 2015 Stainsbury Avenue was adopted by garden members, as well as local residents, for unstructured gardening. Today, a large part of the 2015 Stainsbury Avenue lot has been cultivated by CCCG’s meal program team to grow organic produce for donation to those in need. The lot also hosts a communal orchard of 15 fruit trees.

The map below shows a distribution of gardening space:

	Percentage of total leased area	Percentage of total area (inc. unofficial garden area)
Communally grown garden space	45%	64%
Garden plots	40%	26%
Garden plaza for public use	15%	10%



Map Legend:

- Blue: communally grown and maintained
- Yellow: garden plots
- Purple: garden plaza, community gathering space maintained by CCCG members



Regular work parties and harvest sharing



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 2 – ‘IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS’

In the early years when CCCG was going through its construction phase, various groups of garden members held over 50 work parties each year in order to establish the garden infrastructure (such as the garden shed, arbours, espalier fence, garden plots, compost bins, bee yard, *etc.*) as well as planting a variety of annual and perennials. As the garden matured, each year CCCG board members, team leads and experienced gardeners host 10-15 work parties from spring to fall so members can join and work on the communal areas collectively. Each work party typically last 3-4 hours, and gardening tasks include weeding, planting, watering, pruning, line trimming, topping with compost and spreading wood chips, turning the compost bins, harvesting and sharing. Work parties also complete maintenance tasks such as picking up garbage and fixing garden boxes, tools, hoses, *etc.* Garden to-do tasks are also posted on the garden website as well as garden shed to encourage members to tend to the communal areas in their own time.

Crops from all the communal areas are shared among members during work parties, and some less perishable produce such as garlic, potato, corn, bean, zucchini, apple, pear, and lavender are left in the garden shed for members not present at the work party to enjoy. When soft fruits such as berries are ripe, all members are notified via email and newsletter to pick and share.

Pre-COVID, a variety of workshops were held during work parties on vegetable gardening, fruit tree pruning, beekeeping, honey extraction, medicinal plants, herbal products, permaculture, and more.

“We see Cedar Cottage Garden as a leader in community garden development and organizing. Often, we are in awe of all that they do with a group of volunteers and have learned a lot from their garden.”

– Belinda Li (board member of CROWS Point Community Garden Society, now co-founder, Food System Lab), Letter of Support #43*

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

[Appendix C](#) shows a small collection of photos from our garden work parties. It is through these garden work parties and other garden events that members get to know each other, and share the harvest, knowledge, and laughter. Community is built through the vegetables, flowers and fruits we grow and our mutual love of gardening.

CCCG meal program donations started in 2009 and continues to grow



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 2 – ‘IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS’

To create, build and grow CCCG, a number of organizations provided generous funding over the years. A large number of community members volunteered their knowledge, skills and thousands of hours to make CCCG what it is today. One of the founding principles of CCCG is to “**pass on the gift**”, in any way we can, whether it be sharing seeds, seedlings, plants, and knowledge or produce harvested. This principle was established in the formation of the garden and is reflected in all aspects of the CCCG operations.

One way CCCG contributes to food security in the broader community is through our meal program. The principles and goals of the meal program align very well with Parks Board’s guiding principle of “allocating resources and reducing barriers to currently underserved communities”. CCCG members volunteer their time and effort to plant, water, nurture, harvest and deliver the fresh produce organically grown from the garden to Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House (CCNH). The donated produce was used to enhance delicious and healthy meals prepared for CCNH’s various programs and services, such as the Seniors Supper Club and Indigenous Family Night, as well as being distributed to local families in need.

The meal program started in 2009 with two garden beds allocated for growing food for donation, and expanded to today’s 5 designated beds and a large area in the unofficial field garden, with 7-10 members participating in the meal program team each year.

For the years that we kept the necessary records:

Year	Total Donated Produce	Number of Deliveries
2011	55lb	
2012	50lb	
2014	100lb	
2019	275lb	28
2020	300lb	32
2021	317lb	35



[Appendix D](#) shows a collection of photos from CCCG's meal program donations from 2020 and 2021, and an appreciation letter received from Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House in 2020.

A large variety of produce is delivered to CCNH from May – November each year, including:

assortment of lettuce	arugula	basil	beet	bell pepper
broccoli	carrot	celery	celtuce	cherry tomato
Chinese celery	chive	collard green	cucumber	Chinese chive
elephant garlic	daikon	escarole	fava bean	fingerling potato
gai lan	garlic	green bean	hot pepper	heirloom tomato
kale	kohlrabi	leek	lovage	mint
mustard green	orach	oregano	pac choi	parsnip
patty pan	potato	pumpkin	radicchio	red cabbage
red onion	roman beans	rhubarb	rutabagas	runner beans
savoy cabbage	sage	snap peas	strawberry	assortment of squash
Taiwan cabbage	swiss chard	turnip	zucchini	etc.

"The over 300lbs of organic produce that you donated this summer contributed to a varied and healthy diet for the seniors, and allowed us to maximize the impact of our limited budget. The fact that the food is grown locally (a few hundred meters away), organically, and sustainably only add to our sense of appreciation."

– Kelly Woods (Director of Seniors, Community Development and Special Projects, CCNH), Letter of Appreciation*

*See [Appendix D](#) – Letter of Appreciation from CCNH, received on October 8, 2020.

Local groups participating in the nurturing and growth of CCCG

- ✓ Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 1 – 'CENTRE INDIGENOUS VOICES IN FOOD SYSTEM WORK TO HONOUR THE TEACHING THAT "FOOD IS MEDICINE"'
- ✓ Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 2 – 'IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS'
- ✓ Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 3 – 'STRENGTHEN FOOD PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION TO SUPPORT A SUSTAINABLE AND JUST FOOD ECONOMY'

A number of local organizations and community groups have partnered and participated in the creation of the garden and ongoing gardening activities, and in turn the garden helped to facilitate their programs and meet their specific needs.

Some of these organizations are:

- Vancouver Native Health Society
- Urban Native Youth Association
- Helping Spirit Lodge Society
- Cedar Cottage Food Network
- Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House
- Environmental Youth Alliance
- FarmFolk CityFolk
- Community Studio
- Collingwood Community Policing Center
- Trout Lake Farmer's Market
- Downtown Eastside Youth Activities Society
- Development Disabilities Association
- Canuck Autism Network
- Japanese Language School
- Gladstone Secondary
- UBC – Community Food Assessment Project
- Frank Hurt Secondary – Global Issue Club
- 180th Pacific Coast Rover Scout Group
- Afro Van Connect



Members of [Afro Van Connect](#) gardening at CCCG in 2020.

“Cedar Cottage Community Garden allowed us to use their location and provide programs for youth and young adults transitioning into adulthood. The use of the community garden had a positive impact on providing life skills and practical hands-on activities to individuals with developmental disabilities. These types of activities are great to provide a sense of accomplishment and working towards a goal – to maintain a community garden in the community that we are a part of.

– Alanna Hendren (Executive Director, Developmental Disabilities Association), Letter of Support #47*

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

Over the years, a number of different school groups, Boy Scout groups and Girl Guide groups came to CCCG to participate in gardening activities, and to learn important lessons.

“Over the course of several months, our volunteers will be tending to a wonderful little garden in Vancouver - Cedar Cottage Community Garden and donating everything that’s grown there back to the local community! We’ll also be hosting live streams on weekends from the garden, sharing what we’ve learned and how we’ve been incorporating sustainable practices into our daily lives.”

– 180th Pacific Coast Rover Scout Group (Guest post on www.facebook.com/cedarcottagegarden)

Also see what PCCROVERS achieved in [Appendix E](#).

CCCG is a green space for community gathering and celebration



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 2 – ‘IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS’



Aligns with [VanPlay 2040 Local Food Asset Targets](#) – ‘Complete at least one project per year that supports sharing and gathering to cook or eat food in parks.’

Since 2009, CCCG has held a community event Spring Fling every year in the early summer time. It is a community gathering where we have a plant sale, bake sale, craft sale, tour of the garden, and various workshops, as well as live band music and poetry contest. It is popular with both garden members and local residents! We look forward to hosting the Spring Fling again as soon as we are able to do so safely in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.



We also hosted harvest dinners / potluck for the community at the garden or at Trout Lake Community Center in most years before COVID.



The CCCG movie (see <https://www.cedarcottagegarden.org>) features the 2019 Spring Fling. Many photos from past Spring Fling events can also be found at CCCG website under the 'History' tab (<https://www.cedarcottagegarden.org>) and CCCG Facebook pages (<https://www.facebook.com/cedarcottagegarden>).

Besides formal community events and gatherings, many people wander through the garden, sit down on the benches to enjoy lunch or have a chat, and artists have told us they come to CCCG to do their drawings of a beautiful, natural setting.

"My connection with CCCG started from its beginning in 2007 when a group of engaged residents came together to build an organic food garden on untended land in their neighbourhood.

I was pleased to watch it grow rapidly in popularity and activity, expanding two years. Over the past decade, I know the members of Cedar Cottage Community Garden have invested many thousands of hours to turn an abandoned area into a productive and aesthetically pleasing space appreciated by many."

– David Tracey (founding member of VCAN, now program manager at Native Education College on Indigenous Land Stewardship program), Letter of Support #28*

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

Biodiversity



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 4 – 'BUILD LONG-TERM FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND INCREASE BIODIVERSITY'

CCCG is truly a green wonderland, composed of a large variety of plants, bushes and trees. Please see Appendix F for a small collection of photos of the beauty and bounty from CCCG.

Besides the aforementioned Indigenous and medicinal plants, and the annual vegetables and herbs grown by gardeners, CCCG also has:

- An orchard with some 30 fruit trees, including apple, cherry, pear, persimmon, plum, fig, and kiwi.
- A variety of berries and bushes including strawberry, blueberry, raspberry, blackberry, jostaberry, tayberry, elderberry, chokeberry, black currant, red currant, grape vine and autumn olive.

- A herb garden with rosemary, oregano, thyme, sage, fennel, borage, chamomile, mint, chive, basil, and a rotating garlic patch.
- A lavender field, and many native and wild flowers around the garden attracting bees and other pollinators.

This healthy, richly diverse environment provides food and nesting ground for many wildlife, such as bees, butterflies and birds.



With over 100 gardeners, each with different ideas, cultures and needs, we see a large variety of culturally diverse crops being grown in the garden, from amaranth to chayote, soy bean to okra, chickweed to stinging nettle.

Gardening at CCCG is an expression of the cultural and personal identities of our members. Individual garden beds allow gardeners and their families and friends to seed their own gardening preferences, with cultural exchange and learning occurring as naturally as cross pollination. Many more photos of the beauty and bounty in the garden can be found at www.cedarcottagegarden.org/history.

The science is clear: climate, biodiversity and human health are fully interdependent.

– Frans Timmermans (the European Commission vice-president) speaking at COP26

CCCG provides benefits to many



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 2 – ‘IMPROVE EQUITY IN PARK BOARD FOOD ASSETS, SERVICES, AND PROGRAMS’



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 4 – ‘BUILD LONG-TERM FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND INCREASE BIODIVERSITY’

Community gardens such as CCCG, mean different things to different people. Besides growing food, our garden also provides a wide array of other benefits, from physical, mental, social, educational and environmental to many people.

Here is the personal story of Alicia Raimundo she wants to share with you:

“In May of 2021, I was diagnosed with Stage 2 breast cancer at the age of 31. At that point, cancer very quickly took over my life and took away many of the hobbies and activities I was able to do. It also brought a lot of uncertainties and anxieties into my life and really impacted my mental health. It was during this time that my partner and I were offered a plot at the community garden. It allowed me to have a physical activity to do every day that was accessible to me and healthy it. It allows us to focus on growing healthy and sustainable food and forgot for my moment that I was undergoing chemo therapy or healing for surgery. It also brought us a new community of friends during a time where isolation is so easy. I am thankful for our garden for giving me something to do, something to look forward to on the darker days and a community of really awesome folks. In a lot of ways, our garden gave us hope that as our plants grew, that my cancer was closer to be gone forever.”

There are many more stories – here are some examples of what people are saying about CCCG:

*“I moved to Vancouver 12 years ago and cannot express adequately how difficult it is to meet people and make new friends in this city. It wasn’t until I joined CCCG that I felt welcomed by a community.” – Paige Calvert, Letter of Support #18**

“I live in an apartment, so I don’t really have a lot of access to garden anywhere.” – Sarah Edmunds, CCCG movie

“Cedar Cottage Community Garden is a place where people come together to grow fruits, veggies and flowers. For me, it is definitely a place I come to learn.” – Ken Ouendag , CCCG movie

"I tend to grow a lot of greens. I grow what we eat." – Laara Sadiq, CCCG movie

*"There is much research that suggests that community gardens are an essential part of any healthy urban community. Gardening is social, physical and therapeutic for all people of all generations." – Dr. Alissa N. Antle, Letter of Support #19**

*"Increased density also means less single-family houses and lots, and less single-family yards for growing food and passing on local food knowledge to the next generation." – 32 co-housing residents, Letter of Support #24**

*"I enjoy putting time and effort in the garden, not only because of the organic vegetables but also because of the many benefits that brings to the urban life. We as a community, volunteer to create open common areas that everyone can enjoy, a tiny piece of peace in the city." – Daniel Lyle, Letter of Support #26**

*"We live nearby, and are well aware of the importance of community gardens. As new immigrants to Canada and Vancouver, the community garden has helped us form connections with our neighbours, and learn more on agriculture and growing patterns in this part of the globe. We would never have done this if we did not have a community garden within a walking distance of our home." – Ben Levy, Letter of Support #30**

"My husband and I have a 2 year old and another baby due this summer... Having access to the community garden gives us space to grow our own organic produce which is an ongoing learning opportunity for ourselves and our children." – Jennifer Daggitt, Letter of Support #33

*"I live a few blocks from the garden and happened upon the garden one afternoon, this past winter. I immediately reached out to the garden and was invited to join an orientation tour. During the tour it was very clear that community was at the core of the garden and its team, and that was exactly what I was hoping and looking for." – Stacey Assam, Letter of Support #34**

*"Just like our school garden, community gardens provide a very important educational value and social cohesion building opportunity not only to garden members, but the entire community. I see gardeners of all ages tending to the green space, parents teaching their young children about vegetables, passers-by pausing and observing the beauty around them in the garden." – Jana Ronna, Letter of Support #46**

*"It has been a wonderful experience planting and tending our vegetable patch and helping out with the communal jobs in the garden. My kids have benefitted tremendously by learning firsthand about where their food comes from and about how to be a part of a community by helping out. Personally, I find every minute spent in the garden is a powerful antidote to the noise and busyness of the city. It gives me focus, calm, and a great sense of well-being." – Anna King, Letter of Support #48**

*"A major challenge for cities today and in the future is to ensure the well-being of all urban inhabitants... an emerging interest is drawn to urban food production systems such as community gardens that provide environmental and cultural benefits that are important for people's good quality of life." – Hyeone Park, Letter of Support #49**

"For me, I don't have a garden anymore due to downsizing. This little garden plot of mine has been wonderful. Especially during this Covid-19 time. It gets me out of my tiny apartment. I get to meet other folks who like to talk about plants! I get to participate in garden work parties, which somehow makes me feel connected to the Vancouver community when I participate." – Sue Rousseau, sent to PBcommissioners@vancouver.ca on Sept. 19, 2021

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

Year after year, with the diligent volunteers working on the membership team, CCCG's garden plots are always filled by early summer. Each year we accommodate over 100 gardeners, and quite often a plot is shared by the whole family or with friends. This demand will only increase as more multi-family dwellings are being built in the areas surrounding Trout Lake.

In early 2020 when COVID hit, while many services including community centres were shutdown, one activity that gained huge popularity was gardening – all over the city people sought out gardening opportunities as a stress reliever and a place to grow food. Our garden was no exception; the plots were filled early and some eager gardeners overflowed into the adjacent vacant lot, cultivating almost every square inch of the land. We not only grew food, we also enjoyed a relaxing green oasis and being connected with each other at a safe social distance.

During the COVID pandemic, community gardening became so important that it was designated as an essential service, which allowed us to continue operation even amidst the tightest lockdowns. As of this writing, we are once again entering a period of restrictions by the latest Public Health Order in December 2021. Many who do not have access to garden space will again be looking for opportunities such as CCCG to fulfill their needs in many different ways.

What We Hope to Continue and Expand on in JHP

CCCG has been active in the neighbouring community for the past 15 years. Like every organization, there are always ups and downs, and we learned a lot through these years. There are many things we have done very well and hope to continue, there are many things we could improve upon, and there are also many new suggestions and new ideas to be implemented if we are given the permission to create a community garden in JHP. Some of these ideas were brought to light during the JHP Phase-1 public consultation in 2019 and captured in a document (<https://bit.ly/3q2yQL5>, also see [Appendix A](#) – Document #3) submitted to Parks Board in November 2019.

As T'uy't'ananat-Cease Wyss described in her speech in 2018 (<https://youtu.be/RGzvSLnQJf4>) how CCCG's current garden came about, and as our actions have shown, we always preferred the process of creating a community garden to be a community engaging process, with stewardship and participation from Indigenous members and organizations, and involvement from Parks Board, garden members and other interested partner organizations and community members.

Besides continuing with what we have achieved successfully, the following describes three areas of particular importance where we see further opportunities for expansion.

"The Park Board's legacy of colonialism includes the forced removal of xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwx̱ wú7mesh, and səlilwətaʔ from their land to create parks, and the resulting loss of traditional places for gathering food and medicine. This displaced entire communities from their food sources, disrupted the intergenerational transmission of food-related knowledge, and led to the loss and degradation of many important food hunting and gathering places. The effects of this legacy are still being experienced. The hope is that this work can contribute to meaningful Reconciliation and restore places for traditional land-based practices within the parks and recreation system."

– Local Food System Action Plan 2021



Continue to work collaboratively with Indigenous members and organizations



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 1 – ‘CENTRE INDIGENOUS VOICES IN FOOD SYSTEM WORK TO HONOUR THE TEACHING THAT “FOOD IS MEDICINE”’

From the beginning CCCG has been strongly influenced by Indigenous teachings, and as shown earlier, our garden worked side-by-side with urban Indigenous members and organizations and cultivated many Indigenous plants. We will certainly continue this tradition and expand the scope of our Indigenous planting if a community garden is permitted in JHP.

A community garden, where food and Indigenous medicinal plants are grown, provides a key contribution to meaningful reconciliation. We are very fortunate that several urban Indigenous members active in Indigenous food sovereignty have always been supportive of our garden and our initiative to create a community garden in JHP. We are grateful that Lori Snyder and Leona Brown are both interested in working collaboratively with CCCG on the Indigenous-centered food spaces in JHP.

“A new community garden will be very helpful for our pollinators and for us as community, who will have access to harvest wild foods and medicines. It will also be used as a teaching hedgerow/fence to continue with ‘Indigenous ways of knowing’ and honouring the Coast Salish First Peoples lands and water.”

– Lori Snyder, Letter of Support #17*

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

Most recently, CCCG reached out to other groups who might be interested in the collaborative creation of a community garden in JHP. The Cedar Cottage Food Network (CCFN) maintains a small medicine wheel garden in JHP, and in 2021 they applied to Parks Board to expand this medicine wheel garden. This garden is currently used by senior’s group from Lu’ma Medical Centre as part of their therapy program. CCCG has been in conversations with Lu’ma Medical Centre and CCFN: all three organizations plan to work together to grow a food garden along with a medicine garden in JHP, and to celebrate land-based traditions of Indigenous people. Please see [Appendix B](#) for a letter of intent to collaborate from CCFN.

During the 2019 JHP workshop discussions, garden members also suggested engaging with Indigenous artists on garden structures such as garden shed, arch way and entrance structure.

If Parks Board gives permission to create a community garden in Trout Lake Park, CCCG would seek funding to facilitate the participation and involvement of the Indigenous community, and bring these elements into the community garden at JHP.

I want to advocate Parks Board having space to grow food, but also building community. And building community doesn't just mean indigenous community, it means multicultural community, creating a bridge to connect with other non-indigenous people, and connecting with immigrants and refugees from other countries, and to feel more at home to build the community we live in.

– Leona Brown speaking at Parks Board meeting on Nov. 15, 2021 on Local Food System Action Plan 2021

"You can only know this by being part of a community that brings a depth that is not expressed in words but through actions. Be the steward we are born to be, respect the earth, practice reciprocity, build relationship, remember our responsibility and share your reverence. I fully SUPPORT a new garden at John Hendry Park aka Trout Lake."

– Lori Snyder, Letter from Jan. 12, 2022*

*See [Appendix B](#) – Document #2 for recent Letters of Collaboration

"Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House is a leader in promoting resilient communities by connecting diverse community members to land based learning spaces and embracing Indigenous approaches to living in community. Gardens, such as CCCG, provide one avenue for community to connect. Cedar Cottage Community Garden is important as a green space for community to connect, and be directly involved in the production of food, and to exchange traditional and cultural knowledge on plants and the environment. We value what CCCG has achieved and would strongly recommend you to positively evaluate their request for a permanent home for their garden within John Hendry Park."

– Jocelyn Hamel (Executive Director, Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House), Letter of Support #45*

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

Education opportunities for all



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 4 – ‘BUILD LONG-TERM FOOD SYSTEM RESILIENCY, SUSTAINABILITY, AND INCREASE BIODIVERSITY’

Many garden members, partner organizations and user groups have reflected on the importance of the learning opportunities presented by a community garden. Some garden members suggested creating a children’s garden; others saw many opportunities for programming synergy between the garden, Trout Lake Community Centre and Trout Lake Farmers Market as key benefits of having a community garden in JHP.

“I am an artist and educator, so, I can easily imagine the difference it can make to give our community garden a home in the park. This would provide access and education for more people to local food production. The plants and the pollinators would support the diversity of the park’s ecosystem. The garden would become a hub for the larger park community and a more popular venue for land-based experiential learning for people of all ages and backgrounds, than it currently is. I think, overall, having a community garden and food forest in this popular park can inspire a sense of hope and impactful action at a time of local and global challenges regarding our environment and food security.”

– Nihan Sevinc (Green Arts Instructor at Trout Lake Community Center),
Letter of Support #55*

“While I spend time in our KCG I often see young parents, male and female, bringing their children through the garden. They look at the gardens growing from the early sowing, through the growth to the harvest. The parents are as happy to be in the garden as the children. They are engaging in unplanned active opportunities that encourages recreation and learning for all ages and abilities. People that English is a second language often stop and try to communicate with me about the garden, what is growing, how beautiful it is. It demonstrates how Community Based Food Production can strengthen residents understanding of each other, increase access to food and to have an unspoken, yet common language. What stronger path is there to creating a healthy, greener, and more food aware community?”

– Elizabeth Laquer (Coordinator, Kingscrest Community Garden), Letter of
Support #56*

*See [Appendix A](#) – Document #2 for all Letters of Support submitted to Parks Board in October 2019.

A garden created for all



Aligns with Local Food System Action Plan 2021 Goal 1,2,3,4

Trout Lake is one of Vancouver's few freshwater lakes and natural bogs, and provides habitat to many birds and wildlife. However, development in the last century had put much emphasis on the recreational use of the area and resulted in a species-poor, monocultural grassland with many invasive species. The Trout Lake wetland is an important part of Vancouver's ecology, and as such it demands revitalizing its vegetation and biodiversity, as embodied in previous versions of the JHP draft plans but limited in the most recent revision.

A well-designed garden not only will honour the Indigenous history and stewardship of the land, but also help to revitalize Trout Lake park through attracting key species, promoting biodiversity, providing food for people and wildlife, and offering learning opportunities for many.

Food systems don't fall neatly into the existing buckets, but it is an expression of our relationship with the land, our stewardship of it. It is also an expression of our relationship with each other, and even our bodies.

— Rena Soutar (Manager-Decolonization, Arts and Culture, Parks Board) presenting at Parks Board meeting on Nov. 15, 2021 on Local Food System Action Plan 2021

Let's create a destination garden in a destination park that truly benefits many generations to come, and bring the community together to care for this wonderful park we all love.

Why a Community Garden in John Hendry Park

The initiative to create a community garden in JHP received broad support

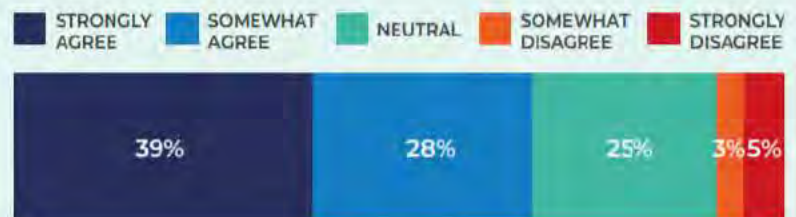
CCCG's initiative to create a community garden in JHP received broad community support, which included 56 letters of support and over 700 petition signers. These letters and petitions were submitted to Parks Board in October 2019. Please see [Appendix A](#) – Document #2.

In addition, Parks Board conducted a public consultation and an online survey for JHP draft plan in the fall of 2019.

From <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/john-hendry-park-workshop-handout-farmers-market-community-garden.pdf>

COMMUNITY GARDEN LOCATION

In the online survey, participants were asked how strongly they agree or disagree with a new community garden in the southeast of John Hendry Park. Feedback suggests the majority of the participants agree with the proposed location.



It has been clearly demonstrated, by those who attended the multiple Parks Board consultation workshops, those who filled the online survey, and the many community members that we spoke to, that the majority of the people who care for, love and use Trout Lake Park want to see a community garden in JHP. This is not the first time that community groups have proposed to Parks Board the creation of a community garden in JHP.

"Park Board assets have multiple uses, of which currently fitness-related recreation and passive-use turf grass make up the biggest proportion of park land use.

Demands may shift during and following the COVID-19 pandemic as food security, equity, and resilience issues take more prominence."

– Local Food System Action Plan 2021

High density housing developments around John Hendry Park

The City's development strategy around Trout Lake Park is to have high density housing in the region. The southwest of Trout Lake Park has seen five additional apartment buildings constructed or under construction in the past three and half years since we put forward our initial application to Parks Board in 2018, the majority of which are rental housing.

The following bird's-eye view, captured from the rezoning application put forward by Vancouver Affordable Housing Agency (<https://rezoning.vancouver.ca/applications/2009-2037-stainsbury-ave/rezoning-booklet.pdf>) highlights the social housing development to be built on CCCG's current garden site. This building will add 123 social housing units to the area.



VAHA
on CCCG's
current site

As the densification of this neighbourhood increases further, and the loss of our current CCCG site, the needs and demands for a community garden in JHP only intensify.

More information on CCCG

Only so much can be contained within a single document. Much more information can be found on CCCG's website www.cedarcottagegarden.org. Many garden photos of our garden's projects and activities can be found www.cedarcottagegarden.org/history and www.facebook.com/cedarcottagegarden.

Appendix A: Documents Previously Submitted to Parks Board

Document #1: Submitted on July 22, 2018: CCCG Application to Parks Board - John Hendry Park - Initial Request (<https://goo.gl/hjzdaN>).

Document #2: Submitted on October 5, 2019: Support to Create a Community Garden in John Hendry Park – 56 Letters of Support and over 700 petition (<https://bit.ly/3E9FNiw>). Letters of Support included are shown below, in the order of dates received:

1.	Environmental Youth Alliance (EYA)	2018-08-30
2.	Don Davies, MP (Vancouver Kingsway)	2018-09-10
3.	Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House (CCNH)	2018-09-13
4.	The Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC)	2018-09-18
5.	Adrian Dix, MLA (Vancouver Kingsway)	2018-09-19
6.	ReviveMexico	2018-09-21
7.	Cedar Cottage Food Network (CCFN)	2018-09-22
8.	Wildcoast Ecological Society	2018-09-24
9.	City Farmer	2018-10-15
10.	Vancouver Food Policy Council	2018-10-24
11.	FarmFolk CityFolk	2018-11-07
12.	Copley Community Orchard	2018-11-11
13.	Renfrew Collingwood Food Security Institute	2018-11-15
14.	Rudi Leibik (Community Member)	2018-11-22
15.	Vancouver Fruit Tree Project	2018-12-10
16.	Michelle Philippe (Garden Member)	2019-03-18
17.	Lori Snyder (Community Member)	2019-03-22
18.	Paige Calvert (Garden Member)	2019-03-28
19.	Alissa N. Antle (Community Member)	2019-04-01
20.	Patrice Webb (Garden Member)	2019-04-03
21.	Oliver McTavish-Wisden (Community Member)	2019-04-04
22.	Urban Diggers	2019-04-05
23.	Carolyn Churchland (Community Member)	2019-04-06
24.	Vancouver Cohousing Residents (32 Community Members)	2019-04-09
25.	Janet Yee (Community Member)	2019-04-10
26.	Daniel Lyle (Garden Member)	2019-04-11
27.	Pamela Ramírez (Garden Member)	2019-04-11
28.	David Tracey (Community Member)	2019-04-12
29.	Dalia Levy (Garden Member)	2019-04-12
30.	Ben Levy (Community Member)	2019-04-15

31. Rita Lee (Community Member)	2019-04-22
32. Vancouver Farmers Market	2019-04-23
33. Jennifer Daggitt (Garden Member)	2019-04-26
34. Stacey Assam (Garden Member)	2019-04-28
35. Village Vancouver	2019-04-28
36. Faune Johnson (Community Member)	2019-05-09
37. Members of Vancouver Neighbourhood Food Network including: Grandview Woodland Food Connection Little Mountain Neighbourhood House (Little Mountain-Riley Park Neighbourhood Food Network) Gordon Neighbourhood House Renfrew-Collingwood Food Security Institute Cedar Cottage Food Network Downtown Eastside Neighbourhood House Village Vancouver, Marpole-Oakridge Neighbourhood Food Network and West End Neighbourhood Food Network Westside Food Collaborative	2019-05-10
38. Alison Hall (Community Member)	2019-05-13
39. Allyson Longmuir (Community Member)	2019-05-14
40. Mike Engelsjord (Garden Member)	2019-05-18
41. Vancouver Urban Farming Society	2019-05-20
42. Chida Henry (Garden Member)	2019-05-23
43. CROWS Point Community Garden Society	2019-05-25
44. Lyss Dodds (Garden Member)	2019-06-05
45. Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House	2019-06-06
46. Jana Ronne (Community Member)	2019-06-24
47. Developmental Disabilities Association	2019-06-25
48. Anna King (Garden Member)	2019-07-09
49. Hyeone Park (Community Member)	2019-08-20
50. Jean Hobbs (Community Member)	2019-09-15
51. Shannon Mendes (Community Member)	2019-09-23
52. Crystal Akimoto (Community Member)	2019-09-23
53. Paula Allston (Community Member)	2019-09-28
54. Richard Griffiths (Garden Member)	2019-10-04
55. Nihan Sevinc (Garden Member)	2019-10-04
56. Kingscrest Community Garden [submitted separately]	2019-10-10

Document #3: Submitted on November 27, 2019 – Some preliminary garden design considerations discussed during 2019 Parks Board Deep Dive Session (<https://bit.ly/3q2yQL5>).

Appendix B: Recent Letters from Lori Snyder and CCFN

Created on: 12 January 2022 at 14:34

From: Lori Snyder <earthandcompanyinfo@gmail.com>

To: Yiman Jiang <yimanj.gatl@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Collaborative work for community garden in Trout Lake Park

To the Vancouver Parks Board

Many benefits are gained when we as humans put our hands in the earth, and grow foods, medicines, flowers, herbs. Along with these benefits that support our health we are also privilege to witness the beauty around us, feel the sun, hear the bees and birds and hopefully make deeper connection with our neighbors. Life is precious and the more we connect and share our experiences with each other the richer our world is. You can only know this by being part of a community that brings a depth that is not expressed in words but through actions. Be the steward we are born to be, respect the earth, practice reciprocity, build relationship, remember our responsibility and share your reverence. I fully SUPPORT a new garden at John Hendry Park aka Trout Lake.

All our Relations,

Lori Snyder

Metis Herbalist and Educator of wild, native and medicinal plants

Cedar Cottage Food Network Society
Kensington/Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood
3360 Victoria Dr,
Vancouver, BC
V5N 4M4
January 19, 2022

Re: Letter of support for establishing a community garden at John Hendry Park

Dear Park Board Commissioners and Staff,

As the Manager of Cedar Cottage Food Network (CCFN), and on behalf of our board, I am writing to express whole-hearted support of the application made by Cedar Cottage Community Garden (CCCG) to create a community garden within John Hendry Park. We share this letter as a letter of intent to collaborate with CCCG on this project.

Cedar Cottage Food Network (CCFN) currently maintains a small medicine wheel (50 m²) garden in JHP, and in 2021 we had discussed with the Parks Board on how we might be able to expand the medicine wheel garden to use the entire space reserved for this project (250 m²), in order to better serve the Indigenous community. This garden is currently used by several groups including a senior's group from Lu'ma Medical Centre as part of a therapy program.

We plan on working together under the guidance of Indigenous elders and Indigenous subject matter experts on cultural practices and traditional ways of growing so that a medicine garden along with a food garden will better serve not only the indigenous community but also a much wider community. We hope to foster cross-cultural learning and teaching among all community members.

We support CCCG's application, and are looking forward to collaborating with them and other partners such as the Lu'ma Medical Centre, Lori Snyder, and CCCG as well as other Indigenous and/or local organisations who are interested in seeing this initiative come to fruition in JHP.

Aditi Shalome Rudra



Manager, Cedar Cottage Food Network
778-871-8115
cedarcottagefoodnetwork@gmail.com

Appendix C: Photos from CCCG Work Parties





Appendix D: Photos from 2020-2021 CCCG Meal Program Donations

In a normal year, the meal team members would have the opportunity to meet and talk with CCNH chef George when they make produce deliveries, so team members know how much their hard work is appreciated, and what the donated produce is contributed to. But in 2020 due to COVID, that couldn't happen. Produce was dropped off at the door step of CCNH. In appreciation, CCNH sent CCCG a thank-you letter, shown below:



Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House

4085 Victoria Drive, Vancouver, BC V5N 4M9 Tel: 604 874-4231 Fax: 604 874-7169
www.cedarcottage.org

October 8th 2020

Re: Letter of Appreciation for Your Donations

Dear Cedar Cottage Community Garden (CCCG) Directors and Members,

On behalf of Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House (CCNH), I want to thank you for your garden's generous donations to us this year.

2020 has proved to be one of the most difficult years for many people, especially frail seniors with limited means. With our Neighbourhood House closed to the public for a good part of this year, in place of our regular programs, we cooked and delivered over 100 prepared meals each week for seniors and their caregivers. The over 300lbs of organic produce that you donated this summer contributed to a varied and healthy diet for the seniors, and allowed us to maximize the impact of our limited budget. The fact that that the food is grown locally (a few hundred meters away), organically, and sustainably only adds to our sense of appreciation.

On behalf of everyone at the Neighbourhood House and the seniors and caregivers themselves, please express our appreciation to everyone at your garden who put in the time and effort to plant, water, nurture, harvest, and deliver the produce to our doorstep.

The relationship with your garden is immensely valuable to us. Over the past ten years, we have watched CCCG mature as a beautiful and productive garden, as well as an effective community organization. The produce donated in the past years were used to enhance the meals in our Adult Day Program, Indigenous Family Night and Seniors Supper Club. It also helped to guide our food literacy programs with young children and youth. Also, as we embark on a journey to manage garden plots at the newly revamped Brewers Park I look forward to learning from all the amazing volunteers in our community. Thanks again for your partnership in community.

Thanks again for all your hard work. I look forward to our continued partnership in the years to come.

Sincerely Yours,

Kelly Woods BA (she/her/hers)

Director of Seniors, Community Development and Special Projects



Cedar Cottage Community Garden

CCCG Meal Program Team grew and donated over 300lb of fresh organic produce to Cedar Cottage Neighbourhood House (CCNH) during the 2020 growing season (June to October).





Cedar Cottage Community Garden Meal Program 2021





Cedar Cottage Community Garden Meal Program 2021



Appendix E: Other Groups at CCCG

Captured from <https://www.facebook.com/pccrovers/>



180th Pacific Coast Rover Scout Group

Like This Page · August 20 · 🌐

Thanks to everyone who came out to help in the last 2 weeks! Without you, we wouldn't have been able to harvest and donate a whopping 4.4kg of tomatoes, kale, and cucumbers to @covenanthousebc . Looking forward to tasting some of those delicious veggies soon 😊 — at Cedar Cottage Community Garden.

Zellagui Foued, Covenant House Vancouver, Sam Chan and 4 others like this.

1 Share

1 Comment



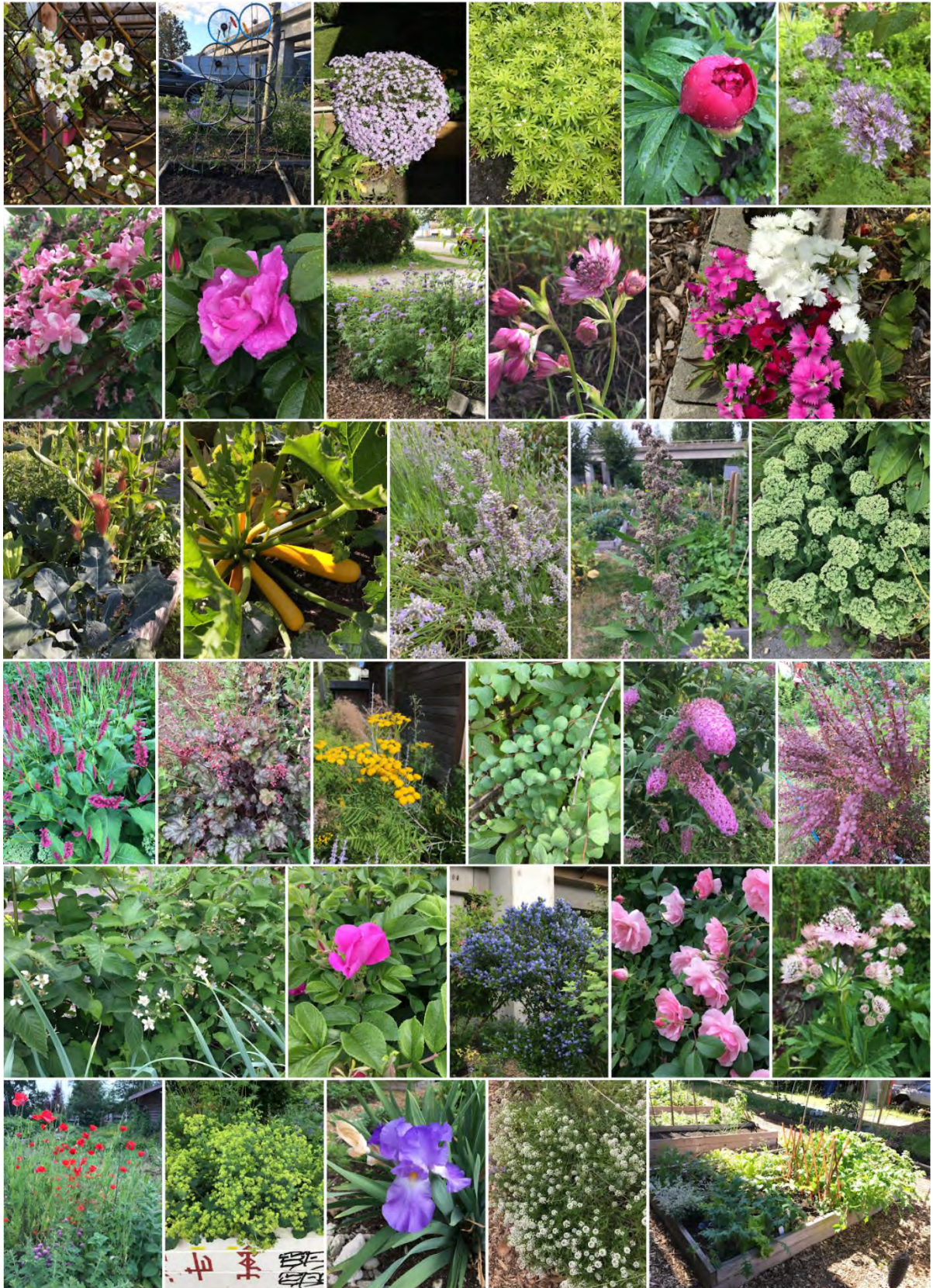
Covenant House Vancouver Thank you so much for your support ❤️

16w

Captured from <https://www.facebook.com/pg/CedarCottageNeighbourhoodHouse>



Appendix F: Beauty and Bounty from CCCG Garden



Appendix G: JHP Phase-1 Public Consultation by Parks Board in 2019

(From <https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/john-hendry-park-workshop-handout-farmers-market-community-garden.pdf>)

COMMUNITY GARDEN - LOCATION & IDEAS



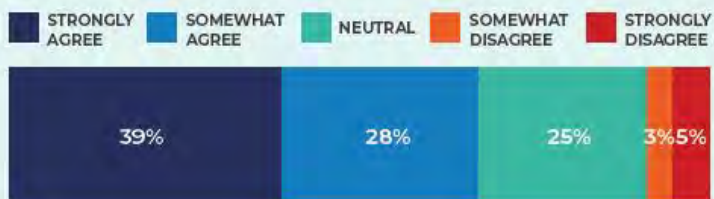
KEY CONSIDERATIONS

Ideas for planning a future community garden were captured at the Open House and in the online survey:

- » Inclusive and welcoming to all (not fenced-off or exclusive)
- » Maintain space for casual relaxation and informal use in the south end of the park
- » Protection of existing trees
- » Gardens that are well-maintained and contribute to park character
- » Pest management
- » Pollinator-friendly plantings
- » Educational opportunities
- » Public walking routes
- » Amenities including bike racks, picnic tables, and benches

COMMUNITY GARDEN LOCATION

In the online survey, participants were asked how strongly they agree or disagree with a new community garden in the southeast of John Hendry Park. Feedback suggests the majority of the participants agree with the proposed location.



From: president@vancouverpickleball.ca
To: ["Carr, Adriane"](#)
Date: 11/28/2022 9:57:54 PM
Subject: [EXT] Pop-up Pickleball Court report from the Vancouver Pickleball Association
Attachments: Pop up trial report.pdf

City of Vancouver security warning: Do not click on links or open attachments unless you were expecting the email and know the content is safe.

Dear Park Board Commissioners (past & present), City Councillors (past & present), Recent candidates in the municipal election, and key players on the Park Board staff:

This past summer the Park board allowed the Vancouver Pickleball Association to set up “Pop-up” pickleball courts at five different venues around Vancouver. We feel that the program was a major success. The pickleball community swarmed the pop-up courts the entire time that they were open, and people really appreciated the expanded opportunities to play.

Attached is a PDF of a report we put together regarding the pop-up courts. If you don't want to download the PDF, you can also view the report by visiting the following site: https://www.canva.com/design/DAFQv7ekwo4/kxyDpyfD2vgYDB0Rg8pIXg/view?utm_content=DAFQv7ekwo4 [canva.com].

We really want to thank the city for conducting the pop-up pickleball court program. We hope that the obvious success of the program will help justify more facilities and opportunities for people to play pickleball throughout Vancouver.

Sincerely,

Greg Feehan

President, Vancouver Pickleball Association

email = president@vancouverpickleball.ca

POP-UP COURT PROJECT REPORT



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Pickleball in
Canada

Highlights*

16,661

Player sign-ins

33,322

Playing hours

31,007

Pop-court map
views

58

Average number
of players per
day

*Based on sign-ins at all pop-up locations for the duration of the project

Introduction

In 2022, pickleball in Vancouver faced a crisis. The increasing demand for facilities, in conjunction with the permanent court closure in the Dunbar area and the impending temporary closure of the seven dedicated courts at Queen Elizabeth Park (QEP) would mean a significant lack of outdoor playing facilities during the peak playing season.

Michael Marousek, the Parks Board's Sport & Wellness Supervisor, conceived an ingenious solution: identify underused tennis courts more than 100m away from the closest residence and provide temporary "pop-up" courts to ease the pressure for playing space throughout the summer. He was successful in manoeuvring this proposal through the various approval bodies of the Parks Board, despite the complexities that were

introduced by a premature announcement from our association.

On 12th July, the [Vancouver Park Board \(VPB\) announced](#) the first ever Pop-up Pickleball Pilot in Vancouver.

The project temporarily converted certain tennis courts into pickleball courts. Courts were converted for a few weeks or a few months at a time, depending on the location (see [map](#)).

The Pop-Up Pickleball Pilot was designed to have minimal impact on the tennis community. Vancouver has over 170 tennis courts, 9 of which were used as pop-up sites. In most cases, an individual tennis court was converted into four pickleball courts.

Pop-Up Pickleball Pilot – Proposed Locations, Dates and Courts

Site	Dates	Courts available
Andy Livingston Park	September 23 to October 25, 2022	1 tennis, 4 pop-up pickleball
Champlain Heights Park	August 19 to September 20, 2022	2 tennis, 8 pop-up pickleball
Jericho Beach Park	July 14 to October 26, 2022	2 tennis, 8 pop-up pickleball
Memorial South Park	July 15 to August 16, 2022	2 tennis, 6 pop-up pickleball
Strathcona Park	September 24 to October 27	2 tennis, 8 pop-up pickleball

VPA support

The Vancouver Pickleball Association has, and continues to believe in the importance of, working with the Vancouver Park Board. We provided our support to the pop-up court trial in a number of ways.

1

Infrastructure

The pop-up locations came equipped with chalked in lines. Additional infrastructure was required to make the courts ready for play. VPA volunteers added painters tape to each of the courts (and frequent touch-ups), 20 nets were purchased and set-up (and transported and set-up at each location), 2 storage boxes were purchased and moved as locations opened/closed. Investment: \$7,200.

3

Promotion

The VPA undertook ongoing promotional activity throughout the summer to keep the community informed and advised as pop-up court locations opened and closed. A Google map, Facebook announcements and use of an online tool to arrange to meet other players helped to get the word out about the new locations.

2

Court hosts

Our experience with the existing permanent courts suggested that court hosts would be a useful addition to welcome players, explain the etiquette and address queries from other park users. Each court was overseen by a VPA Board member and volunteer Court Hosts. 22 VPA volunteers and Board members stepped up to fill these roles.

4

Tracking usage

The VPA provided sign-in sheets at each location to capture usage statistics, supplementing the check-ins from VPB staff.

Results

The pop-up court trial was a significant success, as indicated by a number of measures.

Players

Based on the information collected from the sign-in sheets, Jericho experienced the highest number of users, with Champlain a close second.

Location	Dates of operation	Number of sign-ins
Memorial South Park	18 Jul - 16 Aug	1,678
Champlain Heights	19 Aug – 1 Oct	2,940
Andy Livingstone	30 Sep - 26 Oct	478
Strathcona	5 Oct – 27 Oct	105
Jericho	13 Jul - 27 Oct	11,438

Usage

Although early morning and later evening proved to be the most popular times for play, the pop-up locations received steady usage throughout the day at all five locations.

Location	Average number of users	Most players
Memorial South Park	51	108
Andy Livingstone	18	38
Strathcona	5	11
Jericho	105	271

Community

The VPA encouraged members to use a free online tool to meet other players at the new pop-up locations. July and August saw significant growth in the use of this online tool.

Month	Users	Organized play sessions
June	368	72
July	642	232
August	781	304

Location search

The VPA created a [Google map](#) to help players find the pop-up locations and identify the dates of opening/closure.

The map received more than 31,000 views (as of Oct 27th)

New players

Anecdotal evidence suggests that the pop-up court locations attracted a significant number of new players.

5

Pop-up court locations

11,875

Player sign-ins (as of Oct 17)



Community building

The pop-up court locations provided an opportunity for community building not previously available with only 7 permanent courts at Queen Elizabeth Park.

LGBTQ+

VPA member, Paul Scheffer, envisioned creating a safe space where LGBTQ+ folks could learn to play and enjoy pickleball.

Vancouver Rainbow Pickleball was launched in July, meeting at the pop-up locations every Sunday until the end of October. 100 players signed up to join the initiative and there were more than 350 participants.

"I'm really happy with the enthusiastic response from so many players, including a bunch of my friends. I've been trying for years to get them to pick up a paddle but it's taken this program to make it happen."

"Thank you to the organizers of Rainbow Pickleball for bringing us rainbow picklers together every week!"

"Playing with Rainbow Pickleball adds a welcome layer of ease and comfort, knowing that I don't have to explain (again) why I'm not married with a wife and three kids."

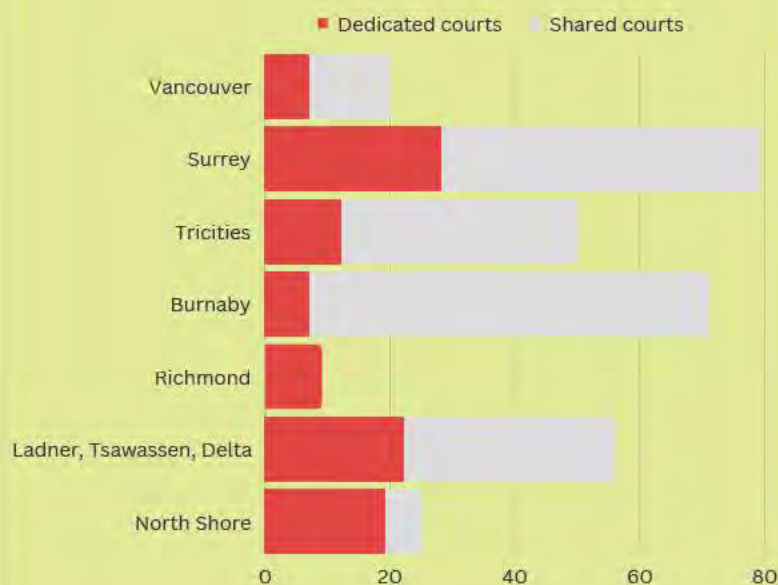
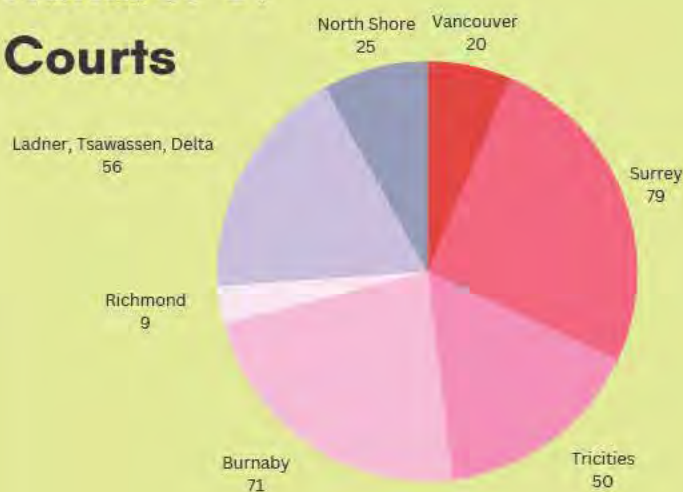
"We have played pickleball all over Canada, Montana, and Washington state. But know that Vancouver, BC was our favorite PB community for sure!"



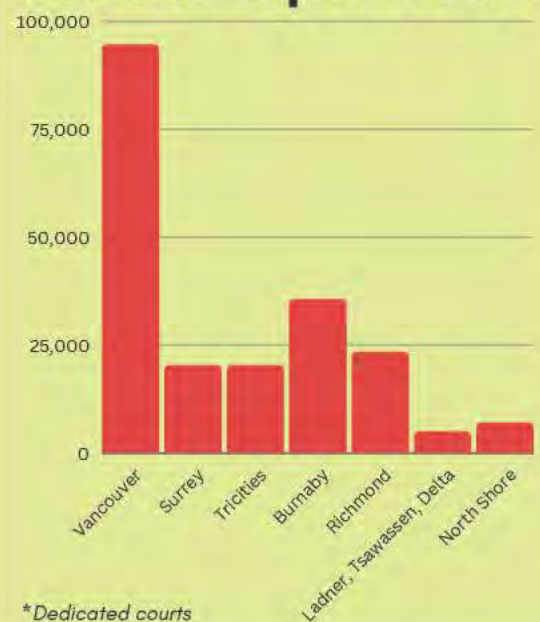
Pickleball in the Lower Mainland

A comparison of pickleball outdoor facilities clearly shows that Vancouver is lagging behind its neighbours (data below does not include pop-up court project).

Number of Courts



Residents per Court*



Burnaby's Pacific Tennis Centre to be ready in 2023

This state-of-the-art tennis facility will replace the existing Burnaby Lake Tennis Courts at the Burnaby Lake Sports Complex. Its creation is a partnership between Tennis Canada and the City of Burnaby.

The Pacific Tennis Centre will have 12 year-round indoor tennis courts, eight outdoor clay courts, and eight outdoor pickleball courts.

Pickleball in Canada

Playing

The number of Canadian players tripled from 2020 to 2022. A survey completed in January 2022 indicated that there were more than a million individuals playing pickleball in Canada.

Competing

As a sport grows in recreational popularity, so too does the development of the sport as a path for youth development and as an Olympic contender. 954 players registered to compete at the 2022 Canadian National pickleball competition (held in Kingston). In BC, the first ever Provincial tournament will take place in Vernon in 2023.



Future of Vancouver pickleball

Pickleball aligns with the City's and the VPB's areas of focus: **densification, inclusivity and community.**

The VPA recommends a two-pronged approach for the way forward:

1. Short-term: Maintain the temporary pop-up courts at Jericho and Champlain Heights
2. Long-term: Build five pickleball hubs (8 or more dedicated courts, permanent nets),



LOCATIONS	DETAILS	VPA SUPPORT
Champlain Heights	8 courts Resurfacing, painting, fencing, nets required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$\$\$? • Volunteer effort?
Strathcona	How many courts? Work to be done?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$\$\$? • Volunteer effort? •
Your project name goes here	How many courts? Work to be done?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$\$\$? • Volunteer effort?

VPA volunteers

The VPA is grateful to the volunteers, without whom this initiative would not have been successful.



Cheryl Claussen



Greg Feehan



Bill Dorfmann



Janet Martini



Ruth Johnson



Chris Koetnges



Catalin Costea



Mike Smith



Paul Scheffer



Max Smith



Guy Martell



Shawn Smith



Mary Ellen
Pearce



Helen Clegg



Mona Lee



Monica Tam



Duncan
Saunders

We look forward to continuing to work with the VPB for the growth of pickleball in Vancouver.

Vancouver Pickleball
Association

<https://vancouverpickleball.ca>
info@vancouverpickleball.ca

From: "Carr, Adriane" <Adriane.Carr@vancouver.ca>
To: "Meiszner, Peter" <Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca>
"Zhou, Lenny" <Lenny.Zhou@vancouver.ca>
"Bligh, Rebecca" <rebecca.bligh@vancouver.ca>
"Montague, Brian" <Brian.Montague@vancouver.ca>
"Dominated, Lisa" <Lisa.Dominated@vancouver.ca>
"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" s.15(1)(l)
CC: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
"Allam, Kareem" <Kareem.Allam@vancouver.ca>
"Kam, Olivia" <Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca>
"Emmerson, Julie" <Julie.Emmerson@vancouver.ca>
Date: 11/21/2022 3:42:00 PM
Subject: RE: Community Policing Centres

Please include me, too.
Adriane

-----Original Message-----

From: Meiszner, Peter <Peter.Meiszner@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 9:24 AM
To: Zhou, Lenny <Lenny.Zhou@vancouver.ca>; Bligh, Rebecca <Rebecca.Bligh@vancouver.ca>;
Montague, Brian <Brian.Montague@vancouver.ca>; Dominato, Lisa <Lisa.Dominated@vancouver.ca>;
Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)
Cc: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Allam, Kareem <Kareem.Allam@vancouver.ca>;
Kam, Olivia <Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca>; Emmerson, Julie <Julie.Emmerson@vancouver.ca>
Subject: RE: Community Policing Centres

Also please include me, thanks Lisa.

Councillor Peter Meiszner (he/him)
City of Vancouver
453 W. 12th Ave, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5L 4Y8 e. peter.meiszer@vancouver.ca p. 604-873-7244
m. 604-364-5544

Assistant

Erin Marshall
e: erin.marshall@vancouver.ca
t: 604.871.6710

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the
Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples.

-----Original Message-----

From: Zhou, Lenny <Lenny.Zhou@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 9:12 AM
To: Bligh, Rebecca <Rebecca.Bligh@vancouver.ca>; Montague, Brian
<Brian.Montague@vancouver.ca>; Dominato, Lisa <Lisa.Dominated@vancouver.ca>; Direct to Mayor
and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)
Cc: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Allam, Kareem <Kareem.Allam@vancouver.ca>;
Kam, Olivia <Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca>; Emmerson, Julie <Julie.Emmerson@vancouver.ca>

Subject: RE: Community Policing Centres

I am in too...
Lenny

Lenny Zhou, MMOR his/him
Vancouver City Councillor
453 W. 12th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4
Email: lenny.zhou@vancouver.ca
Twitter: @LennyNanZhou

Assistant
Olivia Kam
Email: Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

-----Original Message-----

From: Bligh, Rebecca <Rebecca.Bligh@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 9:11 AM
To: Montague, Brian <Brian.Montague@vancouver.ca>; Dominato, Lisa <Lisa.Dominato@vancouver.ca>; Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)
Cc: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Allam, Kareem <Kareem.Allam@vancouver.ca>; Kam, Olivia <Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca>; Emmerson, Julie <Julie.Emmerson@vancouver.ca>
Subject: RE: Community Policing Centres

Count me in.

Councillor Rebecca Bligh
CITY OF VANCOUVER
453 W. 12 Ave., Vancouver, BC V5Y 1V4
E: CLRbligh@vancouver.ca P:604-873-7249 Twitter @rebeccaeebligh

Assistant
Wanda Bradbury
E: wanda.bradbury@vancouver.ca
T: 604-871-6712

-----Original Message-----

From: Montague, Brian <Brian.Montague@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 9:09 AM
To: Dominato, Lisa <Lisa.Dominato@vancouver.ca>; Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)
Cc: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Allam, Kareem <Kareem.Allam@vancouver.ca>; Kam, Olivia <Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca>
Subject: RE: Community Policing Centres

I would be interested Lisa.

Councillor Brian Montague
City of Vancouver
453 W. 12th Ave, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V5L 4Y8 brian.montague@vancouver.ca

Assistant

Wanda Bradbury
e: wanda.bradbury@vancouver.ca
t: 604.871.6711

-----Original Message-----

From: Dominato, Lisa <Lisa.Dominato@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Monday, November 21, 2022 9:01 AM
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)
Cc: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>; Allam, Kareem <Kareem.Allam@vancouver.ca>;
Kam, Olivia <Olivia.Kam@vancouver.ca>
Subject: Community Policing Centres

.Good morning Mayor and Council,

The Hastings-Sunrise CPC reached out to me to share that they have worked on a budget ask as part of the VPD budget coming forward to Council. It includes the following:

- \$27K per Centre
- cost of living allowance (COLA); they haven't received it since 2009

Approx. total is \$300K.

They have offered to meet with and brief any interested councillors.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dominato, Councillor
City of Vancouver
M: 604-754-7290

Sent from my iPhone

From: "Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" s.15(1)(l)
CC: "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL" s.15(1)(l)
"LaClaire, Lon" <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>
Date: 10/24/2022 3:51:23 PM
Subject: RE: Update: Downtown Eastside Women's Centre market

Hi Mayor and Council,

In follow up to the update provided earlier today, please note that a potential change of location for DEWC is sensitive for all parties. At this time, we ask that you maintain in confidence our intention to engage DEWC regarding a new site.

Many thanks,
Paul

From: Mochrie, Paul <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 24, 2022 1:10 PM
To: Direct to Mayor and Council - DL s.15(1)(l)
Cc: City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL s.15(1)(l) LaClaire, Lon <lon.laclaire@vancouver.ca>
Subject: Update: Downtown Eastside Women's Centre market

Good afternoon Mayor and Council,

I am writing to provide the following background pertaining to the DEWC street market that was held on Columbia St. over the past two weekends.

For context, staff met with Chinatown stakeholders in 2019 to discuss concerns regarding the DEWC Women's Market and overall road closure impacts on Chinatown. In the meeting, COV staff agreed to consult with the Chinatown BIA before permitting the women's market weekend event in the future. In early 2020, public health restrictions due to the pandemic essentially shut down events, and the DEWC Women's Market moved to an online platform for two years.

Earlier this year, health restrictions lifted allowing for a fast return to events, with Council directing staff to expedite processes for event organizers. Additionally, over the course of the pandemic, COV has experienced significant attrition of staff, which has unfortunately left gaps in areas of our organizational memory.

When DEWC submitted their application for this year's Women's Market, during the peak of staff response to the Hastings encampment, staff did not consult with the Chinatown BIA on the event and permitted it with requiring only notification to the immediately adjacent businesses. While it was unintentional, it has resulted in strong concerns from the Chinatown BIA.

The women's market event was two weekends (Oct 15/16 and 22/23), and is now complete. Staff worked to minimize the impact for the course of the events and were in detailed discussions with the BIA over the last week, and will continue the discussions with the BIA as a part of our commitment to Chinatown. Additionally, staff will work with DEWC to find viable alternative locations for future women's market events and will strengthen our documentation of additional consultation needs like this within the city systems.

Please let me or Lon know if you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Best,
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver
paul.mochrie@vancouver.ca
604.873.7666



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱m̱ḵ'y̱m̱ (Musqueam), S w̱w̱w̱i7mesh (Squamish), and s̱lilw̱ṯa̱ (Tseil-Waututh) Nations.

From: ["Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>](mailto:karen.levitt@vancouver.ca)
To: ["Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"](#) s.15(1)(l)
CC: ["City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"](#) s.15(1)(l)
["Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>](mailto:Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca)
Date: 12/19/2022 12:57:05 PM
Subject: Work to explore alternative response to some 911 calls

Dear Mayor and Council,

This email provides a brief update from GM, ACCS Sandra Singh on work currently underway by staff in response to a Council motion directing staff to explore and bring back recommendations related to: (a) *alternative non-police responses to some 911 calls* and (b) *alternatives to VPD presence during street cleaning and Steet and Traffic By-Law Enforcement*

Below is an update on (a) *alternative non-police responses to some mental health calls ("alternatives to 911")*.

BACKGROUND

Staff work related to identifying alternatives to 911 arises from a Council motion to decriminalize poverty passed on July 27, 2020. In April 2021, staff reported back with a proposed approach to undertaking the work. Feedback from community resulted in the creation of two working groups focusing on alternatives to 911 and City street cleaning services to gather input from community service providers, peers, and other community members.

Staff undertook a review of approaches undertaken by other jurisdictions to provide alternative crisis response options and/or decriminalize health and social issues (**Appendix B in the 2021 report to Council**). From this review, staff found that other cities piloting non-police responses to emergencies, such as Toronto, face different barriers due to BC's province-wide legislative approach to emergency dispatch, policing, as well as health care and social assistance provision. These dissimilarities point to the need for a coordinated approach to developing an effective pilot for BC municipalities.

Staff maintain communications with the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) who have been invited to participate in the alternatives to 911 working group. The CMHA Peer-Assisted Care Team (PACT) program has been implemented in North and West Vancouver since November 2021, with pilots in New Westminster and Victoria in development.

CURRENT STATUS

Staff have received and are reviewing Council's motion passed on November 22, 2022 which in part directs staff to reach out to CMHA, Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) and the VPD, with respect to the implementation of the PACT program in Vancouver:

THAT Council direct staff to work with their counterparts at Vancouver Coastal Health and the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) to explore options and opportunities to implement CMHA's Peer Assisted Care Teams (PACT) in Vancouver, as part of the Province's Safer Communities Action Plan or otherwise, to serve as a complementary mental health service to existing VCH and VPD mental health partnerships, in consultation with stakeholders and other relevant partners

Currently staff are also:

- Organizing and aligning recommendations from a downtown eastside (DTES) engagement process as well as provincial police reform work (stemming from the April 2022 report from the Special Committee on Reforming the Police Act) to guide the development of a pilot emergency response.
- Engaging with provincial staff to identify opportunities for partnership in developing alternative emergency responses, given alternatives to 911 was also identified through the Police Act review process, and the Province has indicated interest in working with Vancouver and potentially other municipalities on pilot approaches.

- Scoping a city-wide approach, understanding that particular 911 alternatives may be needed in the DTES. Staff are submitting application for a BC Civil Forfeiture grant to fund further engagement in neighborhoods outside the DTES to identify priorities across neighborhoods for emergency response.
- Connecting with BC municipalities engaged in community safety work for collaboration and advocacy for developing alternatives to police response.

Analysis:

- Early information on CMHA's pilot programs in BC show that these programs may not be effective for high-needs groups experiencing intersecting challenges related to homelessness, substance use, and mental health. Many cities across the province struggle to meet the needs of this demographic and the high level of emergency response resources they often demand.
- Further, information gathered from the working group and DTES engagement with residents has revealed that existing models such as CMHA's pilot programs may not be suitable for this neighborhood because of the essential need for a peer-led response embedded in the existing 911 dispatch system.
- PACT may be better suited to other areas of Vancouver and staff will review the potential for a PACT pilot as directed by Council with this geographic consideration in mind.

Next Steps:

- Engage with CMHA, VCH and VPD as per the November 22 Council motion.
- Provide recommendations for Council consideration in 2023 with the purpose of developing an evidence based emergency response pilot(s) that meets the safety needs of a diverse range of Vancouver residents.
- Continue to convene BC municipalities and provincial stakeholders in alternative emergency response pilot development.

Staff understand Council's strong interest to move swiftly and, as noted above, are actively engaged with the Province and other stakeholders to identify the appropriate approach or approaches for Vancouver given the diverse communities we serve across the city.

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please feel free to reach out to Sandra directly at Sandra.singh@vancouver.ca.

All the best,,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager (she/her)
karen.levitt@vancouver.ca **telephone** (604) 873-7251

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x m k y m/Musqueam, S wxwú7mesh/Squamish and s lilw ta /Tseil-Waututh na ons