



## City of Port Moody Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: February 24, 2021  
Submitted by: Community Services Department – Parks Division  
Subject: Food Security – Food Production in Parks

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### Purpose

To update Council on options for City supported edible gardens, including community involvement, and the proposed establishment of two new satellite community garden locations.

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### Recommended Resolution(s)

**THAT staff be directed to proceed with facilitating the establishment of two new satellite community gardens at Art Wilkinson Park and Town Centre Park as recommended in the report dated February 24, 2021 from the Community Services Department – Parks Division regarding Food Security – Food Production in Parks;**

**AND THAT the budget of \$53,000 to establish two new satellite community gardens be referred to the Finance Committee to identify a funding source.**

**AND THAT the report dated February 24, 2021 from the Community Services Department – Parks Division regarding Food Security – Food Production in Parks be referred to the Parks and Recreation Commission for further input on food security initiatives, including establishing a formal process for future community garden expansion.**

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### Background

At the Closed Council meeting held on June 9, 2020, Council passed and released the following resolutions on Food Production:

#### CC20/112 to 114

That Port Moody invite the rest of the Tri-Cities to take part in a mapping study to identify available space on public and private land for community gardens;

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on options, costs, and implications associated with planting edible but non-animal-attractant plants in City green spaces;

AND THAT Port Moody support the Tri-Cities Farmer's Market to hold markets weekly in Port Moody all year;

# Considered at the March 23, 2021 Council meeting

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AND THAT staff be directed to report back on costs and options for replicating the Victoria model of young plant distribution.

At the Regular Council meeting held on July 28, 2020, staff presented a report to Council focusing on the second and fourth resolutions (**Attachment 1**).

For the second resolution, staff highlighted three edible planting locations at City Hall, Pioneer Park, and the Arts Centre. These areas were intended to promote education and outreach, and were to be installed and maintained by staff.

For the fourth resolution, following consultation with the City of Victoria, staff determined that replication of a similar program would not be achievable at this time. Insufficient staff resources, absence of infrastructure such as greenhouses, lack of specialized food growing programs, and the need for better identification and coordination of food security and food production community partners, were identified as factors limiting the replication of the Victoria model.

Following discussion and clarification of the staff report, Council passed the following resolution:

## RC20/311

THAT this item be referred to staff to report back on staff supported community involvement and on the possibility of turning the proposed food production areas into community gardens.

## Discussion

The Parks and Recreation Master Plan (2016) has a number of references to food security and urban agriculture, with an emphasis on enhancing food security and social connectedness through more urban agriculture.

Currently, there are two community gardens in Port Moody:

- The Inlet Community Garden (established 2002) with 16 plots; and,
- Port Moody Police Tri Cities Community Garden (established 2013), with 62 plots.

Both gardens have long waitlists and experience a slow turnover of plots. The community garden at the Public Safety Building has a current waitlist of 65 and the Inlet Community Garden has a standing waitlist of 27; it can take many years to obtain a plot in Port Moody.

The options presented by staff for edible gardening areas in the July 28, 2020 report were selected for educational outreach purposes. The three locations put forward at the July 28, 2020, Regular Council meeting, are located at:

- City Hall Front Entrance containers (which were previously used for the "Where the Wild Things Grow" community outreach project) and the City Hall traffic circle;
- Pioneer Park (raised planter); and
- Arts Centre (creation of a victory garden using existing landscape beds).

# Considered at the March 23, 2021 Council meeting

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These locations are more appropriate for educational workshops for community engagement as they are smaller in size, and in the case of the City Hall traffic circle, not suitable for volunteers based on vehicle traffic safety considerations. Due to limited size, they will not alleviate long waitlists, with community involvement focused on educational outreach.

Staff analysed a variety of sites within parks (**Attachments 2 and 3**) in order to determine suitability for community garden expansion. Factors included solar access, site accessibility for transit, school or community partnership potential, access to water, current and future site use, and the amount of available parking spaces. Based on these factors, Art Wilkinson Park (**Attachment 4**) and Town Centre Park (**Attachment 5**) were identified as suitable locations to further consider the establishment of pilot satellite community gardens. Staff recommend that neighbourhood consultation be undertaken with the Glenayre Community Association for the Art Wilkinson location. Both areas of land provide sufficient space for a community garden to flourish, and have the capacity to meet future expansion needs. In addition, the data collected in **Attachment 2** will be made available for the mapping study to identify available space on public and private land for community gardens, put forward by Council as a resolution on June 9, 2020.

With respect to community involvement and expanding community garden spaces, staff are proposing the establishment of two satellite community garden locations in City parks as a pilot. Staff propose that the satellite locations be managed by the existing community garden groups within Port Moody, both who have expressed interest in expanding, with the intent of reducing their waitlists and providing additional areas within the City to promote food security. Moreover, the addition of two satellite community gardens will contribute to community development, environmental awareness, enhance positive social interactions, offer mental wellness benefits, and provide access to fresh food.

At both locations, site preparation is necessary, including the establishment of a water connection, the construction of raised timber plots, and the installation of soil and signage. Estimated costs are summarized below in Table 1.

Staff would prepare the area and construct the community garden for community groups to manage. This would involve design consultation with both the Grow Local Society (Public Safety Building Community Garden) and the Inlet Community Garden group.

Table 1 – Summary of Estimated Costs

Expenses (start-up costs)	Art Wilkinson (40 plots)	Town Centre Park-loco Road (20 plots)	Estimate Per Plot*
Site preparation and Design	\$1,000	\$500	
Water Connection	\$10,000	\$8,000	
Soil/mulch	\$1,600	\$800	\$40
Materials (raised planters**)	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$250
Fencing	N/A	\$3,600	
Miscellaneous Supplies	\$1,000	\$500	
Labour to construct (staff)	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$160
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$30,600</b>	<b>\$22,400</b>	<b>\$450</b>

\* Based on planter dimensions of 8'x4'x1'

\*\* Constructed out of untreated cedar

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Once operational, the community gardens will operate at no cost to the City of Port Moody, with the exception of the winterization of the water supply in the spring and fall of each year by Parks staff.

The City would enter into a five-year agreement for the satellite community gardens. Each community garden group would adhere to the Parks Division Community Garden Guidelines (draft), **Attachment 6**. Existing agreements and garden bylaws apply to the new locations.

Staff consulted a variety of stakeholders and regional experts, including both the Inlet Community Garden and the Port Moody Police Tri Cities Community Garden, Farm to School BC, the City of Victoria, and Port Coquitlam, in order to establish the best practices for community gardens.

Furthermore, staff propose the two additional sites as a pilot project, with the intent of monitoring and establishing a future grant process for food security initiatives, including a formal process for future garden expansion. Staff propose that the Parks and Recreation Commission be consulted on these measures.

In addition, to provide educational outreach, staff propose the use of the Arts Centre horticulture beds for the installation of a Victory Garden. Parks staff will install and maintain edible plants combined with flowering annuals and perennials. The Victory Garden could be used to host educational seminars, with any harvested food to be donated to the food bank.

## Other Option(s)

That the report dated February 24, 2021 from the Community Services Department – Parks Division regarding Food Security – Food Production in Parks be received for information.

## Financial Implications

To establish two new community garden satellites at Art Wilkinson Park and Town Centre Park, a funding source will need to be identified for the budget of \$53,000.

## Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

The establishment of two new community garden satellites will require external engagement with both of the existing community garden groups. Staff have liaised with both the Public Safety Building and Rocky Point Community Garden. Additional education material to support Urban Agriculture will be publicly shared on the City's website.

## Council Strategic Plan Objectives

Enhancing food security is consistent with the Healthy Communities priority in the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan.

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## Attachment(s)

1. Report Considered at the Regular Council Meeting of July 28, 2020.
2. Potential Community Garden Locations – Parks.
3. Overview of Satellite Community Garden Sites.
4. Art Wilkinson Park Community Garden.
5. Ioco Road Community Garden.
6. Community Garden Guidelines.

## Report Author

Robbie Nall  
Superintendent of Parks

# Considered at the March 23, 2021 Council meeting

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## Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Food Security - Food Production in Parks.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attachment 1 - Report Considered at the Regular Council Meeting of July 28, 2020.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 2 - Potential Community Garden Locations - Parks.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 3 - Overview of Satellite Community Garden Sites.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 4 - Art Wilkinson Park Community Garden.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 5 - Ioco Road Community Garden.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 6 - Community Garden Guidelines (Draft).pdf</li></ul>
Final Approval Date:	Mar 15, 2021

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Julie Pavey-Tomlinson, Director of Environment and Parks - Mar 9, 2021 - 10:42 AM

Ron Higo, General Manager of Community Services - Mar 9, 2021 - 11:09 AM

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Mar 9, 2021 - 11:16 AM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Mar 9, 2021 - 4:09 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Mar 10, 2021 - 9:56 AM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Mar 15, 2021 - 4:42 PM

# Considered at the March 23, 2021 Council meeting

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## Considered at July 28, 2020 Council Meeting

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### City of Port Moody Report/Recommendation to Council

Date: July 10, 2020  
Submitted by: Environment and Parks Department – Parks Division  
Subject: Food Production – Parks

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#### Purpose

To provide Council with an overview of options, costs, and implications associated with planting edible, but non-animal-attractant plants in City green spaces, and present a staff review of implications to consider costs and options for replicating the Victoria model of young plant distribution.

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#### Recommended Resolution(s)

**THAT staff be directed to proceed with the Food Production – Parks recommendations for planting non-animal-attractant plants in City green spaces as outlined in the report dated July 10, 2020 from the Environment and Parks Department – Parks Division regarding Food Production – Parks;**

**AND THAT the budget of \$39,790 to establish edible planting locations at City Hall, Pioneer Park, and the Arts Centre be referred to the Finance Committee to identify a funding source.**

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#### Background

At the Closed Council meeting held on June 9, 2020, Council passed and publicly released the following resolution on Food production:

##### CC20/112 to 114

THAT Port Moody invite the rest of the Tri-Cities to take part in a mapping study to identify available space on public and private land for community gardens;

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on options, costs, and implications associated with planting edible but non-animal-attractant plants in City green spaces;

AND THAT Port Moody support the Tri-Cities Farmer's Market to hold markets weekly in Port Moody all year;

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on costs and options for replicating the Victoria model of young plant distribution.

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This report responds to the second and fourth clauses of the above resolution.

Food production activities on City lands currently include the community gardens, a recent offering of an edible food project, and education and outreach workshops on organic gardening for residents.

The City's first edible planter project, "Where the Wild Things Grow," was initiated by Parks staff in June 2017 in partnership with the Port Moody Public Library, with funding from existing operating costs. This initiative built upon the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which highlights the need for enhanced community food security and social connectedness. The project intent was to demonstrate how people can grow their own food at home and to promote the aesthetic contribution that fruit and vegetable plants can provide to home gardens. From June through September, 16 containers fronting City Hall were filled with 100% organic soil and planted with a variety of fruit and vegetable plants, featuring different combinations of companion plantings. During the project, staff hosted weekly tours that promoted discussions and sharing of food production best practices. Despite being well received, this project was not continued in 2018 due to the increased maintenance levels required to support the fruit and vegetable producing containers when compared with maintenance requirements for annual display planters.

Environment staff have hosted organic gardening workshops as part of the *Port Moody Naturally* education and outreach programming for Earth Week. These workshops focused on backyard vegetable growing for beginner gardeners and included information related to site location of the garden, soil preparation, plant choices, seed choices, watering, sun exposure, bear-aware gardening, diseases, gardening resources, etc. Staff anticipate hosting more workshops in 2021 and beyond.

There are two community gardens in Port Moody, the Rocky Point Community Garden (2002), and the Port Moody Police Tri-Cities Community Garden (2013), with 16 and 62 plots respectively. Both gardens have a wait list.

### Discussion

#### Edible Plantings on City Lands

As noted above, staff initiated a small food production project on City lands in 2017. In response to the following clause of resolution CC20/112 to 114:

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on options, costs, and implications associated with planting edible but non-animal-attractant plants in City green spaces;

Staff have identified three edible planting options to promote education and outreach for urban agriculture within City greenspaces for 2020-2021. The proposed edible planting options vary in scope and scale and include raised planters, container planters, and a range of existing landscape and horticulture beds. A table listing details of the three options, including locations, installation costs, maintenance costs, and site considerations is included as **Attachment 1**. The total cost for the edible planting options is \$35,790. Images of the three options are included as **Attachment 2**.



# Considered at the March 23, 2021 Council meeting

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The three options and associated costs are summarized below:

- City Hall Front Entrance (containers and City Hall Circle) – \$17,790;
- Pioneer Park (raised planter) – \$9,970; and
- Arts Centre (Creation of a high-profile Victory Garden using existing landscape beds) – \$8,030.

Food production on City lands is a relatively new role for staff. Although traditional horticulture knowledge lends itself well to plant growth, urban food production requires detailed knowledge of parameters such as soil conditions, sun exposure, plant and seed selection, drainage, irrigation, disease, and bear-awareness. In light of the factors involved in the design, installation, and maintenance of successful edible food spaces on City lands, staff recommend moving forward in an incremental manner with the options listed above.

Parks Division staff will be collaborating with Environment Division staff on the edible plantings initiative for backyard gardening workshops and with the Port Moody Public Library for family-oriented education sessions on edible gardening. Successes, challenges, and lessons learned from this expansion into edible plantings will be reviewed and appropriate adjustments will be recommended for subsequent edible planting seasons. Staff will also coordinate with the Social Planner regarding the Tri-Cities Food Security Planning process to identify opportunities that may inform expansion or other adjustments to the edible planting initiative.

### City of Victoria – *Get Growing Victoria*

Staff have prepared the following synopsis of the City of Victoria Edible Seedling Community Distribution Project in response to the following clause of resolution CC20/112 to 114:

AND THAT staff be directed to report back on costs and options for replicating the Victoria model of young plant distribution.

In April 2020, Victoria City Council directed staff to temporarily reprioritize operations in the existing municipal nursery for the growth and distribution of 75,000 edible plant seedlings to be distributed by community partners to support community members. The City of Victoria Food Systems Coordinator, in communication with staff, has confirmed that 50,000 edible plant seedlings have been distributed to date with another 25,000 to 30,000 anticipated for distribution in August.

*Get Growing Victoria* prioritizes support for people who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and want to grow food at home, but may be facing barriers to access food plants and garden materials, or are facing barriers to access fresh, locally grown food. An overview of *Get Growing Victoria* is provided as **Attachment 3**. Several key foundational factors had been in place for some time prior to the Council direction for edible plants distribution that enabled a swift launch of the project. These factors include the establishment of the City's Urban Food Table, a food policy council, two and a half years ago. Volunteers meet monthly to provide advice on the development of policies and programs to support urban food production and pollinators. Many members of the Urban Food Table are also members of the food growing community who receive grants under the City's *Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator Grants* program.

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Urban Food Table volunteers were instrumental in providing advice for the project structure, particularly distribution options for the plant seedlings during COVID-19. In addition, the City was able to reallocate \$30,000 of remaining 2020 grant funds to provide support to three existing edible foods programs for the distribution of the edible plants (i.e. Greater Victoria School District, LifeCycles Project Society, and Farm to School BC). Details on the program, including seedling varieties chosen, seed suppliers, community partners, distribution, eligibility, and other City urban food production resources are included in **Attachment 3**. The following list identifies other City resources in place to support the program:

- 6,000ft<sup>2</sup> cold-frame greenhouse space;
- 2.5 FTE nursery staff to plant seeds and grow/weed vegetable seedlings (~4 weeks in April and June);
- 1 FTE Food Systems Coordinator;
- established City programming for Community Gardens and Orchards, Food Production Businesses, and Boulevard Gardening;
- established Grant Programs for City Micro-grants, Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator Grants, and My Great Neighbourhood Grants;
- 30 Community partners; and
- \$65,500 budget for Food Starts, Education and Outreach, and Distribution and Delivery.

*Get Growing Victoria* is an inspiring model for food growing and distribution to support those who have experienced loss of work, those who are immunocompromised, people with disabilities, seniors, indigenous people, at-risk youth, families in need, and/or people who self-identify as food insecure during COVID-19. Replication of a similar program in Port Moody would not be achievable at this time due to a number of factors, including: insufficient staff resources; absence of greenhouses; lack of specialized food growing programs, grants and funding; and a need for better identification and coordination of food security and food production community partners.

Though the City is not currently poised to embark on a program of this magnitude, we are moving in a direction that supports strong community foundations aimed at deepening understanding of local food security and food literacy. A successful Union of British Columbia Municipalities grant was announced this spring for the Tri-Cities and Village of Anmore Food Security Assessment and Action Plan. This regional funding will enable a food security assessment for the Tri-Cities and the Village of Anmore that includes the identification of assets, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and recommendations for action. As learned from the *Get Growing Victoria* program, implementation of food growing initiatives to promote food security and food literacy requires strong ties to build capacity between community and municipal partners. Work on the Plan will facilitate and foster these ties to better position the City to consider promotion of appropriately-scaled food security and food literacy plans and programs in the future.

### Other Options

THAT the report dated July 10, 2020 from the Environment and Parks Department – Parks Division regarding Food Production – Parks be received for information.

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### Financial Implications

To establish new edible planting locations at City Hall, Pioneer Park, and the Arts Centre, a funding source will need to be identified for the budget of \$35,790. A breakdown of budget costs is provided in **Attachment 1**.

### Communications and Civic Engagement Initiatives

Staff will hold community outreach workshops and programs throughout the growing season to share information with residents about growing edible plants on City lands.

### Council Strategic Plan Objectives

Enhancing food security is consistent with the Healthy Communities priority in the 2019-2022 Council Strategic Plan.

### Attachment(s)

1. Future Options for Edible Plantings.
2. Edible Planting Locations.
3. *Get Growing Victoria*.

### Report Author

Lesley Douglas  
General Manager of Environment and Parks

# Considered at the March 23, 2021 Council meeting

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## Considered at July 28, 2020 Council Meeting

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### Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Food Production - Parks.docx
Attachments:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attachment 1 - Future Options for Edible Plantings.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 2 - Edible Planting Locations.pdf</li><li>- Attachment 3 - Get Growing Victoria.pdf</li></ul>
Final Approval Date:	Jul 20, 2020

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

Dorothy Shermer, Corporate Officer - Jul 17, 2020 - 3:46 PM

Rosemary Lodge, Manager of Communications and Engagement - Jul 17, 2020 - 6:55 PM

Paul Rockwood, General Manager of Finance and Technology - Jul 18, 2020 - 11:01 AM

Tim Savoie, City Manager - Jul 20, 2020 - 10:41 AM

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### Attachment 1 - Future Options for Edible Plantings

Option Location		Installation Costs	Maintenance Costs*	Considerations
1. Container gardens (16) and City Hall circle	Front entrance at City Hall	Plant material (seedlings) and soil - <b>\$2320</b> Staffing (design, install) – <b>\$1470</b>	Maintenance - <b>\$700</b> average weekly (May-October) depending on length of growing season. = <b>\$14,000</b> (approx. 20 weeks).	Would follow previous work from “Where the wild things grow.”  Accessible site for educational outreach.
<b>COSTS</b>		<b>\$3790</b>	<b>\$14,000</b>	<b>TOTAL COSTS \$17,790</b>
2. Raised Planter	Pioneer Park	Materials for custom built planter - <b>\$1000</b> Staff time for assembly - <b>\$1000</b> Plant material (seedlings) and soil - <b>\$700</b> Staffing (design, install) - <b>\$670</b>	Maintenance - <b>\$330</b> weekly (May-October) depending on length of growing season = <b>\$6600</b> (approx. 20 weeks).	Located adjacent to Pollinator Garden.  Accessible water source close by.
<b>COSTS</b>		<b>\$3370</b>	<b>\$6600</b>	<b>TOTAL COSTS \$9970</b>
3. High profile Victory Garden using existing landscape beds	Arts Centre	Plant material (seedlings) and soil - <b>\$900</b> Staffing (design, install) - <b>\$1430</b>	<b>\$285</b> weekly (May-October) depending on length of growing season = <b>\$5700</b> (approx. 20 weeks).	The garden area has an existing irrigation system.
<b>COSTS</b>		<b>\$2330</b>	<b>\$5700</b>	<b>TOTAL COSTS \$8030</b>
			<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$35,790</b>

\*Maintenance includes harvesting, weeding, pruning, fertilizing, watering, and replanting.

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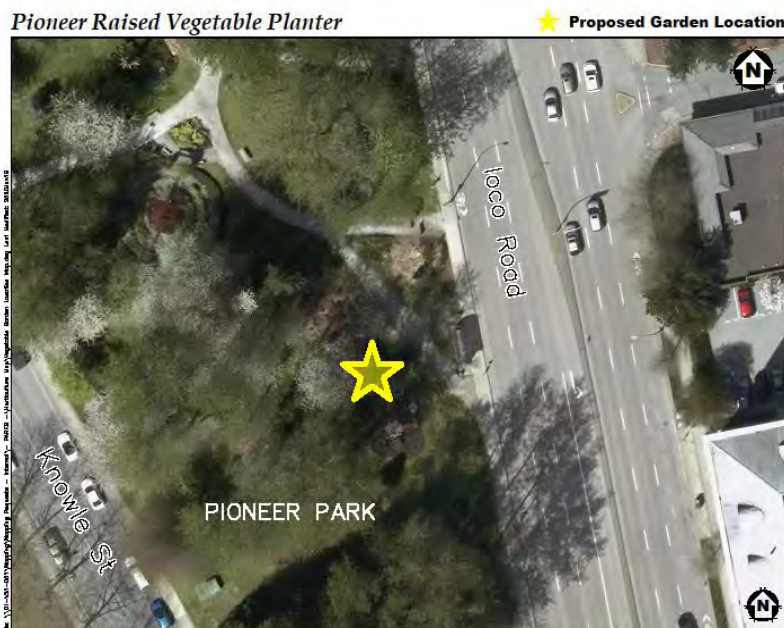
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Attachment 2 – Edible Planting Locations

Option 1: City Hall



Option 2: Pioneer Park



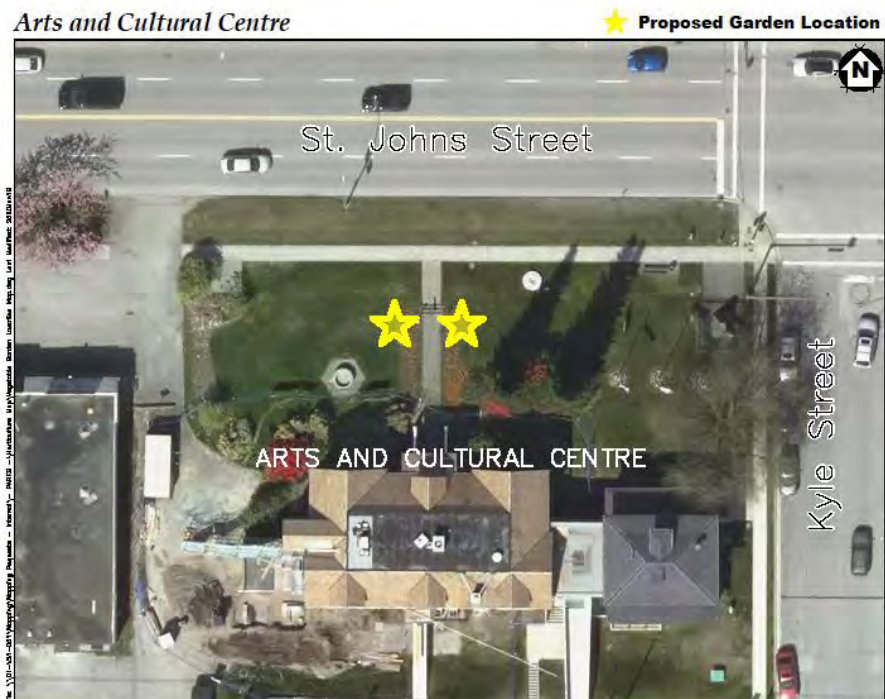
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Option 3: Arts and Cultural Centre





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Growing in the City | Victoria

### Attachment 3 - Get Growing Victoria



#### Growing in the City

The City supports urban food production on public and private land.



Urban gardening and food production contribute positively to health and well-being, social interaction, connection to nature, and environmental education. They help create healthy and diverse ecosystems while building community and our food security.

#### Get Growing, Victoria!



This free food seedlings distribution program created by the City of Victoria in partnership with community and non-profit organizations supports communities disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

There is renewed interest in community resilience, food security and learning how to grow food at home.

In April 2020, City Council directed staff to temporarily reprioritize operations in the existing municipal nursery in Beacon Hill Park for the growth and distribution of food starts to be shared over the 2020 growing season.

Over 75,000 edible plant starts are being grown by the City, to be distributed by over 30 community partners who directly serve over 10,000 households of marginalized communities. The first round of 50,000 seedlings supported over 6,000 households facing barriers to fresh food access and garden materials.

Most of our partner organizations are acting as distribution sites for community members to pick up seedlings to be transplanted at home. Some community partners are growing the seedlings in their existing operations to distribute the fresh produce through their programs.

#### What is being grown?



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Growing in the City | Victoria



The seedling varieties were selected for easy growing by the novice gardener, and suitable for a variety of locations, such as garden beds in yards or container gardening on decks and balconies. Local seeds were procured from Southern Vancouver Island farms, and through West Coast Seeds and BC Eco Seed Co-op.

**Spring/Summer 2020 Distribution** provided 17 vegetable and herbs and included cucumbers, zucchini, squash, cabbage, mizuna and mixed mustard greens, rainbow and eldorado swiss chard, red russian and siberian kale, three different varieties of cherry tomatoes, stupice tomato, parsley, basil and lettuce.

### **Fall/Winter 2020 Distribution**

The Fall/Winter distribution will provide 10 vegetable and herb starts for a selection of hardy greens including lettuce, chard, kale, mustard greens, as well as peas, kohlrabi, purple sprouting broccoli and green onions.

### **Who is eligible to receive plants?**

The project prioritizes support for people who have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and want to grow food at home, but that may be facing barriers to access to food plants and garden materials, or are facing barriers to access fresh, locally grown food.

That may include, but is not limited to, those who have experienced loss of work, Indigenous people, people who are immunocompromised, people with disabilities, seniors, at-risk youth, families in need, and/or people who self-identify as food insecure.

### **How can I receive seedlings?**

The Spring/Summer distribution, which ran from May 25 - June 14, 2020, is now complete. The Fall/Winter crop distribution will happen in mid-August. Please contact your local community centre to find out how to register. Plant orders will not be placed in advance. Seedling varieties can be selected by participants on site.

Each location will host the first hour of distribution for seniors and immunocompromised folks only, and after registered participants have received seedlings, the program is open to the wider public.

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For example, for locations offering 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. distribution:

**10 - 11 a.m.: Seniors and immunocompromised**

**11 a.m. - 12 p.m.: Registered participants**

**12 - 2 p.m.: Open to wider public**

### Community Partner Organizations

Oaklands Community Association

North Park Neighbourhood Association

Victoria West Community Centre

Fernwood Community Centre

Fairfield Gonzales Community Association

South Jubilee Neighbourhood Association

Downtown Yates Street Community Garden

Burnside Gorge Community Association

Quadra Village Community Centre

Yates Stret Community Garden

James Bay Neighbourhood

### Contact Information

reception@oaklandsca.com

coordinator@npna.ca

coordinator@victoriawest.ca

info@fernwoodnrg.ca

fairfieldcommunitygardens@gmail.com

SRJgetgrowing@gmail.com

yatescommunitygarden@gmail.com

info@burnsidegorge.ca

info@quadravillagecc.com

yatescommunitygarden@gmail.com

No contact

Thank you to our community partners who helped ensure the success of Get Growing, Victoria!

**Greater Victoria School District** – partnership with LifeCycles Project Society and Farm to School BC

Families of the Greater Victoria School District were eligible to access free vegetable plants and educational materials, for the seedling Spring/Summer distribution that happened from May 25 to June 11 at four school sites. Over 2,000 families from 47 schools accessed to the seedlings. For more information, see here.

**The Food Eco-District – My FED Farm**

In partnership with Top Soil Innovative Agriculture, My FED Farm provides free start-up food garden kits to 500 families in need. There are still remaining spots available to get your own micro-garden! To sign up or to find more information, see here.

**How do I care for seedlings?**

The City has partnered with the Capital Regional Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable (CRFAIR) and its *Growing Together* campaign to offer free educational resources in the form of videos, webinars and access to a new-gardener mentorship program. *Growing Together* shares knowledge from local experts, including site-planning your garden, building healthy soil, companion planting, how to safely transplant seedlings, best watering practices, organic pest management and more.

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Growing in the City | Victoria

Start learning today: <https://www.growingfood-together.com/learn-to-grow>

### **Growing Food and Gardening in Mixed-Use, Multi-Unit Residential Developments**

To encourage urban gardening and food production in mixed-used, multi-unit residential developments, a guide has been developed to offer resources and examples to support the successful and durable incorporation of urban gardening and food production in new and existing developments. The guide also aims to increase awareness about existing good practices and opportunities to innovate. Learn more [here](#).

### **Boulevard Gardening**

Boulevard Gardening Guidelines are designed to help beginners and experts garden on City boulevards more confidently and responsibly. Learn how you can transform the boulevard beside your property into a beautiful and healthy garden. Learn more [here](#).

### **Community Gardens and Orchards**

The Community Gardens Policy encourages local non-profit organizations to establish community allotment gardens, commons gardens and orchards. Find a community garden near you or learn about starting your own. Learn more [here](#).

### **Urban Food Tree Stewardship Pilot Program**

Residents, through a community organization, can apply to plant and maintain up to five fruit and nut trees in a local green space. The City will work with the organization to find suitable locations. Trees must be planted from October to November. Read more about the program [PDF - 388 KB] and apply to become a Food Tree Steward [here](#) [PDF - 38 KB].

### **Rooftop Greenhouses**

Rooftop greenhouses can enable year-round local food production in dense urban environments. If you want to build a greenhouse on a rooftop, the Building a Rooftop Greenhouse Fact Sheet [PDF - 611 KB] will help you get started.

### **Keeping Bees and Hens**

The Animal Control Bylaw permits an unspecified number of bee hives and up to 15 female chickens or other poultry. Bee hives, coops and pens of all sizes must be set back from the property line. Check the Zoning Regulation Bylaw to see required setbacks for your zone, at [victoria.ca/zoning](http://victoria.ca/zoning). For information on good hen-keeping practices, see the Basic Chicken Care manual made available by the City of Vancouver.

### **Growing Food to Sell**

You can grow and sell edible and non-edible products including unprocessed fruits and vegetables, flowers, herbs, fibre, seeds, nuts, seedlings, mushrooms, plant cuttings, eggs and honey. Apply for a business licence to sell products off-site (e.g. in retail stores or restaurants) as well as on-site (e.g. at food stands). Learn more and get started [here](#).

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### Resources for Urban Gardening

- The Compost Education Centre offers information on building small greenhouses, soil testing and rainwater harvesting as well as workshops on compost management, organic gardening and soil science.
- The Capital Region Beekeepers' Association offers online and in-person resources for new and experienced beekeepers.
- The LifeCycles Project Society helps people to grow their own food and have better access to fresh local foods.
- Hallburton Farm is an incubator farm in Saanich that provides educational opportunities related to small-scale organic farming.
- The Horticulture Centre of the Pacific offers gardening workshops and access to demonstration gardens.
- To minimize pesticide use, find tips on the City's website to prevent garden pests and encourage beneficial insects.
- The Guide for Planting, Growing and Harvesting Fresh Produce to Reduce Health Risks, made available by the City of Vancouver and Vancouver Coastal Health, provides resources to prevent produce and soil contamination.
- Public markets provide artisans and local growers the opportunity to promote and sell produce and handcrafted goods in a vibrant atmosphere.
- Pollinators are a key component of a sustainable, resilient and biodiverse urban environment. Learn more about pollinators and how you can help pollinators here.

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## Attachment 2 - Potential Community Garden Locations – Parks

Location	Solar Access	Transportation	Current Use	Water Access	Size of Area	School/Community Partnerships	Site Suitability	Potential Type of Garden
<b>Glenayre – Art Wilkinson Park</b>	✓ Full sun	✓ Parking on site	✓ Open field	✗ Connection required from building	✓ 450 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre – potential to align with outdoor recreation programming. Existing community garden groups	✓ Flat Potential for up to 60 plots Located up to 100' away from residents fence lines	✓ Potential Community garden/satellite
<b>Glenayre – Westhill Youth Centre</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site	✓ Entrance grass	✗ Connection required from nearby water main	✓ 130 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre Existing community garden groups	✓ Flat Solar constraints	✓ Community garden satellite
<b>Westhill Park – Grass area behind pool</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site	✓ Shared space with pool users	✗ Connection required	✓ 100 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre Existing community garden groups	✓ Slight slope Full sun	✓ Community garden satellite
<b>Westhill Park – boulevard grass area adjacent to sports field</b>	✓ Full sun	✓ Parking on site	✓ Site shared with sport teams spectators	✗ Connection required from nearby water main	✓ 150 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre Existing community garden groups	✓ Flat Possible impact to sports teams spectators. Gas ROW in area.	✓ Community garden satellite
<b>Moody Centre – Chip Kerr Park</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible	✓ Community park	✗ Connection required	✓ < 50 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Potential to reach out to existing	✓ Flat	✓ Community garden satellite

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				from building		community garden groups. Plans for pollinator garden at the park – align with food growing component.	Solar constraints with shading	Seniors garden
<b>Moody Centre – Arts Centre</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site	✓ Display bed	✓ Existing irrigation	✓ < 50 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Art Centre Potential to work with Art Centre outreach.	✓ Partial shade Smaller area for community garden	✓ Educational outreach Victory garden led by city staff
<b>Moody Centre – Kyle Centre</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site	✓ Display bed Large grass area adjacent to parking lot	✓ Existing irrigation in garden beds.	✓ < 50 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Partnership with Kyle Centre, community garden groups	✓ Partial shade Central location	✓ Educational outreach opportunity Seniors garden
<b>Inlet Centre – City Hall. Grass area between City Hall and Inlet Centre Fire Hall</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible Transit hub	✓ Large grass area not utilized but garden has the potential to impact event rentals.	✗ Connection required from water main adjacent to building	✓ < 75 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre. Existing community garden groups. Potential partnerships with the library.	✓ Flat Solar constraints Central hub	✗ Potential for space conflict with event rentals.
<b>Inlet Centre – City Hall. Grass area adjacent to Amphitheatre</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible Transit hub	✗ Open grass area, not currently utilized following construction.	✗ Connection required from building	✓ < 150 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre Existing community garden groups	✓ Flat Solar constraints Drainage issues Central hub.	✗ Suitable space for community garden satellite; however there is a

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			Will be used for events.					space conflict.
<b>Inlet Centre – Town Centre Tennis Courts</b>	✓ Full sun	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible Transit hub	✓ Open grass area outside of tennis courts	✗ Connection required - difficult access	✓ < 75 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre Existing community garden groups	✓ Full sun Difficult water connection access	✓ Community garden satellite. Educational outreach
<b>Inlet Centre – Town Centre Park: Trail entrance area between City Hall and tennis courts</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible Transit hub	✓ Grass area featuring two picnic tables.	✗ Connection required from water main adjacent to building	✓ < 150 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre Existing community garden groups	✓ Morning sun – solar constraints Grading required Central hub	✓ Community garden satellite.
<b>Inlet Centre- Town Centre Park: loco Road</b>	✓ Full sun	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible Transit hub	✓ Grass area adjacent to the road.	✗ Connection required from nearby water main	✓ < 130 m <sup>2</sup>	✓ Community Centre – potential to align with recreation programing. Existing community garden groups	✓ Full sun Adjacent to busy road. Fencing recommended.	✓ Community garden satellite
<b>Inlet Centre- Town Centre Park: Recreation Complex</b>	✓ Partial shade	✓ Parking on site SkyTrain accessible Transit hub	✓ Grass area adjacent to the playground.	✗ Connection required - difficult access	✓ < 130 m <sup>2</sup>	Community Centre – potential to align with recreation programing. Existing community garden groups	✓ Full sun in the morning and early afternoon. Difficult water connection access.	✓ Community garden satellite





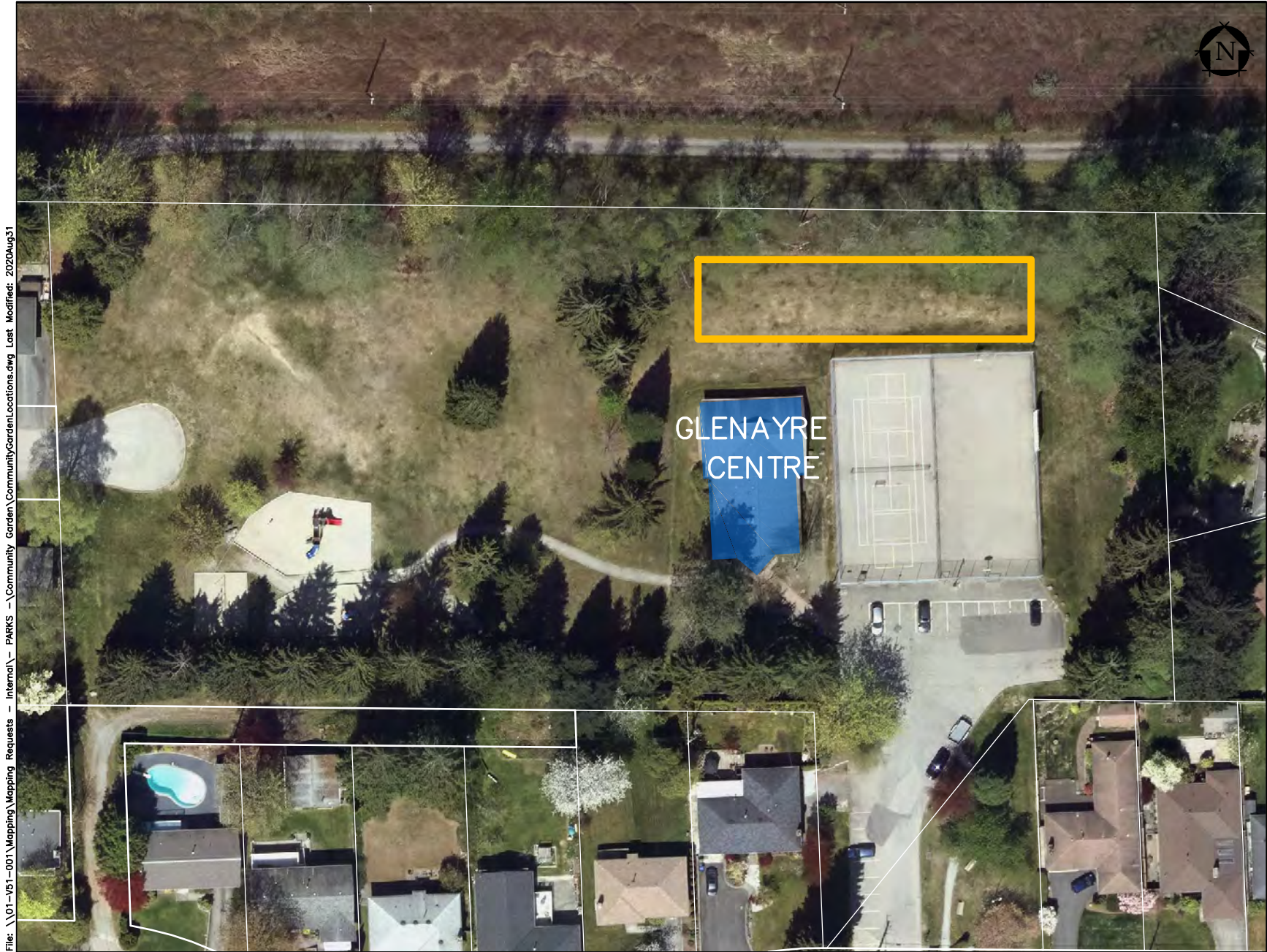


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*Art Wilkinson Park Community Garden*

 Garden Location





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## *Town Centre Playground Community Garden*

 Garden Location



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## **Attachment 6 - Community Garden Guidelines (Draft)**

Urban agriculture improves environmental sustainability, contributes to community development, creates positive social interactions, access to fresh food, provides food security, reduces food waste and is part of the City of Port Moody's Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Residents are encouraged to engage in urban agriculture by growing food and non-edible plants throughout the city. This includes growing:

- Grains
- Vegetables
- Mushrooms
- Fruits
- Medicinal herbs
- Ornamental plants

Urban agriculture includes the following activities:

- Collaborative and shared gardening
- Community gardening
- Gardens focused on indigenous people, plants, and knowledge
- Pollinator gardens and infrastructure
- Edible landscaping
- Urban Farming

Community gardens hold an important role within the urban agriculture umbrella. A community garden is a piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people. Each community garden is unique, as each individual brings different skills, talents, and interest to the garden. Generally, the following features are evident within community gardens:

- Managed and maintained through active participation of the gardeners, or non-profit society
- Membership fees support garden maintenance
- Growing food for consumption is encouraged
- Growing food for charitable donations to food banks

The City of Port Moody's Parks Department will collaborate with interested groups in assisting the development of urban agriculture projects if they meet the intent and objectives of this policy and guidelines. The following guidelines set out the requirements for community gardens on City park lands.

Community gardens will be operated by a non-profit society according to the following criteria:

1. The duration of urban agriculture on the site is time-limited, according to the terms of the license agreement. The standard term for the license agreement will be five (5) years, however this will be evaluated with each project and is at the discretion of the Director of Environment and Parks.
2. Grow primarily edible and/or Indigenous plants.
3. Grow plants for the purposes of:
  - project member and community benefit;

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- skills and capacity building; 332
- arts and culture;
- benefitting pollinators;
- donating to charitable causes; and/or
- collaborating with other programs taking place in parks or facilities.

4. Actively encourage and support a diversity of community members (e.g. age, ability, cultural background, etc.) to participate in the garden from conceptual stages through to ongoing operations.

5. Ensure accessibility of garden to people with a variety of abilities.

6. Provide open access to the project at all times; locked barriers are not permitted.

7. Provide signage that includes information about the purpose of the garden, the organisation that sponsors it, how to get involved, and emphasises that the garden is open to all members of the community.

8. Adhere to the City's Bear Management strategy.

9. Operate at no cost to the City. The exception to this is that prior to the first season, City staff may assist with site preparation, the details of which will depend on the type of project. Parks staff will also winterize the water supply in the spring and fall of each year.

## **Project Location and Approval Process**

If the desired location for the community garden or urban agriculture program is on City park land, in order to determine if the location is suitable, the Parks Department will conduct a review based on the following factors:

- Solar access
- Accessibility
- Current and future use
- Water Access
- Size of area
- Community partnership potential
- Neighborhood consultation

If recommended by staff, approval will be granted by the Director of Environment and Parks.

## **Project Design**

In projects where the non-profit organisation is responsible for construction activities, the following must be provided to the Parks Department:

1. A final project design including: all direction received from City staff; the license agreement; and response to feedback received through the consultation, as appropriate. This plan must be approved by the Director of Environment and Parks or designate.
2. An operating plan that describes how the garden will comply with this policy requirements.
3. A construction and operating budget.

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4. Proof of two million dollars in liability insurance; liability insurance requirements may be modified at any time at the discretion of the City.
5. A license agreement approved and signed by the non-profit society Board as well as the Director of Environment and Parks or designate.
6. Parks staff will work with society members to respond to any and all issues and complaints in a timely fashion, and in accordance with the license agreement.
7. Society members must provide the City with the following information and documentation on an annual basis:
  - Up to date contact information;
  - Basic project details as requested in a survey (e.g. wait list numbers, any new infrastructure, etc.); and

Proof of insurance (limits and requirements as outlined above).