Report to March 2024 HCCA Board Meeting

Get Growing Hunt Club 2024

The planning of the fifth consecutive year of Get Growing Hunt Club (GGHC) is underway. Key updates since the February report to the HCCA Board include:

* First meeting of the GGHC Core Team was held with future meetings scheduled to the project delivery date (Saturday May 18th 10 am to 1pm). The project plan has been developed and responsibilities and timelines established.
* The pick up locations- the west patio of the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre and Ashgrove Community Housing complex-have been secured.
* Products:
	+ The seedkits we give to each gardener (via pre-registration) in our neighbourhood will contain (as in the past) 1 vegetable seedling (bell pepper or cherry or slicer tomato) and 1 pack of vegetable seeds and a pamphlet of growing hints along with information on GGHC sponsors and suppliers. (Note: a minimum 20% of products are provided onsite to Ashgrove Community Housing residents)
	+ Last year, as a trial, we made up small patio pots containing lettuces and kale (‘salad bowls’). Twenty pots were available to people living in Ashgrove Community Housing. This year we will make up forty pots, twenty of them to Ashgrove and twenty will be available via the community centre pick up.
	+ Sponsorship/suppliers
		- HCCA and Councillor Brockington provide the major funding for GGHC
		- Lee Valley has donated all the seed packs (220 packs -retail value almost $550.00)
		- Richmond Nursery order for seedlings has been placed
		- Green Thumb Nursery will provide 40 recycled pots (for salad bowl plantings) and discounts on garden/potting soil.
* Communications Plan-similar to past years
	+ GGHC will be promoted via HCCA communication vehicles including GGHC Facebook and through Councillor Brockington. Gardeners pre-register and come to the community centre between 10 am and 1pm on Sat May 18th to pick up their kit.
* Earth Day-at Councillor Brockington’s invitation GGHC will host a table at Apr. 20th Earth Day Celebrations at the Hunt Club Riverside Park Community Centre.

Volunteer opportunity: We are looking for 1-2 people who would help fill and plant the small patio bowls (late April/early May). This would take 3-4 hours of your time. We are looking 1-2 people who could tend a number of the seeded pots outside at your home for approximately two weeks before the GGHC distribution date. This would entail watering the bowls and if there is a frost warning, either covering them or moving them into a shed or garage. If you are interested in being part of group of fellow Hunt Club residents who are keen to support local food production please contact Barb Shea via email: Getgrowing@hunt-club.ca

March 2, 2024