



THE LEAF

THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Established 1943

October 2023

President's Message - Lorraine Robson

As I walk through the beautiful North Shore parks and forests on these gorgeous sunny fall days, I am reminded of a quote by Albert Camus: "Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower." The brilliance of the red, orange, and gold leaves against the dark green conifers is spectacular this year, but reminds me that we are winding down the year. In my garden, too, the plants signal the coming end of the growing season. The last of the pink and white Japanese Anemones sway on their long stems, the clusters of intense purple berries of *Callicarpa bodinieri* 'Profusion' glisten in the sunlight, and a late-blooming Dahlia 'Liquid Desire' almost glows from within. Some wretched creature ate that Dahlia down to the ground earlier this summer, so I'm delighted to see it bloom at last. That's resilience!

As we approach our AGM in November, your LVGC Executive has been busy preparing and discussing the many details of the proposed budget for 2024, revising the language of the Constitution and By-laws to make that document gender-neutral and inclusive of everyone as well as updating a few points to reflect our club's current practices, and considering where best to recommend we donate our \$4,300 this year. You will find documentation supporting our recommendations in each of these three areas in this issue of *The Leaf*. Please read the documentation, ask any questions you may have, and consider how you will vote at the AGM.

With Thanksgiving only just recently past, I am still feeling thankful for my Executive team and the Committees who do so much for the club. Thank you to Judith Brook and Ann McKinnon for taking on extra duties and forming the Donation Committee with me this year to review suggestions and reach consensus on our recommendations. Thank you to our Treasurer, Jennifer Sydenham, for her careful consultation with each "department" in gathering figures for our proposed budget and for tracking the funds flowing in and out of our account all year. All the money talk lately makes me think of Sir Francis Bacon (who must have been a gardener as well as a philosopher, statesman, and scientist) who said: "Money is like manure, of very little use except it be spread."

Thank you to Sarah Gray, our Secretary, for her thorough minutes which document our discussions at the monthly Executive meetings and again at the General meetings. Thank



you to Maria Issa, our Newsletter Editor who, with her sidekick Margaret Campbell, miraculously sprouts a "Leaf" each month and sends out special notices of plants available to buy and other important news. Thank you to Aline Burlone, our Webmaster, who updates our website regularly so that it is both informative and beautiful and helps keep our Zoom participants connected. Thank you to Judith Brook, our Vice-President, who tracks down and books interesting speakers for us every month.

LVGC MEETINGS
3rd Thursday of each month (except July and August) currently at

Mount Seymour United Church

**1200 Parkgate Ave,
North Vancouver,
BC V7H 2X9
(604) 929-1336**

Meetings start promptly at 7:15 PM

**SPEAKER
OCTOBER 18
DEBORAH JONES
RAIN GARDENS**

If you need to contact anyone at LVGC please use email or phone! If you must send a thing - phone to get the address and send it to a VIP (list is on the next page)

PLEASE USE
ELECTRONIC ACCESS
Your emails are welcome!



Executive 2023

President

Lorraine Robson .

Vice President

Judith Brook .

Secretary

Sarah-Jane Gray .

Treasurer

Jennifer Sydenham .

Membership

Ann McKinnon .

Krystina Madej .

Members at Large (MAL)

Jacquie D'Auria .

Marilyn Bullock .

Brenda Reid .

Committees

Plant Table

Cathy Rickey .

Hospitality

Sharon Carabetta .

Sue Nicholls .

Miriam Scott .

Sunshine / Door Prizes

Hiromi Matsui .

Website

Aline Burlone .

Newsletter Editors

Maria Issa .

Margaret Campbell .

Executive Meetings

November 1 at 7:00 pm chez Sarah

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Newsletter items to
lynnvalleygardenclubnewsletter@gmail.com



Thanks to this month's LEAF contributors: Taylor Hewstan, Linda Howe, Rita Marshall, Whitney McMillan, Lorraine Robson

Thank you to Ann McKinnon and Krystina Madej for keeping our Membership lists up to date and welcoming you all to the General meetings. Thank you to the MALs, Brenda Reid, Marilyn Bullock, Linda Downs, and Jacquie D'Auria, for planning the Plant Sale and coming to the Exec meetings to share their thoughts and input. Thank you to Hiromi Matsui, Sunshine, for finding multiple door-prizes each month and for her thoughtful contributions to our discussions. Thank you to the Hospitality Committee of Sharon Carabetta, Miriam Scott, and Susan Nicholls for cheerfully providing treats, tea, and coffee every month.

Thank you to Penny LeCouteur and Courtney Mitchell for coming out of retirement to help identify new *volunteers to take on the roles that will be vacated at the end of this year.*

As President, I get to coordinate with all of them as I plan agendas, organize a million details, and write or reply to a zillion emails. I am grateful to all these members for their participation in keeping the club running. Without new volunteers to do all the jobs that make our garden club what it is, we won't have a garden club next year. It doesn't run itself, folks! Is it your turn to pitch in? If it is, I will be thankful to you, too, and you will be helping to keep our club resilient.

Hope to hear from you soon!



SPEAKER

DEBORAH JONES

Rain Gardens

Deborah Jones has a BA in Urban Studies, a Master's of Library Science, and worked for the Vancouver Public Library for over 30 years.

She and husband Ib Nielsen joined the volunteer group Cougar Creek Streamkeepers in 2004, after noticing illegal tree-cutting on the banks of the most productive salmon stream in North Delta. They put their gardening experience to work on a restoration planting project along that streambank - which gave them a ringside seat to the ravages of stormwater runoff flowing directly into the creek from nearby shopping malls, parking lots, streets and residential roofs.

A request to City of Delta for a pilot rain garden project gradually morphed into *many* projects. Deb now serves as volunteer Rain Gardens Coordinator for the Streamkeepers, overseeing the maintenance of 30 school and community rain gardens created since 2006 in collaboration with City of Delta, Delta School District, Pacific Salmon Foundation, Nature Trust of BC and others. She also advises the Nature Trust and Be the Change Earth Alliance on their rain garden grant programs.



"I spend weeks trying to grow a plant and then a fully grown weed pops up in one day!" - Jean Luc Picard

REPORTS

Vice President – Judith Brook

There is an exciting list of speakers booked – well into next year!

November 16 AGM & Daniel Mosquin: Native Gardens
December 14 Christmas Party (no speaker)
January 18 Danielle Dagenais, BC Community Bat
Programs: Creating a Bat-Friendly Garden
February 15 Owen Balance: Behind the Scenes at
Monet’s Garden in Giverny, France



Treasurer – Jennifer Sydenham

Bank Balance as of October 3	\$ 20,749.63
In Petty Cash	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total	\$ 20,854.63

Membership – Krystina Madej & Ann McKinnon

We plan to start collecting the 2024 membership renewal fees of \$20 in November and hope to automate some of the process by having an online fillable membership form. Paper forms will still be available for those of you who may find this difficult. As usual, we want to complete the renewal process by the end of the year, so that we can offer any vacant spaces to people on the waitlist in time for them to attend their first meeting on January 18.

Nomination Committee Report

As of Oct 14th 2024, the **results** of our phone calls, pleading, discussions, *etc.* are summarized below:

Signed: *Penny Le Couteur, Courtney Mitchell*

(P.S. We have only phoned those members on the list that replied YES to volunteering. If anyone who did not answer YES to volunteer has had a change of mind, we would like to hear from you... If you are prepared and willing to take on the not-too-onerous positions of president, vice-president or secretary please let us know. ASAP)

“Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” - JFK

Passages



We heard from some of her friends that **Cristel Glaser** passed away on Sept. 28th, 2023 in Port Alberni. Her death, due to complications of a chronic medical condition, was unexpected and happened very quickly. Cristel immigrated to this country in 1955 and was ninety years old at the time of her passing. She leaves behind many long-time friends who knew her from the festive cake and chocolate-filled gatherings she hosted during her sixty-five years living in



North Vancouver. A member of LVGC for many years, Cristel and her husband Helmut used to help out at our plant sale when we were at St Clements.

She lives on in our tradition of hot cider at the Christmas/Holiday gathering in December: we have her recipe! Thank you, Cristel, – we will drink a toast in your honour!



HOLIDAY PLANS

Last year's LVGC holiday celebration of decorating and filling hampers was such a resounding success – we had so many emails and expressions of delight from LVGC members! – that we will repeat it this year. *Ergo*: shop early, avoid the panic – these things creep up on you! – Sarah G, Santa's chief helper, wrote "I spoke with Frances Robinson, the Coordinator at Sage House, and she said they would be thrilled to receive hampers again this year."

Christmas Party December 14, 2023

Once again, we are going to make up baskets/small hampers to donate to **Sage Transition House**. In case you don't know about Sage House, it provides living accommodation and programs for women (and their children) fleeing abusive and unsafe relationships. According to the Coordinator at Sage House, last year's baskets were a phenomenal success and added a lot of joy to the residents' Christmas.

We received a list of items from the Coordinator at Sage House, that would be most useful and also help provide a little cheer :

- New socks (women's)
- New underwear (women's)
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Hand-cream
- Small denomination gift cards to Tim Horton's, McDonalds, and Dairy Queen
- Soaps/deodorant
- Larger bottles of Shampoo
- Chocolates
- Teas
- Jams
- Packaged cookies
- Crayons/Felt pens
- Stickers
- Coloring books/Activity books
- Packs of cards
- Small board games

More information about the party will be sent out closer to the date.



BRIGHT SPOTS

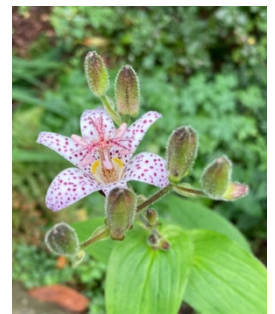
[As nobody sent me anything – you are stuck with whatever strange things are growing in my garden.]



While the annual march of the mushrooms has begun, there are other fun things that have just woken up out of their drought-daze and decided to live wildly before the winter. The Beautyberry/*Callicarpa* is berrying like crazy. While not as magnificent as Maggie D's... I'm still pretty happy, especially as the leaves have nice, purple veins as well. The beautiful,



deep blue Monkshood that I got from Jennifer S. – is flowering now in several spots. I know it's poisonous – some recent Britbox murder mysteries have featured *Aconitum* – but it is a beautiful flower. In case you have someone on your hit list: as little as 2 mg of aconite or 1 g of the plant may cause death from respiratory paralysis or heart failure. Aconitine is a potent neurotoxin and cardiotoxin that causes persistent depolarization of neuronal sodium channels in tetrodotoxin-sensitive tissues. The influx of sodium through these channels and the delay in their repolarization increases their excitability and may lead to diarrhea, convulsions, ventricular arrhythmia and death: a dangerous beauty... On the other hand, a "rose by any other name..." but I don't know the rose's name as it was an unwanted rescue with big, nasty thorns. I remember Hiromi having dug it out of a 'rescue garden' – but then refusing to take it home. It was left over after the plant sale 2 years ago – as it looked like hell - scraggly and nasty. We pruned each other – it was also a dangerous beauty! – as I bled from many places. Then I planted it. It forgave me – and has been blooming in great profusion since May!



plant had a bad year this year as its home and planter got

smushed by a falling wall. So, the entire tribe had to be extracted from under the rubble, stashed in pots and dragged through the drought. In spite of the rotten care it has been receiving, it flowered. Maybe next year, there will be more. Finally, my magical Japanese toad lily, *Tricyrtis hirta*, is starting to bloom. It was also a Plant Sale find – I don't know who donated it about 2 years ago – but I bless her gardening gloves! I love this little plant – and it has created offspring.

Surprisingly the chrysanthemum was also a rescue. I wasn't sure what it was, stuck it in a flowerpot and forgot about it: it tuned out OK. The BIG *Sedum/Hylotelephium* also decided to put on a great show... it has insinuated itself into many places in the garden – because I know I didn't plant it! – but I'm glad it chose the spots it did.

The *Hydrangea* is completely bizarre. It started out achingly blue and now it's pink. Go figure.

The *Physiostegia/Obedient*



Guttation – Lorraine Robson

For a gardening word nerd, what's better than learning a new word? Learning a new word about plants! I have observed *guttation* in one of my houseplants (when it annoyingly dripped moisture from its leaves onto the antique wooden coffee table), but I hadn't realized the process was different from transpiration. [For the Francophones among us, this cometh as no surprise – as 'goutte' is 'droplet'.] Guttation is the process of secretion of water droplets from the pores of some vascular plants like grass. Guttation is often confused with dew droplets that condense from the atmosphere onto the plant's surface. Check out the link in the October Links file.

Philodendron Looking for a New Home – Whitney McMillan

There is a sexy philodendron that needs a sunny – but not too sunny! – spot. Whitney writes: "It is a split leaf philodendron. I bought it coincidentally just before the initial Covid-era lockdown in 2020 - it was a smallish table-top size. Over the past few years it has grown, thriving in progressively larger pots and in several different locations. Only now I no longer have an indirect light location for its larger size. It is a gorgeous plant that simply needs a loving home. I am happy for a LVGC member to welcome it... and for LVGC to gain a donation for it. I am even happy to deliver it to its new forever home, if that's helpful."

Now, in case you don't know – Philodendrons are HOT!! They have a steamy sex life too. Not only do they generate heat (by metabolizing lipids) to attract pollinators, Philodendrons also act as a "Plant Pickup Joint".

In French Guiana, South America, you will find the *Philodendron solimoesense* – a flower that acts as the insect equivalent of a nightclub. The lily-like flowers, complete with a suggestively fleshy white stalk and 'copulation' chamber, produce heat, heady perfume, ample food, and a dark, quiet place to sleep it all off.

This is the perfect place for the scarab beetles to meet and mate – and perfect for the Philodendron, too. The bugs pick up its pollen during their nocturnal adventures and then spread it to other flowers, thus promoting the Philodendron's own sexual success.

Other curious examples of plant sex – alias getting the pollinator to do it – is available in the October links.



[and while on the subject of 'desire']

Garden Tools – sent in by Linda Howe

This is a great site for people who love tools. Many are similar/same as the ones carried by the Gardener's Kit. Garden & Outdoor hardwickandsons.com

As most of us lust after plants, and simply can't resist a 'deal', our second downfall, and one that sets us to salivating uncontrollably - is garden tools. I have yet to come out of [insert your own: Home Depot, Rona, Canadian Tire, Lee Valley, Garden Works, Maple Leaf, Dykhoff, Thomas Hobbs, etc] without 'just one thing' that my long-suffering husband refers to as "I was just saying we need a 5th_____". Indulge here <https://hardwickandsons.com/collections/garden-outdoor>. The functional link is in the Links file. [Oh my: YUMM – but "they ain't cheap"]



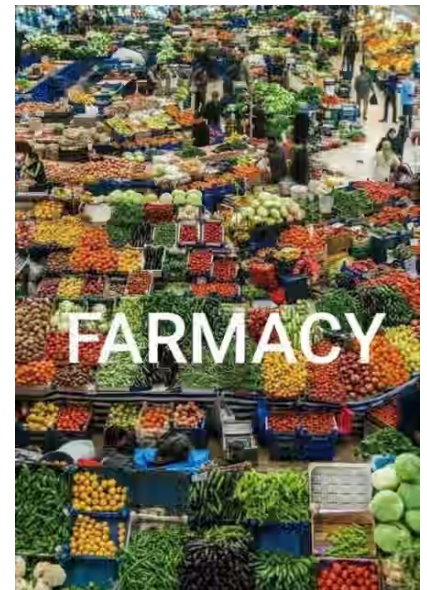
Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say, in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favour fire.

But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To know that for destruction ice
Is also great and would suffice. - Robert Frost

[Since this month nobody has sent me anything to put in *The Leaf* – here is a collection of my ‘junk reading’ results from trolling through Instagram. They are numbered in some sort of (my) logical sequence so that you can find the links **in the Links file**. Hold on to your seats.-Ed]

The World -

1. The Washington Post’s Michael J Coran runs *The Climate Coach* - that has a scary article on how climate change will hit your pocketbook. While not strictly plants, we, the world, its economy and all the critters and plants are interrelated. This should keep you up at night.
2. Desert reforestation – a very interesting gadget for planting trees and watering them in the high desert. This is really interesting because these artificial soil depressions do what the natural ones do – collect and retain humidity and trap dew and groundwater, allowing plants to survive. In the (hot!!) Jordanian desert, I saw unintentional, bad-construction-caused depressions by the side of the road - and every one of them had a mini oasis starting to grow in it.
3. Dumpsters – and good food in them. This makes my blood boil – so I’m sharing it. I spend many prickly minutes talking to Produce Managers at stores and asking them to pass their unused fresh food to food re-users. I get a lot of rejection – but I figure if they hear it often enough, they may realize that there is public interest.



The Soil and Planting in it -

4. Soil amendment – all sorts of things you have at home, mixed together that make plants flower - note that plants like beer too!
5. Calcium for plants – made from eggshells – waste not, want not!
6. Garden beds - goodies to put into you flower or veggie beds... I just wish my garden beds looked like that. Maybe yours do... [I almost hate him].
7. How to make planting easier - some of these ideas are brilliant – I just forget them when it comes time.
8. How to layer bulbs – this seems so sensible, I might actually try it.... as there are a number of bulbs that I’ve had my eye on.
9. Companion planting – I’ve always wondered what works with what – and this is a nice, short version.

Plant Propagation & Preservation



LEAVE THE LEAVES

The decomposition of fallen leaves returns nutrients to the soil, it's part of the vital ecological cycle that sustains both garden and woodland environments.

Organisms that break down the leaves, like fungi, insects, and other arthropods form a complex and vibrant food web, which are a food source for birds!

10. Cuttings – and how to do them. Some surprising plants that I didn’t know could be grown from cuttings.
11. Cuttings again – the same tricks or similar – by somebody else... I didn’t check out the whole thing for level of overlap.
12. Lavender cuttings – very similar to the previous two – but having a forest of lavender sounded really nice.
13. Hydrangea blooms for winter – nice and dry. I have different colour-scheme baskets all around the house.
14. Orchid flowering tricks – yes – you have to feed them. That explains it....

The links for all the goodies above are in the October Links file – numbered in sequence.



The Hospitality Team would like a few more pairs of hands!
Remember – “many hands make light work!” (and you get first dibs on the goodies!)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER GOINGS-ON



PLEASE don't forget to bring to the meeting your non-perishable food item for the Harvest Project. Every little bit helps... if you only knew...! They are so appreciative when I drop off our contributions because there is that 'little bit' that can be relied upon every month. Food insecurity is real.



Others' Stuff

The Riverview Horticultural Centre Society offers tree tours. The last one this year is on October 22. For more information go to http://rhcs.org/tours_events.html.

Vancouver Master Gardeners Basic Training Program accepting applications for the 2024 session (January to end of March) <https://mgabc.org/article/vancouver-mg-basic-training>

The UBC Botanical Gardens: Offer a range of events, courses, plants to buy and general good stuff. Check out the Links.

Vancouver Avian Research Centre Society: Offers and assortment of courses – a new one is SHOREBIRD IDENTIFICATION – November 1, 8, 15, 22 – 6:30 PM [see link in October links]

The BC Council of Garden Clubs:

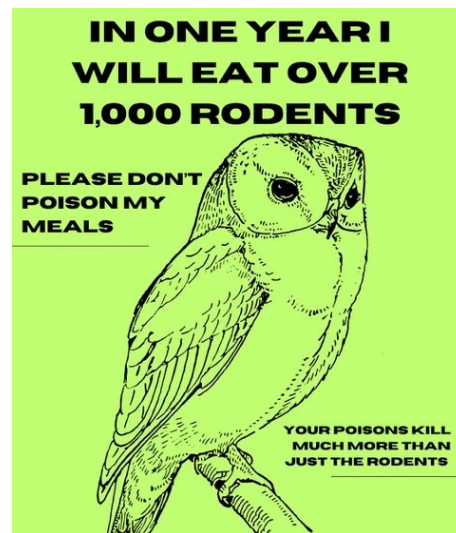
The Floral Design Show Schedule and Exhibitor Registration form for the BC Council of Garden Clubs Fall General Meeting.

Please contact Cindy Tataryn to register your Class # and Title and reserve space for your design(s). You will receive an Exhibitor Number when she receives your registration. Those who are staying for the meeting will be subsidized by BCCGC and pay \$20 instead of \$40 for the lunch, refreshments and speakers. The Floral Design Exhibitor registration form and Show Schedule can be found as link in the October Links file.

Please register before October 21 so Cindy can notify the caterer and Bonsor Recreation Complex with the number of attendees! If you have any questions please call Cindy at 604-585-6786 or email ctataryn@telus.net.

[There is an impossible-to-find 5-page pdf to download – so just call her instead – Ed]

BCCGC Fall General Meeting- 2023 is on October 28, 2023 at Bonsor Community Centre, Burnaby. Look it up on their website – it's in the Links file as a link to *The Bulletin*.



THE COMPOST BIN

- MARIA ISSA

For compostables, you will just have to hunt among the important, official material below that you actually have to look at. Think of it as a scavenger hunt: you read the dry bits, I supply the treats. BTW THIS IS YOUR OFFICIAL NOTICE OF MEETING AND MEETING MOTIONS for the AGM in November.

AGM PREVIEW

Nominations

Unless some members step up to fill these positions by November's AGM, we might not have a garden club in January:

- **President**
- **Vice-President**
- **Secretary**
- **3 Members at Large.**

If you have not taken a turn on the Executive, please seriously consider if 2024 is the year you do. If you have served in the past, please consider if you'd like to take on a new role or reprise a previous role. Some of my favourite people in LVGC are those I've met while serving on the Executive for six years. Working together to keep the club going is a wonderful way to make friends. Will you become best friends with everyone you meet? Probably not. Will you form lasting friendships with some? I'm sure of it! Will it be hard? Not really – but it does take time. I'll be happy to help the new President and others get started. Is it worth doing? Absolutely! Especially if you enjoy listening to great speakers, going on garden tours, reading *The Leaf*, buying more plants at great prices at the LVGC Plant Sale, and being able to give back to the community through our donations. Without volunteers, none of that will happen next year. It's up to you.



PROPOSED MOTIONS

1. To approve the Proposed Budget for 2024 (see details in this *Leaf*).
2. To approve the Proposed LVGC Donations for 2023 (see details in this *Leaf*).
3. To approve the proposed revisions to make the language of the LVGC Constitution and By-laws gender-neutral, inclusive, and consistent.
4. To approve the proposed increase in the number of members of the club who can request a special general meeting from ten to twenty-five to reflect our increased membership numbers (Constitution Part 3.3).
5. To approve the proposed increase in the number of in-person and virtual members required to form a quorum at a special general meeting from fifteen to thirty-five (which is 20% of 175 members) (Constitution Part 3.4) and at a general meeting (Part 4.1).
6. To approve the increase of the Membership role from one chair to two co-chairs and to increase the number of MALs from four to five to reflect our practice of the past few years (Constitution Part 5.1).
7. To approve the decrease from two years to one year for the length of time before a retiring executive can serve again following the completion of their maximum term (Constitution Part 5.3).
8. To approve making the Constitution and by-laws available to each member on our website rather than by printing and distributing hard copies (Constitution Part 12.1).
9. To approve a change in the recipient of the club's money from the Scholarship Fund of the BC Council of Garden Clubs to the Vancouver Chapter of the Master Gardener Association if LVGC were to fold (Constitution Part 13.1).
10. To approve the explicit addition of members "attending virtually" to those who can vote on amendments to match the club's practice since we began meeting on Zoom three years ago (Constitution Part 14.1).

When you run out of room for plants inside your house:



Lynn Valley Garden Club Proposed Budget 2024

Please note that this is a projection of anticipated income and expenses for 2024. Your executive recommends this proposed budget for approval at the November 2023 AGM. A copy of the 2023 budget has been included for comparative purposes.

	Budget 2023	Budget 2024
Income		
Membership	\$3,000	\$3,500 (175 members x \$20)
Guests	\$55	\$50
Plant Table	\$50	\$50
Plant Sale	\$6,000	\$7,500 (5 year average)
The Dig	\$600	\$500
Total Income	\$9,705	\$11,600
Expenses		
Accounting Review		\$100 (New expense)
Bank Charges	\$60	\$140
BCCGC	\$300	\$540
Christmas Party	\$500	\$400
Discretionary Expense		\$2,000 (New expense)
Donations	\$3,000	\$4,250 (50% plant sale + 100% dig)
Door Prizes/Sunshine prizes)	\$450	\$625 (Misc gifts and door prizes)
Field Trip	\$500	\$500
Hospitality	\$400	\$450
Members' Garden Tour	\$200	\$200 (light refreshments)
Newsletter	\$120	\$150 (postage and printing)
Office Supplies	\$200	\$150
Plant Sale Expenses	\$1,800	\$2,200 (site rental, soil, advertising)
Property, Equipment	\$100	\$200
Rent	\$1,440	\$1,200 (Mt Seymour 10 x \$120)
Speakers' Fees	\$2,500	\$2,250 (9 x \$250)
Tech support	\$500	\$550 (Zoom, website etc)
Total Expenses	\$12,070	\$15,905
Net Loss	(\$2,365)	(\$4,305)

These gardeners replaced a 3ft wide strip of grass with wildflowers - wonderful results!



As will be discussed at the AGM, while a net loss was budgeted for 2023, we anticipate finishing the year with a modest profit. Our bank balance at the end of 2023 is projected to be approximately \$15,000. The Discretionary Expense line item was introduced at the September meeting and will be further reviewed at the AGM.

Proposed Revisions of the LVGC Constitution and By-Laws

When I was a little girl in elementary school, I remember being puzzled and offended that all of our textbooks used “he”, “him”, and “his” as if everyone was male. How could our school books leave out at least half of all the students? That style was accepted for decades, but it’s easy to re-write documents to make them gender-neutral and inclusive of everyone, no matter which pronouns you prefer to describe yourself. That’s where the Executive started with our review

of the club's Constitution and By-laws although the review prompted us to propose a few more changes to simplify the language and to update this document to reflect our club's current practices. Please review the proposed changes and decide if you will vote for them at the AGM. Let Lorraine know if you have any questions.

Key

1. Words crossed out like ~~this~~ or ~~this~~ will be deleted.
2. Changes in red make the text more gender-neutral or consistent (such as using "club" consistently rather than "society").
3. Changes in green are more substantive changes to the content (such as increasing the number of members required for a quorum to align with our increased membership numbers, increasing the number of Membership chairs or MALs to align with our practice, explicitly including Zoom participants in voting, and re-considering where our club's money would be directed should LVGC ever fold). (That day may come sooner than we expect if no one volunteers to serve on next year's Executive!)
4. Any rationale or explanation [in square brackets like this] will be omitted from the finished document.

Lynn Valley Garden Club Constitution & By-Laws

NAME

The name of the organization is THE LYNN VALLEY GARDEN CLUB.

MISSION STATEMENT

To impart knowledge and stimulate a love of gardening among members and within our community.

BY-LAWS

PART 1 - INTERPRETATION

1. ~~The word Club will be used in these by-laws interchangeably with the word Organization. [But "organization" is never used in this document except in the first line about the club's name and here, so it's not necessary. We propose simply referring to "the club" throughout this document.]~~
2. Words imparting the singular include the plural and vice-versa, ~~and words imparting a male person include female and LGBT persons. [If this document is re-written in gender-neutral language to include everyone, this bit will not be needed.]~~
3. A resolution is one that requires a specific notice to members and said notice must be given not less than SEVEN days before the meeting at which it is to be voted upon.

PART 2 - MEMBERSHIP

1. The club shall not exceed a membership of 175. An annual waiting list shall be maintained.
2. A person becomes a member of the ~~society club~~ upon payment of the annual dues of the ~~society club~~. [We propose changing the term here and throughout this document from "society" to "club" since LVGC is not a registered society and we never refer to LVGC as a "society".]
3. Every member shall uphold the constitution and comply with these by-laws.
4. a) The annual membership dues shall be determined by the executive at its meeting prior to the November general meeting. Any change shall be presented to the membership at the above meeting, and upon approval, become effective January 1st of the following year.
b) Dues are to be renewed at the January meeting for the current year.
5. a) Only members in good standing (i.e., ~~his~~ whose dues are paid and ~~who~~ does not have any debt owing ~~by him~~ to the Club) shall be entitled to vote or to take part in constitutional discussions at a meeting.
b) Members in good standing for the previous six months shall be eligible for office.

PART 3 - MEETING OF MEMBERS

1. General meetings of the Club shall be held at the place, date, and time that the executive decides.
2. The Annual General Meeting shall be held in NOVEMBER.

3. The president shall call a special general meeting when requested by the executive or any ~~ten (10)~~ twenty-five (25) members of the Club. [We propose increasing this number to reflect the increase in our membership.]
4. No business shall be transacted at a special general meeting except that for which the meeting was called and shall require a quorum of ~~fifteen (15)~~ thirty-five (35) members including both in-person and virtual members. [We propose raising this number at the AGM in Nov 2023 to a quorum of 35 which is 20% of 175 members.]

PART 4 - PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS

1. A quorum of ~~fifteen (15)~~ thirty-five (35) members present both in person and virtually shall be required to carry on the business part of the meeting.
2. a) In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall preside. In the absence of both, any one of the executive may act as chair~~man~~.
- b) The order of business shall be as follows:
 - Reading, correcting and adopting the minutes.
 - Business arising out of the minutes.
 - Reading and considering the correspondence.
 - Reading and considering reports from the executive and committees.
 - New business.
 - Special resolutions and amendments to the constitution and by-laws.
3. a) Only a member in good standing is entitled to vote on any motion.
 - Voting shall be by show of hands.
 - Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
 - Motions shall be decided by a majority of votes.
4. a) The chair~~man~~ may propose a motion. However, to do so, ~~he the chair~~ must surrender the ~~chair role~~ to the ~~vice-chairman~~ vice-president or someone else until ~~his that~~ motion has been disposed of.
- b) In the case of an equality of vote, the deciding vote is cast by the chair~~man~~ if ~~he the chair~~ has not previously voted. However, ~~he the chair~~ does not have to vote if ~~he the chair~~ does not wish to.
- c) If the chair~~man~~ has previously voted and there is an equality of votes, the proposed motion shall not pass.

PART 5 - EXECUTIVE

1. The executive shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, two membership ~~chairperson~~ co-chairs and ~~four~~ five members at large. [These two changes in number reflect our practice of the past few years, but we propose making it official by stating it here.]
2. The executive for the following year shall be elected at the general meeting in November. They shall assume their duties in January.
3. Terms of office are one calendar year, not to exceed two consecutive years in any one office and a maximum of four years of service on the executive. No retiring executive can assume any executive office for ~~two years~~ one year subsequent to completion of their maximum term. [Some feel, given how challenging it has been to find volunteers to serve on the executive, that we might want to allow them to serve again sooner.]

PART 6 - PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS

1. a) The nominating committee shall be made up of two members of the general membership and one former executive officer. The nominating committee should be appointed in June with their duties to commence immediately.
- b) A report from the nominating committee is presented to the general membership at the November meeting for the election of executive officers for the following year. Additional nominations may be made in writing or from the floor. In both instances, the nominator must have the prior consent of the nominee.

PART 7 - PROCEEDINGS OF THE EXECUTIVE

1. A quorum of the executive shall consist of three members.
2. The executive may meet when and where they see fit but not less than eight times during the year.

3. In the absence of the president, the vice-president shall preside, or, in the absence of both, any one of the executive shall preside.
4. The executive shall be responsible for the planning of the general meetings and of any outside activities. The executive shall also have the management of the ~~society's~~ club's affairs.
5. The executive shall be empowered to form committees as they see fit; the committees, in turn, are answerable to the executive.
6. In the event that there is a vacancy on the executive during the term of office, the executive is empowered to appoint a member to take the place of the former member of the executive. ~~He~~The appointee shall hold office for the balance of the year.
7. The executive is empowered to remove from office an official acting against the interests of the ~~society~~ club.
8. All members of the executive are answerable to the executive as a whole and must conform to all decisions agreed upon.

PART 8 - DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE

1. The president shall preside at general and executive meetings and shall preserve order. ~~He~~The president shall be a member ex officio of all committees. On retirement ~~he~~ the president shall attend the first three executive meetings as past president ex officio.
2. The vice president shall perform the duties of the president in ~~his~~ the president's absence.
3. The secretary shall:
 - Keep minutes of all executive and general meetings
 - Conduct the correspondence
 - Have custody of all records and documents of the ~~society~~ club except those required to be kept by the treasurer.
4. In the absence of the secretary, the president shall call for a volunteer replacement.
5. The treasurer shall:
 - Collect all monies due the ~~society~~ club and deposit same in a chartered bank or credit union in Canada.
 - Keep accurate records of all transactions together with supporting invoices and receipts.
 - Furnish a statement thereof to the membership at each general meeting and to the executive upon request.
6. a) Signing officers shall be the president, vice-president and treasurer. Two of the three are required to sign all cheques.
 b) Withdrawal of funds shall require two signatures.
 c) Any disbursements over five hundred (\$500) must have the authority of the membership. Authority shall be based on a motion by a two-thirds majority vote.
7. The membership chairperson shall:
 - Collect fees from registrants and give to treasurer.
 - Keep accurate records of membership registrations and monies collected for same.
 - Furnish membership lists and reports as directed by the executive.
8. Members at Large shall assist other executive by carrying out projects and duties as assigned.

PART 9 - ANNUAL ~~SOCIETY CLUB~~ AUDIT

1. The executive shall appoint an auditor on or before November 30th.
2. No member of the executive shall be the auditor.
3. The auditor shall check the accounts of the ~~society~~ club together with the statement of income and expenses for the year as prepared by the treasurer.
4. Said audited report will be ready for presentation by the treasurer at the January general meeting.

PART 10 - FISCAL YEAR

1. The fiscal year of the Club shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

PART 11 - ADDRESS OF THE CLUB

1. The address of the Club shall be determined by the executive from time to time.

PART 12 - CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

1. On being admitted to membership, each member is entitled to a copy of the constitution and by-laws of the society club, which ~~the society shall give to him without charge~~ will be posted on the club's website.

PART 13 – EQUIPMENT DISPOSITION

1. On dissolution of the Lynn Valley Garden Club, the equipment owned by the Club should be sold and all monies received by such a sale, and any monies remaining in the bank account after payment of bills, should be donated to the ~~Scholarship Fund of the BC Council of Garden Clubs~~ Vancouver Chapter of the Master Gardener Association of BC.

[Rationale: the mission of the Master Gardeners to share knowledge and stimulate a love of gardening among members and within the community is very closely aligned with our club's mission. Several of our club members are also members of the Master Gardeners. The BCCGC Scholarship Fund currently has \$315,000 in it, but only about 4% is spent annually on scholarships (between \$10,000 to \$13,000 over the past few years). Although Master Gardeners are unpaid volunteers, they pay several hundred dollars for their own training in both the Basic and Advanced Training Programs.]

PART 14 – AMENDMENTS

1. An amendment to this constitution and by-laws shall first be submitted to the society club at a general meeting in writing and then laid upon the table to be voted upon at the next general meeting. If two-thirds of the members then present ~~and attending~~ ~~virtually~~ vote in favour of the amendments, it shall be adopted.

Updated: September 6, 2019 (A.M. D'Angelo, President)

Updated: January 3, 2023 (L. Robson, President)



I want real flowers, perennials that not only grow and change and die, but also rise again and astonish me.
– Emma L. Roth-Schwartz

When you have only two pennies left in the world, buy a loaf of bread with one and a lily with the other.
– Chinese proverb

Magenta is the floral form of original sin
– Gertrude Jekyll

I hold no preference to flowers so long as they are wild, free, spontaneous. Bricks to all greenhouses!
– Edward Abbey

It is difficult to think anything but pleasant thoughts when eating a home-grown tomato.
– Lewis Grizzard

Sex is good, but not as good as fresh, sweet corn.
– Garrison Keillor

*Let first the onion flourish there,
Rose among the roots, the maiden fair
Wine-scented and poetic soul
Of the capacious salad bowl*
– Robert Louis Stevenson

If the grass is greener in the other fellow's garden, let him worry about mowing it.
– Paddy Murray

Lynn Valley Garden Club Donations Committee Report to the Members: October 2023

The Donation Committee, consisting of Judith Brook, Ann McKinnon, and Lorraine Robson, met to recommend where the club's \$4,300 should be donated. The \$4,000 is 50% of this year's Plant Sale profits while the \$300 is 100% of the money from selling Big Dig plants. Having reached consensus on our recommendations, and having received approval from the Executive, we are pleased to present them to the members to be voted on at the AGM in November.

When asked for input about our donations this year, we received six suggestions from one member and one more from a member which came in a few days after we had met. We have included some recipients from past years as well as including two of the new suggestions.

We considered the following criteria when recommending recipients: they had to be non-profit; impart knowledge of gardening; impart love of gardening; help in our community; and help people learn the value of growing food/planting for pollinators. Below is what we found with website addresses and brief descriptions.

- **Greater Vancouver Science Fair** Two or three awards will be given to the winners of the Science Fair for botanically-related projects at the junior and senior high school levels. The organizers of the Science Fair will determine the winners.
- **City of North Vancouver Public Library** for horticulture and sustainable living books
- **DNV Public Library** for horticulture and sustainable living books
- **Edible Garden Education Project** <http://ediblegardenproject.com/fed-up/> The schools/parents have to provide the planters and have to have a minimum of 3 classrooms that will participate. It costs \$500 per class. Students from kindergarten to Gr. 12 participate in learning how to grow and harvest fresh, healthy produce and become active participants in our local sustainable food system.
- **Hospice (Lions Gate Hospital)** We have several members whose families have used this place. Some of the Master Gardeners volunteer their time here so the garden creates a welcoming and soothing spot for patients and families. Wild Bird Trust administrating for Maplewood Conservation Area Two of their employees gave tours to about 50 of our members on our combined Field Trip and Members' Garden Tour in July 2022. They have a native plant garden in the area just past the nursery toward Osprey point, in addition to an outdoor classroom, viewing area, etc. They also have an existing Butterfly garden on site designed to attract the Anise Swallowtail butterfly.
- **YWCA Rooftop Garden** <https://ywcavan.org/blog/2021/09/ywca-rooftop-garden-help-keep-our-garden-flourishing> In 2021, they grew 1600 pounds of food that helped feed the downtown eastside (in 2020 they provided 39,000 meals). The rooftop garden also attracts pollinators living in beehives on other rooftop gardens downtown.
- **BC Council of Garden Clubs 80th Anniversary** contribution to Scholarship Fund. They requested each club to give \$80.
- **SeedChange** <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/SeedChange/> Operating since 1945 (formerly as USC Canada), they help farmers care for their families and communities by growing good food starting from good seeds. Matching funds of up to 5x may be available. They help build skills, diversify crops so farms are more resilient to climate change, increase vegetable production, and build community seed bank.
- **Second Harvest** <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/second-harvest/> This is the largest food-rescue organization in Canada working to grow an efficient food recovery network to fuel people and reduce environmental impacts of avoidable food waste. It is a little different from the other projects because counts of waste. Very worthwhile!



A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing, and the lawn mower is broken.

- James Dent

Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree.

- Martin Luther

Donations Summary for 2023

Amount	Organization	Description
300	Greater Vancouver Regional Science Fair	to offer prize money for botany/sustainability/pollination/greentech projects
300	City of NV Public Library	for horticulture and sustainable living books
300	District of NV Public Library	for horticulture and sustainable living books
1500	Edible Garden Education Project	http://ediblegardenproject.com/fed-up/
300	NS Hospice-LG Hospital	Several LVGC members' families have used this place. Some of the Master Gardeners volunteer their time here so the garden creates a welcoming and soothing spot for patients and families
400	Wild Bird Trust administrating for Maplewood Conservation Area	They have a native plant garden in the area just past the nursery toward Osprey point, in addition to an outdoor classroom, viewing area, etc. Site includes existing Butterfly garden designed to attract the Anise Swallowtail butterfly.
500	YWCA Rooftop Garden	https://ywcavan.org/blog/2021/09/ywca-rooftop-garden-help-keep-our-garden-flourishing In 2021, they grew 1600 pounds of food that helped feed the downtown eastside (in 2020 they provided 39,000 meals). The rooftop garden also attracts pollinators living in beehives on other rooftop gardens downtown
80	BC Garden Club of BC, 80th Year Anniversary of Club	Scholarship Fund
400	Seedchange	operating since 1945, formerly called USC Canada, supporting farmers and communities.
220	Second Harvest	largest food-rescue organization in Canada
4,300	Total	

If you were a good person and read all the important AGM stuff - you deserve a treat: go to the VERY LAST Link.