

Student Focused Gardening Workshop and Repairs Report

To: The Green Grant Committee,

University of British Columbia

10th January 2025

Subject – Green Grant Recipient Update: Gardening Project

Dear Committee Members

Students for a Green University (SGU) is pleased to submit a final report for the student focused gardening project. Please see the attached documentation for a detailed review.

The gardening workshops took place in September 2024 and were attended by 7 people. Future workshops can be self-sustained by an entrance cost of \$10 per person and will cover more topics to help students start their own gardens at home.

Greenhouse repairs fixed structural weaknesses, and remaining funds are reserved for repairs to the solar panel system. Said repairs have been inhibited because they require a certified professional to ensure public safety.

Thank you for your consideration and time,

Norah Weitkamp
SGU Treasurer

Olivia Schneider
SGU Co-President

Liam Wolfe
SGU Communications



GREEN GRANT 2024: STUDENT-FOCUSED GARDENING PROJECT

Review



JANUARY 7, 2025

STUDENTS FOR A GREEN UNIVERSITY
Norah Weitkamp, Olivia Schneider, Liam Wolfe

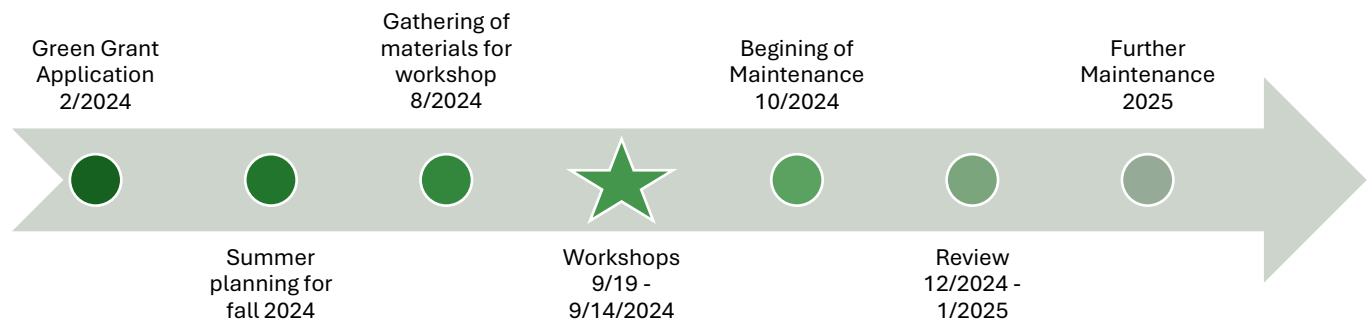
I. Project summary

The purpose of this project was to improve students' access to affordable local food and provide education on personal food production in a sustainable manner.

There are gardening structures on campus, but their capacity is limited due to accessibility, a limited growing season, or a need for repairs. The Green Grant funding was and will be used for repairs and updates to an existing Students for a Green University (SGU) dome greenhouse at the north end of campus. The Green Grant also helped establish short, affordable horticulture workshops on starting seeds, growing in small spaces, and other complementary garden skills.

The upgrades to the space increased its growing capacity for students to grow and helped modify the space to accommodate the accompanying workshops. Thus, building community focused around sustainability and food security for people living on and off campus.

II. Dates/timelines



III. Outcomes

A. Workshop

The workshops were attended by 7 people in addition to SGU Executives and the presenter Dave Rempel. During the workshops students learned the basics about gardening in the north, and how to work within and against the traditional growing season. As Dave Rempel's specialty is outdoor growing, the workshop focused on the latter, but attendees were each allowed to select a pot and were provided with dirt and seeds that they sewed during the workshop then took home.

Additionally, while talking about horticulture the workshop collectively planted garlic and shallots within the SGU exterior growing boxes. This gave students a project to work on and helped inspire focused questions. The products of the garden boxes either be donated to the NUGGS foodbank or sold in the Good Store depending on need.

Moving forward SGU now has a collection of pots to distribute to the community through future workshops and to use for plant sales. Repair work to the planter boxes opened new community connections and SGU now has reliable access to good soil for future projects at little to no cost.

Future workshops are intended to focus on indoor growing, and common threats to plants within the north. These workshops are intended to be held during the end of the winter semester and beginning of the next fall semester to be within the traditional growing season and be accessible to the most students possible.

B. Maintenance

An assessment of repairs needed was completed in May 2024 and included meetings with NUGGS to discuss current insurance coverage and their recommendations on improvement. The solar panel attached to the greenhouse dome is believed to still be capable of providing power, but the attached circuitry is insufficient to transport that power into batteries for storage and use. Communication with UNBC facilities department is still ongoing as they have a limited capacity.

All other maintenance has been focused on addressing any safety concerns and redesigning the interior to meet the plants' needs and the community's needs. Unused cables have been secured, and all exposed wiring is marked.

While addressing rusted nails within the door frame it was discovered that the window was no longer secured to the door frame. Volunteers have replaced the window screen and resecured the window to the frame. During repair the door was identified to be made of Styrofoam. To protect the surrounding environment all spots of the door with significant wear and tear have been reinforced with tape. As the door does not have any structural damage SGU does not intend to replace it within the next year but will begin research into sustainable replacements.

At NUGGS suggestion, a manual for the maintenance and usage of the greenhouse dome is being written in collaboration with PGPIRG. The manual will include bi yearly checks on the door to ensure it is not polluting the environment.

IV. Deviations from initial expectations

All deviations from initial expectations come from the extent of repairs to the domed green house. The Green Grant application focused on electrical repairs which remain uncompleted. Instead portions of the funding have been allocated to improving the safety of all people working within the greenhouse.

V. Budgeted vs actual

The Green Grant funding is being budgeted for separately from the clubs' general funds to ensure it is being used for the purposes it was provided.

A. Preliminary budget

Greenhouse Budget **\$764.00**

Shink wire	\$7
Wire for updating circuitry	\$61.00
Battery for power storage [1]	650.00
Insulation tape [1]	\$15 per 30ft
Silicon caulking	\$14

Workshop Budget **\$1,600.00**

Soil	\$15.00 per 56L
Starter Trays	\$30.00 per 10 trays
Seeds	\$20.00 for 10 packets
Trowels	\$20.00 for 2
Gloves	\$60.00 per 12 pairs
Pots	\$360 for 120
Trays for Pots	\$360 for 120
Compensation for instructor	\$600
Fertilizer	Unknown.

B. Final Budget

		Current Funding			
				\$1514.1	
Funding Provided:				*\$1 added to charges refunded via E-transfer.	
\$2364					
Expense	Exec Purchasing	Sum	Receipt received	Refunded	Further action
Shovels(2), gloves(10), planter boxes (7), Seed pots, potting dirt	Olivia	152	Yes	Yes	
Seeds (8)	Olivia	35.87	Yes	Yes	
Michaels: Workshop	Grace	19.03	Yes	Yes	
Pot mix(2), Garlic(3), Pot(7), Unknown(10)	Maryann	66.88	Yes	Yes	Olivia confirm
Gift card for Dave	Norah	20	Yes	Yes	Money pulled from cash box.
Bulbs, rosemary, thyme, basil, parsley, peppermint, garlic (2)	Grace	61.85	Yes	Yes	
Honorarium	Norah	401	E-Transfer confirmation	Yes	Confirmation from DD

Caulking, Screen, Screen tools, Mounting tape	Olivia	93.27	Yes	No	
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VI. Challenges

The most significant obstacle was due to a disparity between volunteer skills and the maintenance requirements. Ideally all repairs and updates to the dome would be done by volunteers to minimize cost and self-sufficiency. But for insurance and safety standards we were forced to rely on external sources, which extended the timeline as previously discussed.

One impediment in the organization of the workshops was being out of gardening season when purchasing supplies. Although the workshop was intended to focus on growing ‘out of season’ considerations were not made for the availability of supplies in September. It took multiple executives on multiple trips including well out of the city to gather all of the necessary supplies to host the workshops.

VII. Opportunities for improvement

As with most club events, the balance between giving people early notice and everyone forgetting about the event is a fine line. Both methods of outreach and earlier notice still have room for improvement. Of the attendees, most were already closely associated with the club, and the demographic was not as widespread as desired. One solution being considered is maintaining a regular schedule for workshops like the Wildlife and Fisheries clubs caribou event which happens yearly at the same time, so students know to expect it. Regular workshops would create consistency for potential attendees.

To address demographic expansion collaboration with other clubs is being considered. Working with the women’s center on a all-female identifying class or the photography club of beautiful but practical gardening would help spread the word beyond the Students for a Green University email list.

Some final notes for future improvements include further expanding the community of potential presenters. As each gardener has their own specialty, to fit the needs of the community, a wider range of presenters would be more practical. Communication with the David Douglas Botanical Society is ongoing in regard to future collaborations and their willingness to present. Additionally, post workshop support is being considered to help students identify and fix any problems they run into.

VIII. Media

Photos from September workshops.



Text description: The upper left photo depicts the window boxes that were provided for attendees to take home. The upper right photo depicts three attendees soughing garlic bulbs in outdoor planter boxes while the workshop presenter talks about winter threats to gardens. The lower left photo depicts two attendees combining soils in preparation for potting. Lower right photo, attendee poses with a painted pot full of soil.



IX. Sustainability (into the future)

The three pillars of sustainability are Economics, Society, and the environment. This project attempted to provide the greater UNBC community with an affordable introduction into gardening at home as a passive way to lower emissions associated with food waste. Thanks to the green grant the workshops can continue on for several years at a cost of \$10 per person. The workshops are open to the entire UNBC community and efforts are being made to reach more people within UNBC to spread the word. Having a personal garden, particularly in the north, lowers the carbon emissions associated with food transport and lowers grocery costs.

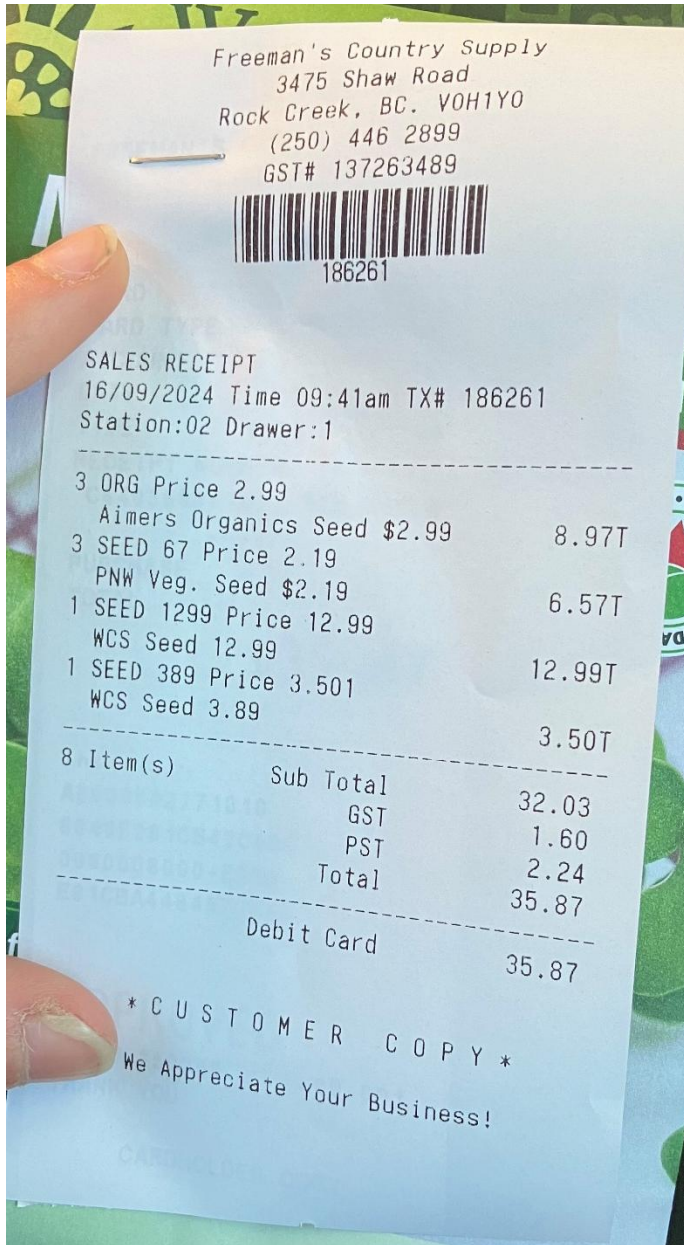
SGU intended to continue on its path of sustainability by adding better workspaces within the dome, so workshops can be attended by people of all physical abilities. Additionally, with future workshops the

primary cost is the pots themselves, a pot return program, similar to the bottle programs run by BC recycling, could cut down on this cost and lower potential waste.

X. Feedback

Overall, the Green Grant application process was smooth. We only have two notes; one is more precise expectations of the grant review. The application is carefully formatted, and similar guides would appreciate the final review. Secondly, green grant member involvement, by this we mean seeing the committee involved in the green grants. SGU would be happy to have covered costs for any committee member to attend the workshops, the involvement would be helpful for grant receivers to get feedback on how their work is meeting the green grant goals.

Appendix A. Receipts



Michaels
 MICHAEL'S STORE #3962 796-765-6970
 5900 SOUTH RIDGE AVE. UNIT 100
 PRINCE GEORGE, BC V2N 7A1
 8 5041 4015 2599 8151 1111 5160 1240 4662



100 SALE 6442 3862 051 09/17/24 17 03
 ITEM INFORMATION
 Order NO 906436394939819
 We R Memory Keep 00633361610700
 Reg 16.99 1 @ 16.99 16.99

YOU SAVED 00
PURCHASE SUMMARY
 SUBTOTAL 16.99
 GST R135299083 5% .85
 PST 7% 1.19
 TOTAL 19.03

ACCOUNT NUMBER * 1995**
 MasterCard 19.03
 APPROVAL: 093382 EMVContactless
 Application label: MASTERCARD
 AID: A0000000041010
 TVR: 000000001
 TSI: A800

This receipt expires at 60 days on 11/16/24
 Receipt expires in 60 days from date of purchase
 SIGN UP AT <http://MICHAELS.CA> OR LIKE US ON
 FACEBOOK TO RECEIVE SPECIAL OFFERS AND
 CREATIVE PROJECT IDEAS
 THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING AT MICHAEL'S
 Effective 11/27/2022 Clearance sales are considered
 final, sold AS IS and are not
 returnable for a refund or exchange.
 Dear Valued Customer
 Michaels return and coupon policies are available
 at <http://Michaels.ca> and in store at registers.

09/17/24 17 03

Art Knapp

September 13th 2024,
 4:02:22 pm

3	PAN10001 - Azalea Bulb Pan 10'	6.99	20.97
1	HR1125A - Rosemary Rosemary	4.10	4.10
1	HR1145A - Thyme English Thyme	3.49	3.49
1	HR1019A - Basil Genovese Certified Organic	3.89	3.89
1	PL571A - Parsley Dark Green Italian Plain	3.49	3.49
1	HR1090A - Peppermint Peppermint	3.49	3.49
1	152-170-01 - Pkg. 3 GARLIC Bogatyr Tops	8.99	8.99
1	152-125-01 - Pkg. 3 GARLIC Metechi Tops	8.99	8.99

Sub Total 57.50
 GST 2.88
 PST 1.47
Total \$ 61.85

MasterCard 61.85



STAFF: Carrie
 STATION: WEST POS 1

West Location - 4411 Kimball Road
 PH: 250 964 6056
 North Location - 1822 Aberdeen Road
 PH: 250 562 1711

Please visit us at www.artknappspg.com

GST# R856272455

TYPE PURCHASE
 TID J7950328
 SEQ 5070010010620
 APPR # 011462
 MasterCard P

DATE/TIME 09/13/24 16:10:38
 CARD *****1995
 NUMBER **/**
 AMOUNT \$ 61.85

PROMO CODE 5070010010620
 00 APPROVED 001

TVR: 000000001
 MASTERCARD
 AID: A0000000041010

CUSTOMER COPY

REPRINT

Walmart
 Thank you for shopping at Walmart!
 STAYING SAFE TOGETHER

WIN!
 \$1000
 \$1000

Walmart.com

Degrees Coffee Co
3333 University Way, Building 10
Prince George, BC V2N 4Z9

Server: Ryan A

Check #207

Ordered: 24-09-27 2:21 p.m.

1 Gift Card \$20.00
Gift Card Number: **** 4825

Subtotal \$20.00
Total \$20.00

Cash Tendered \$20.00

Balance for **** 4825: \$20.00

Powered by Toast



How doers
get more done.

5959 DAKELH TI PR. GEORGE, BC V2N6Z5
SHERRY HARDER, STORE MGR. (250)906-3610

7171 00063 45789 12/09/24 06:42 p.m.
SALE CASHIER PARAMPREET

032247005784	Miracle-Gro <A>	15.98
333349660994	Seed Start <A>	4.99G
1919783400	DIGZ 10 PR <A>	16.98G
6561584221	Ergo TROWEL <A>	25.16
2012.58		
28420001027	Planter <A>	73.08
7010.44		

SUBTOTAL	136.19
GST/HST	6.81
PST/QST	8.00
TOTAL	\$151.00

XXXXXXXXXXXX6663 DEBIT CAD\$ 151.00

Contactless Interac
ATD A0000002771010 APPROVED CHEQUING
SEO: 717163457801 AUTH CODE: 941518



7171 63 45789 12/09/2024 4069

5% GST R135772911

7% BC PROV TAX

RETURN POLICY DEFINITIONS

POLICY ID	DAYS	POLICY EXPIRES ON
A 1	90	11/12/2024

DID WE NAIL IT?

Take a short survey for a chance TO WIN
A \$3,000 HOME DEPOT GIFT CARD!
SCAN ME



Appendix B: Attendance Records

Student	Method	Confirmation	Attendance	
Mackenzie Ostberg	Cash		Yes	
Gillian Holmes	E-Transfer	C1A6XQMbD4VV	Yes	
Maeghan Giles	E-Transfer	C1AzNHSEcxEZ	No	Refunded
Emily Kirwin			No	
Maucy Anderson			No	
Casey Patterson			No	
Elias Beach	E-Transfer	C1ArqrJahGWW	No	Refunded
Mhiri Phadke	E-Transfer	C1ARQJREzMzK	No	Donation
Empress Sears	Cash (\$20)		Yes	
Nathalia Larsen	Cash		Yes	
Kyle Ross	E-Transfer	CAfeGAqN	Yes	
Kelly Tizya				
Nolan GreyHurst	E-Transfer	C1Ay7SPJTEc9	Yes	
Barnaby Mullen	E-transfer	CAZXuV22	Yes	

Appendix C: Workshop Schedule

This is not a strict plan but a general guide to ensure any persons with limited time still have a good experience

10:20-30 Meet at degrees

People Sign Waivers and Confirm payment

10:30- 40 Quick introduction to the dome

Identify safety concerns

10:40-11:20 Outdoor gardening talk

Planting in gardens, garlic in beds.

11:20 –11:50 Indoor gardens

Personal Gardening

11:20-12 Wrap up questions

Reminder that there will be a survey coming in the next week, please fill it out as it has to do with grant funding.

12 on If personal time allows walk up to PGPIRG garden and talk about the plants growing up there.

Question gardening:

Minimal impact gardening

How to be quick when weeding

What does climate change in the north

What gardening practices unique to the north

Other community garden spaces

How to tell over-watering, under-watering, sun/cold damage?

Most common pests in the north.

What's a good soil works well inside, what's good outside

Growing with worms' tips

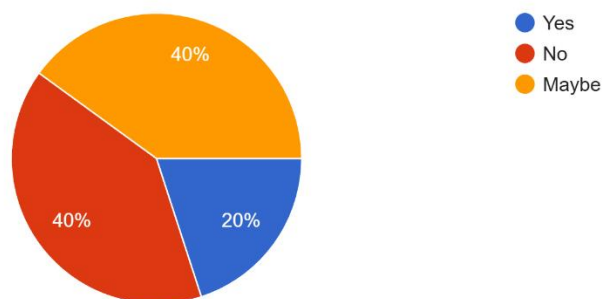
Most affordable plants up north.

Recommendations on where to get good seeds or starters.

Appendix D: Attendee feedback

Do you think there were any knowledge gaps during the session?

5 responses



“It was very informative! Glad to see the SGU using the greenhouse and being involved!”

“Dave was a kind and patient teacher, and it was lovely to get to take home plants!”

“More context behind the purpose and sequence of the event would have been helpful. E.g., telling attendees they will have the chance to plant garlic and create their own herb planter. Maybe tell us why garlic was chosen. Provide more info to attendees so they can learn.”

“I enjoyed learning about how different plants require different soil compositions, and how frost can affect plants worse in plant boxes than when they are in the ground.”

“It was fun! I appreciated the opportunity to bring some soil, seeds, and fruits/vegetables home.”

“More workshops like this would be wonderful!”

“More workshops & outreach. Gardening, planting/growing, composting, rainwater harvesting, building birdhouses and bee hotels, landscaping to support local wildlife, energy efficiency on campus & at home, campus & community clean-up & bottle drive.”