

# Application Form for the Creation of New Community Gardens in Surrey

Community gardens have social, economic and environmental benefits and are important tools to help Surrey achieve sustainability. There are a number of existing community gardens on City land, and the City aims to create new gardens in response to the needs and interests of local residents.

Please fill out the following application and submit to [parksrecculture@surrey.ca](mailto:parksrecculture@surrey.ca) by **Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014**.

To apply, eligible groups must have a minimum of 12 members. Garden applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- **Location:** distance from existing community gardens; neighbourhood density; proximity of affordable or senior's housing; proximity to transit and greenways
- **Environmental:** access for service vehicles; access to potable water; site size and topography; soil quality, and evidence of site contamination from previous land uses
- **CPTED and Exposure:** potential to be secured at night; opportunities for natural surveillance; Southern exposure
- **Community Support and Capacity:** demonstrated neighbourhood support; applicant's experience with volunteers and gardening; partnerships or connections to existing neighbourhood food assets

Please note that once selected, successful applicants will be required to:

- Work with the City to conduct a neighbourhood survey to confirm adequate levels of support for the garden
- [Incorporate as a Society](#) with the Province of B.C., or form a partnership with an existing Society that will be responsible for the garden (City staff can help support this process)
- Agree to the City of Surrey's [Community Garden Guidelines](#) and sign an operating agreement with the City of Surrey
- Provide a certificate of insurance for \$2,000,000.00, naming the City of Surrey as an additional insured

Typically, the City provides the following for all approved community gardens:

- Water connection
- Site preparation
- Garden beds (materials and labour)
- First year's soil
- Other amenities, as agreed upon by the City of Surrey and the community garden group

For more information, please visit: <http://www.surrey.ca/culture-recreation/7108.aspx>

Contact: [parksrecculture@surrey.ca](mailto:parksrecculture@surrey.ca), 604-501-5050

The following application is to determine new garden sites for the 2015 growing season. Please fill out the following application and submit to [parksrecculture@surrey.ca](mailto:parksrecculture@surrey.ca) by Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.

If you need support for the initial planning and application development stage, please contact *Can You Dig It* ([www.cydi.ca](http://www.cydi.ca)) at [info@cydi.ca](mailto:info@cydi.ca).

### **Contact Information**

Primary Contact Name: **Marco Antonio Murillo**

Organization or Affiliation (if applicable): **North American Legacy Foundation**

Mailing Address: **508 – 510 Seventh Avenue, New Westminster, British Columbia**

Telephone Number: **(604) 521-9561 (Office) – (778) 859-9561 (Cell)**

Email Address: **skillfulpeople@gmail.com**

### **Supporting Members:**

1. Marco Antonio Murillo
  2. Alessandra Barry
  3. John Barry
  4. Nancy Lynn McMillan
  5. Lisa Brooke
  6. Xico Ladron de Guevara
  7. John Holt
  8. Brenda Holt
  9. Garth Roseth
  10. Geisel Forget
  11. Shirly Copp
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1. Please describe the proposed garden location, including an address, intersection or park name. [COSMOS](#) or google maps may be attached to identify the exact location and extent of the garden proposed.

Our proposed community garden is located in a neighbourhood adjacent to Highway 10 (its north side), west of 168<sup>th</sup> Street, and east of Old Mclellan Road in Surrey. The area features a portion of the ALR, existing and new homes, some roads and utilities still under construction, and a few available lots. The neighbourhood is contained between a park with church, an elementary or secondary school, a farmer's market and a small farm at the opposite side of the property. There are 7 parcels south of the housing zone that are part of the

ALR and that have been the subject of an Application of Exclusion from the ALR by a group of developers. We believe that all or some of the parcels could be used to create a new community garden that serves as a cultivation ground for the families living in the surrounding neighbourhoods of south Surrey, and therefore we oppose to the application. You can find more information about the parcels involved from: Eamonn Watson from the ALR (604) 660-7014 or by email to [ALCBurnaby@Victoria1gov.bc.ca](mailto:ALCBurnaby@Victoria1gov.bc.ca).

2. Provide an overview of your organization or group, including why the group is interested in establishing a new community garden. Please include relevant skills and resources your group will bring to the project, such as experience with gardening, volunteer coordination, or community development.

The North American Legacy begins its history in Canada on February 7, 2006 when a group of members of the community of New Westminster decide to work together to incorporate a society of environmental activism that engages people in helping create sustainable ecosystems that provide healthier, geener and safer living in small and large urban and rural communities of North America.

We are made of dynamic people who engage in green knowledge exchange, applied green technology, energy and resources conservation, new materials, culture and healthy systems that have lesser impact in the environment. We want to leave a profoundly valuable legacy to the children, and the future for generations to come. It is a great satisfaction to contribute to these efforts now, wouldn't you like to help us?

We have and still are becoming volunteer members of important urban farming projects in Surrey, like "God's Little Acre" and the Lionel Courchene Community Garden managed by "Can you Dig It?" and PosAbilities. Other communit support plans working locally include "The Biggest Little Garden" farmbox designed by Fraserview Community Services Society, or internationally by contributing with a community of tree planters in Michoacan, Mexico. We are about creating positive changes in the way we produce food, plan land use, build, develop human resources and apply technology to live in harmony with nature, making comunity sustainable first and foremost.

Our experience gardening comes from Marco Antonio Murillo, who has university degrees in Earth & Ocean Science, and training in soil science, horticulture and landscaping. We always work with organizations that share

interests in horticulture, farming, urban farming or gardening, and we are please to learn something new each time.

The foundation's assets include a utility van equipped with landscaping tools and space for the transportation of plants, soil or other supplies. However, we still need a shed or space for storage for each of our projects, a board of announcements and supplies for a meeting room or kiosk whenever it is possible.

3. Is the surrounding neighbourhood aware and supportive of efforts to create a new community garden? If the community garden is built, what steps would you take to engage the neighbourhood and ensure the garden is inclusive (in addition to the survey of community support to be done in conjunction with the City)?

The new garden would be announced through the existing newspapers and public announcing boards. The ideas will invite members of the neighbourhood to join and participate in the activities, informing also of event's dates, workshops, and meetings.

Steps to engage the Neighbourhood:

1. Open House Information Sessions
2. Ads in Local Newspapers
3. Visits to Community Centres, Churches and Community Organizations
4. Word of mouth
5. Flyers

Measures to ensure the garden is inclusive:

1. Workshops in partnership with City of Surrey's community centres
  2. Public information about human rights & respect for gender or religious diversity
  3. Bylaws to define codes of conduct among the members of the garden
  4. Creation of a commission representing the community when dealing with claims
4. Will the garden be connected with existing community food assets (e.g. community kitchens), involve partnerships with other organizations (e.g. non-profits, schools), or otherwise deliver programs (e.g. workshops) for its members?

We have experience working with other non-profits that have created partnerships or connections with existing food banks, farmer markets or community services, so we don't see why wouldn't that be possible to apply once we begin the operation. However, since the produce that came from the community garden belongs to the members of the garden, any donation to community kitchens, food banks, church or other community services would

have to be arranged in advance after a general meeting with the cooperating cultivators participating in the garden.

5. What is the plan for long-term governance and management of the garden? How will you ensure the group remains inclusive and engaged, and the site remains clean and well-maintained throughout the summer and winter months?

There is the vision of establishing a relationship with the City of Surrey to create gardening workshops at the community centres. The idea is to make urban gardening and horticulture an inclusive hobby that could be cultivated at home, either in backyard lawns, front lawns or dedicated spaces such as common areas in townhouses, potential building balcony pots, or roof tops.

The long-term governance and management of the garden should be left to a specific group integrated by members of the North American Legacy Foundation. The group's objective will be to maintain the productivity and integrity of the garden as well as the careful use of the facility by all the members.

The expected outcome of the community garden in terms of membership fees, productivity, expenses from managing the facility, as well as the operation of the workshops, open houses and information sessions or publications will be traced and made public by the North American Legacy Foundation through the website, in its Annual Reports or News Pages depending on the nature of the information.

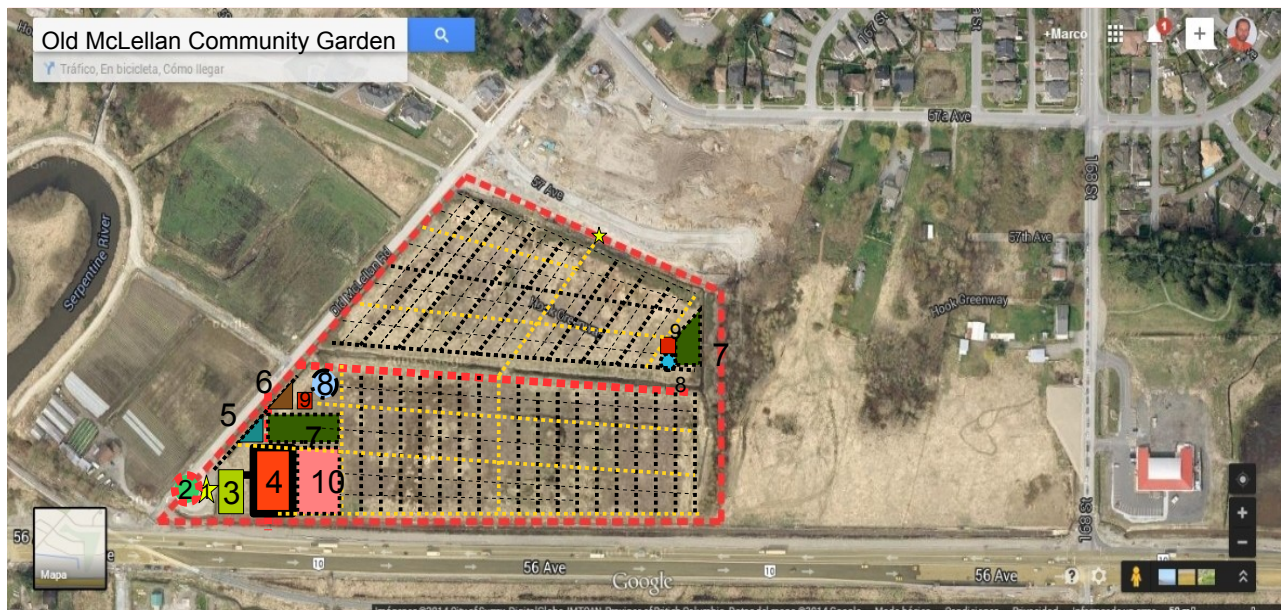
6. Please outline any funding or in-kind contributions you currently have secured that can go towards the construction or operation of the community garden.

Our organization has received during the last 18 months the support of the board and other members of the society for a total of \$ 8,950 coming from the following donations:

Alessandra Barry:	\$ 200
John Barry:	\$ 200
Marco A. Murillo:	\$ 3,850
Humberto Murillo:	\$ 1,800
Emma Cabrera	\$ 1,000
Lisa Brooke:	\$ 1,500
Nancy L. McMillan:	<u>\$ 400</u>
 TOTAL:	 \$ 8,950

However, these funds have been consumed and used to pay for the foundation's rental office, staples, utilities and consumables. We are actively looking for funding partners who can give us a hand with cash resources to deal with current and future financial responsibilities. We would really appreciate if we could receive support from the City of Surrey, or from any institutions in the city that are willing to sponsor and become members of the community garden project.

7. Please include a sketch of the conceptual site plan, including the number of garden beds, the location of paths, compost bins, sheds, seating areas, etc.



**Community Garden Proposal for the City of Surrey**  
Location Map - Scale 1 : 5,000 (aprox)

1. Main Entrance and Portal
2. Landscaped roundabout
3. Parking lot for utility vehicles, autos and bikes
4. Main Office, Reception Area, Meeting Room, Kitchen, Workshops, Library & Washrooms
5. Waste bins, containers for recyclables, and food scraps
6. Composting yard
7. Greenhouses and plant nurseries
8. Aquaponics system and water storage tank
9. Utilities and services (pump, irrigation main, HVAC)
10. Plant cultivation area for seed production

Estimated capacity: approximately 2,000 members, or 2,000 lots of ca. 5X5 meters.

**North American Legacy Foundation**  
508 – 510 Seventh Avenue  
New Westminster, B.C. V3L5G8