



Vancouver Fruit Tree Project HARVEST REPORT 2006

Harvest season is a time to share the bounty, and everyone who make it happen. A time to celebrate community! The Vancouver Fruit Tree Project community reaches all across the city, and beyond. 2006 saw 4000+ pounds of fruit harvested for our nine community partners across the City of Vancouver. From UBC to Boundary Road, the Southlands to Burrard Inlet, our stellar team of volunteers harvested apples, pears, grapes, and figs.

It was with great delight that this fruit that would normally have gone to waste was harvested. Volunteers gave generously of their time to actively participate in their community, to spend a glorious afternoon or evening with old & new friends alike. They often go one step beyond, telling friends about the project, coming out when the weather is not so glorious, sharing recipes, carrying big boxes of fruit, and helping to create solutions for the unexpected. They are at the heart of it all!

In the spirit of keeping it local, volunteers harvest fruit in their local area, and that fruit is then reinvested within that local community, via one of our community partners. Our 2006 community partners include: Britannia Childcare, Semlin Gardens, Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House, Little Mountain Neighbourhood House, Kits Neighbourhood House, Westside Family Place, Potluck Cafe, Crabtree Corner and the Community Kitchens Project. These organizations are working directly with more vulnerable communities, and the fresh, nutritious, local, backyard fruit served to enrich and support their important programming. A series of canning workshops were held in partnerships with the Community Kitchens Project, offering valuable food preservation information & training.

It was a great season to meet with the community through a variety of events. VFTP participated in farmers markets, at Trout Lake, Riley Park and the West End market. We enjoyed a beautiful day at FarmFolk/CityFolk's annual Feast of Fields event. We also participated in the Bridging Borders food security conference in October. We were part of the poster session, participated in a Question & Answer session, and also co-hosted a Fruit Tree Project Plenary, with the Richmond Fruit Tree Sharing Project. A fruitful season indeed!

We held several group picks throughout the season. The Environmental Youth Alliance, FarmFolk/CityFolk, and Tyee Elementary School all participated in the harvesting of local fruit. Fall equinox was celebrated with 30 grade 3 & 4 students from Tyee Elementary School, who learned all about apples, and then harvested their own apples for their applesauce canning workshop. It was an action packed morning, full of laughter & delight. Just the way it should be.

We received some media recognition, with articles in the Courier, Vancouver Sun and a listing in the Georgia Straight's *Best of Vancouver*. Each year the calls from tree owners grows. Many thanks to the tree owners who offer their trees for VFTP to harvest, and the fruit to the community. We continue to work on ways to sustainably grow the project, to be able to respond to the ever growing interest in the project.

It takes a community to grow a community. Many hands have reached into a tree, held a ladder, provided a tree to be harvested, and carried boxes of fruit. The VFTP would like to thank the following volunteers, tree owners, community partners and supporters that have helped to make the 2006 harvest season possible and have contributed to the long-term vitality of this project:

Volunteers: Kristen & Joel Wright ■ Jenn Longson ■ Carillon Kinley ■ Edward Dardis ■ Heather Millar ■ Samantha Charlton ■ Alex Boyd ■ Mio ■ Yuki ■ Shuto ■ Paul ■ Dave ■ Heiko ■ Tina ■ Mayland ■ Lori Kantymir ■ Bruce Darrell ■ Mike Kennedy ■ Regien ■ Zshu-Zshu ■ Jacky ■ Nicole ■ Lori ■ Uli ■ Paul Evans ■ Dean ■ Dawn ■ Kelly Kuryk ■ Ben Steele ■ Glenda Roach ■ Kelly Raines & Eden ■ Mamiko Yamashito ■ Ross Bragg ■ Tanya Paz ■ Tyrion Miskell ■ Kazuko Ikegawa ■ Sarah McMillan ■ Olivia ■ Lynwen ■ Tessa ■ Erika ■ Sarah English ■ Caitlin ■ Heidi ■ Dianne ■ Morgan ■ Jo Ming ■ Kevin ■ Andi ■ Claire ■ Sally ■ Kim ■ Heiko ■ Truna ■ Phil ■ Jackelyn ■ Brendan



Tree owners: Carmen ■ Art & Carole ■ Lisa Cogan ■ Gail Wenner ■ Alexis ■ Theazel Lee ■ Siobhan ■ Kristin ■ Kymn ■ Blain ■ Celia Bauer ■ Debbie Rota ■ Lanore Nickelson ■ Andy Miller & Andrea Reimer ■ Leslie Maclean ■ Heather Bird ■ Tom ■ Darcy ■ Dory ■ Pat ■ Alexis Soto ■ Ron Yamauchi ■ Sue ■ Nancy ■ Helen Willar ■ Sherry King ■ Eva Louis ■ Cammy ■ Francis Pickett ■ Maria James ■ Norma Turnbull ■ Diana Bouvier ■ Catriona Day ■ Tan Luu ■ Westley Ma ■ Camie Laronge ■ Dory Sheldon ■ Kim ■ Howard & Gale ■ Amber Pitman ■ Cherry Davies ■ Linsday Matthews ■ Shelly Moffat ■ Rhea Lazar ■ Julie Gala ■ Siri Arnet ■ Willow ■ Ursula ■

Special Fruity Friends: Marc Robillard ■ Dave Sartor ■ Mike Brown ■ Fran MacDonald ■ Andrew Skorzewski ■

....and anyone who's name may have slipped off the list

Community partners and supporters: Vancouver Community Kitchen Project ■ Britannia Community Services ■ Britannia Childcare ■ Your Local Farmers Market Society ■ Reach Community Health Centre ■ Grandview/Woodlands Food Connection ■ Kits Neighbourhood House ■ Little Mountain Neighbourhood House ■ Potluck Café ■ Semlin Gardens (YWCA) ■ Urban Aboriginal Community Kitchen Garden at UBC Farm ■ UBC Farm ■ Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House ■ West Side Family Place ■ Crabtree Corner ■ FarmFolk/CityFolk ■ Vancouver Food Policy Council ■ Food Secure Canada ■ Community Food Security Coalition ■ Environmental Youth Alliance ■ UBC – Student Environment Centre ■ Georgina Straight ■ Vancouver Courier ■ Tye Elementary School ■ Richmond Fruit Tree Project ■ Dubrelle Culinary Arts ■ Cooperative Auto Network ■ Continental Cafe

We would like to extend a very special thank-you to our major funders, VanCity, and Government of Canada- Service Canada Summer Career Placement Program.

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Finally, we would like to recognize the dedication and hard work of our advisory committee. Thank-you, **Diana Ambrozas, Samantha Charlton, Erin Kastner, Sheena King, Heather Millar, Tanya Paz and Ellen Wickburg** for your commitment to this project.