

Environmental Stewardship Update

Park Board Committee Meeting Monday, May 14, 2018



Purpose of Presentation



To provide an update on Environmental Stewardship and Education Activities in 2017 and 2018, including:

- Strategies
- Successes
- Opportunities; and
- Next steps



What is stewardship?

Where Does Stewardship Fit?

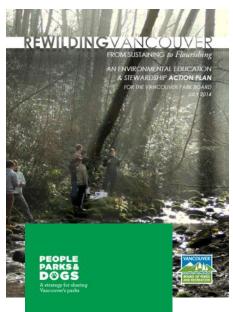


- Environmental Education and Stewardship Action Plan (2014)
- Biodiversity Strategy (2016)
- Bird Strategy (2015)
- Urban Forest Strategy (2018 Update)
- People, Parks and Dogs Strategy (2017)











How is Stewardship Changing?



- Funding
- Partner capacity and direction
- Other municipalities
- Changing land ownership and demographics



Strategies for Building Stewardship



Strategies for Building Stewardship: Partnerships



Relying on expertise of external partners:

- SPES
- Jericho Stewardship Group
- Outdoor Schools
- ECPC,
- Environmental Youth Alliance









And internal partners:

- Junior Rangers Program
- VanDusen







Strategies for Building Stewardship: Support



- Provide in-kind contributions (staff time, plants, mulch, soil)
- Host workshops and training
- Helping make partner ideas a reality



Strategies for building stewardship: Funding





- Opportunity for Park Board contributions
- Neighbourhood
 Matching Fund a
 current mechanism

Stewardship Successes: Projects



- Post secondary students
- Greenest City Scholars
- UBC Faculty of Forestry: Coolkit
- Environmental Education in Community Centres
- Neighbourhood Matching Fund



Stewardship Successes: Partnerships





- Stanley Park Ecology Society
- Jericho Stewardship Group
- Environmental Youth Alliance
- Everett Crowley Park Committee
- Outdoor Preschools
- VanDusen Botanical Garden Association
- Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver

Stewardship Successes: Park Stewards





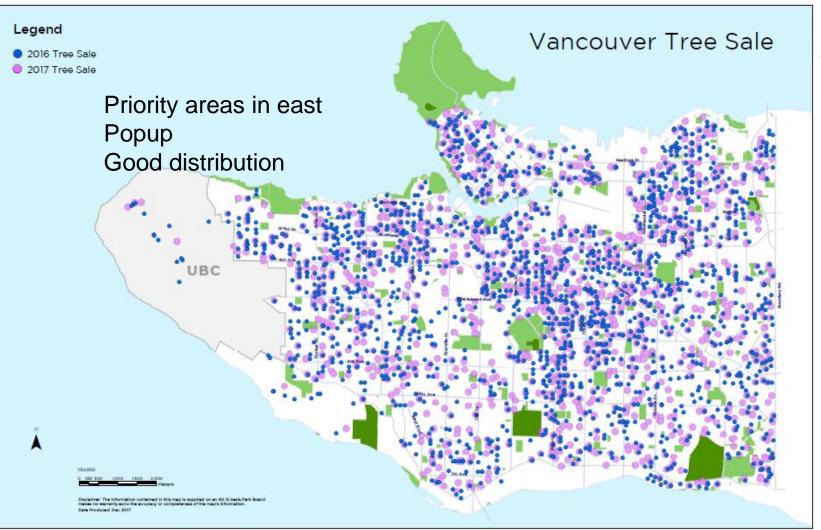
- Began in May 2017 at 5th and Pine; in August at Everett Crowley and Jericho
- Individuals adopting sites in parks, visiting on their own time, removing invasive plants and weeds and planting when appropriate

Stewardship Successes: Tree Sales





- Nearly 13,000 trees in 6 sales
- Ongoing interest from public and media
- Sales reaching all corners of City
- Feedback Survey live
- Nursery Rebate program





Stewardship Opportunities: Neighbourhood Matching Fund



- Neighbourhood Matching Fund
 - Public enhances park spaces
 - Increased funding available



Stewardship Opportunities: Schools and Teachers in Parks





- Outdoor education hub in a field house
- Teacher training: More and more teachers looking to parks as classrooms; Greenest City Scholar exploring possibilities

Stewardship Opportunities: Dogs in Parks





- Engage a new community in stewardship of new spaces
- Build a sense of responsibility for public spaces
- Student hiring underway for on-the-ground engagement

Next Steps



Schools in Parks:

- Researching possibilities
- Junior Rangers
- Outdoor education hub

2018 Year of the Bird:

- Supporting IOCongress and Vancouver International Bird Festival
- Engagement materials

Park Stewards:

- Expand in existing parks
- Resources, training, networking
- Deepen relationships with other partners

Dogs in Parks:

- Foster stewardship in new parks
- Use creative ways to raise awareness and encourage compliance

Next Steps for Stewardship



Urban Forest:

- International Urban Forest Congress – associated programming
- Tree Guardians
- Tree sales
- Planting in low-canopy neighbourhoods



Citizen Science:

- City Studio
- UBC classes
- City Nature Challenge

Marine Ecosystems:

Granville Bridge Mural

Website:

 New pages featuring stewardship-related work

