

**Yellowknife Community Garden Collective**  
**Volume 2 Newsletter 3: Autumn 1997**  
*Developing Community Spirit and Pride*

**Annual General Meeting**

Wednesday October 29, 1997

7:30pm at the Salvation Army Meeting room - enter by the church entrance to the front of the building, it is the meeting room to the left of the church.

- bring a snack and stories to share about this years gardening season - do we have a resident cat?
- who forgot the combo?
- how big were the potatoes in your plot?
- what was the most interesting thing you grew?
- and what was the best tasting?!

**1996/97 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

Our Annual General Meeting has come around again, (very quickly it seems) giving us the chance to meet for a few hours to review our year, share experiences, and plan for our next gardening year.

This is also the night that we vote in our new board for the 1997/98 year. I remember last year when I let my name go forward for the position of Co-Chair, half hoping that someone else would be nominated and selected. I was a little apprehensive to assume the role, especially as I knew that the other Chair would be resigning within a few weeks, but I said yes all the same. I am not sorry! I have had an opportunity to work with the other board members, whom I must say have been super and great to work with, especially given that they were dealing with a novice gardener such as myself. The time commitment was very manageable, a few meetings during the winter and some tasks assigned between meetings. Our Board meetings were always fun and a great change from the ordinary, as in the middle of winter we were planning for the spring and the summer, forgetting about the snow and the cold for a few hours! So, on that note, I encourage everyone to come out on the 29th! Don't be backward about putting your name forward to participate as a board member for the up coming year, I promise you, you won't regret it!

*Susan Keogh, Co-chair*

**AT THE GARDEN SITE**

Well, its the end of our third season and it was another very busy year at the garden site. Many members participated in regular site clean-up and maintenance tasks as well as accomplishing a number of special projects. Some of these include laying pallet boards at the water taps to keep us out of the mud puddle, the brilliant painting of the shed, and the commitment to the 'Adopt-a-Street' program clean-up. A special thanks to all who shared the work. This site would not exist if it not were for the many hands, bodies and minds that contribute to its upkeep!

There are still a number of activities planned for the garden site before the snow flies (or at least before it piles up) so put on your mittens and your grubbies and join other garden members at the site for the Fall Site Clean-up on October 4th between 1-4 p.m.

## FALL GARDEN SITE CLEAN-UP

This Saturday - October 4

1:00 -4:00 p.m.

To complete a number of tasks including shredding the garden waste now filling the composter. (We are renting a shredder to help us do this work). P.S. Bring along a warm drink!

We will also be testing the soil this fall to figure out what nutrients we need to add to improve the soil for next season.

*Margaret Ferguson, Site Manager.*

### **NEW SIGN AT THE GARDEN**

How can you miss it?! Our new garden sign arrived in mid summer and has found its place on the inside of the far fence clearly letting people know that this is the YCGC garden site. The banner is portable and can be taken down for use at any events in which YCGC participates. It will be stored somewhere warm for the winter. We can thank Margaret for her efforts in having the sign made. It looks great!

### **COMMUNITY GARDEN FOOD SECURITY PLOTS**

The Food Security plots did well this year and I would like to give a huge THANKYOU to all community gardeners for your hard work in planting, caring for and harvesting your food security plots. The Salvation Army, Women's Centre and the Food Bank were very grateful for the food donations and have distributed the fresh food to their clients. Thankyous also go to the Yellowknife Co-op who donated \$50.00 worth of seed potatoes and Canadian Tire who donated the carrot seeds.

*Marjorie Matheson-Maund, Food Security Liaison*

### **IN THE BANK**

YCGC currently has \$822 in the bank. At the start of this year, we had a balance of \$675, took in an additional \$754 and spent \$607. Most (97%) of this year's revenue came from membership and plot fees. In previous years, YCGC received grants for special projects (eg., building the composter, creating the resource guide) - this is why we started off our year with \$675 in the bank. This year, money taken in from fees will probably just be enough to cover our yearly costs (ie., fees appear to be set at amounts that cover our annual costs). The board anticipates the water bill to be approximately \$150. The board also does not anticipate returning to members for money to cover this bill. Details on YCGC finances will be presented at the AGM for review by members.

### **THE CANADIAN GARDENER**

The YCGC garden site was video-taped for the CBC program 'The Canadian Gardener' this summer - has anyone seen the short clip yet?

### **OUR NEW ADDRESS**

Yellowknife Community Garden Collective  
P.O. Box 21  
Yellowknife, NWT  
X1A 2N1

## **LOVED GARDENS II, SKI CLUB TOUR**

Once again the YCGC participated in the Yellowknife Ski Club garden tour as one of a number of Yellowknife City gardens featured in the Ski Club's tour of "Yellowknife's Loved Gardens". Last year the weather did not cooperate leaving many of the visitors spending their 1996 visit waiting it out in the shed to avoid the rain. But not this year! On August 17th, the sun shone brightly and almost 50 visitors admired the garden site. From 1.30 to 3.30 pm. I, along with about 5 other garden members at the site that afternoon, explained the layout of the garden, and answered as many questions as we could.

Some of the visitors were tourists to the NWT, and came from as far away as the US, (one couple were from New York), and the parents of one of our members was visiting from Denmark. Everyone commented on the number of potatoes, (!!), and few had ever seen Borage, (one of the herbs growing in the communal plot by the shed), and loved it's purple flower. The visit was a resounding success and was an excellent opportunity to introduce others to the idea of gardening cooperatively. In fact, I would suggest that in 1998, we have at least 10 members on hand to answer questions and show people around the garden as 6 of us were not quite enough to manage the steady stream of interested and curious visitors!

*Susan Keogh, Co-Chair.*