



HIVES FOR HUMANITY

Spring, 2022



[IMAGE DESCRIPTION: A sign on the gate of a garden reads, "Hastings Folk Garden, 117 E. Hastings, K'emk'emelay". There are trees and roses spilling over the top and a path is visible through the gate.]

**HIVES FOR HUMANITY SOCIETY IS A NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION THAT DEEPENS COMMUNITY THROUGH THE
INCLUSIVE CULTURE THAT WE GROW AROUND THE HONEY BEE
HIVE: IN OUR GARDENS OF CARE.
WE CREATE TRANSFORMATIONAL MOMENTS.**

Thank you for connecting to support our work

We are working with people, plants and pollinators on the traditional, ancestral and unceded Coast Salish Territories – Sḵw̓x̓wú7mesh (Squamish), Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwitulh (Tseil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations. Learning from urban Indigenous and frontline communities that are actively working to slow down colonial systems, informing our practice of community care.

HOW WE CARE, CEREMONY, CELEBRATION & MEMORIAL *2022 SPRING*

CO-DIRECTOR QUESTIONING BY:

CAIT (INTERIM)

Co-Director of Community Care and Growing Governance

SARAH

Co-Director of People, Plants and Pollinators

HOW MIGHT WE RESIST THE DEVELOPMENT OF HASTINGS FOLK GARDEN AND KEEP THE SPACE DEEPENING AND GROWING AS A COMMUNITY LED GARDEN AND CARE SPACE, A SPACE OF INCLUSION, DIGNITY AND CONNECTION TO NATURE, OF HEALING AND HOPE? HOW MIGHT WE DO THIS SUSTAINABLY AND RESPOND TO CHANGE WITH GROUNDED HOPE?



[IMAGE DESCRIPTION: Deepening 'how we host' by sharing gifts with each other from a place that is resourced and abundant - modeling how we slow down and activating our sensory landscapes through iterative curiosity. (left) tobacco gift in a hand. (middle) spring tree tips and a sticker that reads "go stick your hands in some dirt". (right) a hand holds a thermos of 'compost capitalism' tea.]

In increasing capacity this year, we are gifted with time to be slow and listen deeply - to the wind, our breath, the trees, the earth and each other. We made that space for ourselves and our community through grounding and pruning, and what happened was magic. And because we were moving slowly, in circle and connection, we noticed. And what we notice, what we give our energy to, in deeply rooted connection, we may grow. Prioritizing self care through resourcing ourselves with boundaries that are generous/firm and organizing towards big issues in small ways - setting the pace for the changes we long to see and the world we wish to build.

RESOURCES: [GROWING GOVERNANCE](#) + [COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT](#)

HOPEFUL GROWTH, GARDENS AS CULTURE *HISTORY OF LAND, LISTENING SLOW*



[IMAGE DESCRIPTION: (left) 'Native Land' by Lincoln Clarkes circa 1999. (right) Hastings Folk Garden circa 2019. Both photos display the same angle looking through the land towards the New Brandiz hotel.

On the 100 block of East Hastings in what is colonially known as Vancouver, British Columbia, and which has many other names, including K'emk'em'elay, the Place Where the Maples Grow, the unceded lands and shared territories of the Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil Wau'tuth Nations since time immemorial, time out of mind - there is a garden.

HOPEFUL GROWTH, GARDENS OF CARE *SOUND MAP*

The Hastings Folk Garden is a mature community garden that is cared for daily by members and residents of the Downtown Eastside community. It has provided space for access to nature and connection through this pandemic, extreme weather and overlapping crises. Through all of this, the garden is thriving - it is home to a traditional sweat lodge, a therapeutic apiary, a medicinal pollinator garden, cultural and art projects, trees, hummingbirds, a red-tailed hawk and many native bees. We have dreams of acquiring this land at 117 East Hastings st. from developers and transforming it into a community land trust as a pathway out of ownership and into relationship. To move towards this, we are mapping our resistance strategy that visions worlds where the police budget is redistributed into community care networks while deepening our knowledge of the memories and languages held within these soils since time out of mind.

HOPEFUL GROWTH, COMMUNITY CARE HOW WE HOST



[IMAGE DESCRIPTION: A person writes a note at the Community Care Table which holds items for sensory respite.

COMMUNITY CARE HAS EMERGED AS A WAY WE ARE BUILDING TOOLS FOR ORGANIZING SUSTAINABLY AND PRACTICING GROUNDED STRATEGIES TO PROTECT THE LAND FROM DEVELOPMENT. THROUGH SEASONAL CELEBRATION, SENSORY RESPITE AND CULTURALLY RELEVANT FOOD, OUR COMMUNITY CARE TABLE PROTOTYPE IS PRESENT AT OUR MONTHLY DROP-IN GARDEN OF CARE MEETINGS AND OUR WORKSHOPS IN COMMUNITY.

WE QUESTION HOW WE CAN PRACTISE GROUNDED HOPE TO INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY TAKE STEPS ON THE TRC CALLS TO ACTION WHILE PURSUING IMPACTFUL FEEDBACK ON HOW TO IMPROVE OVERALL PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY AND RELEVANCE.

THIS PROCESS OF EMBODYING RECONCILIATION TAKES LEAD FROM URBAN INDIGENOUS MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, AMPLIFYING THE WORK THAT HAS BEEN DONE TO DATE BY HIVES FOR HUMANITY ON EMPOWERING INFORMED CONSENT: COMMUNITY ETHICS IN CULTURAL PRODUCTION, AND THROUGH THE FOUNDING OF OUR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

PRACTICING COMMUNITY CARE:

TRANSFORMATION STORY

HONORING WILLOW CEREMONY

WELCOMING WILLOW CEREMONY

EARTH LOOM - SOLSTICE & EQUINOX CELEBRATION

HASTINGS FOLK garden
K'EMK'EMEL'AY 117
EAST HASTINGS
unceded land of
Musqueam, Squamish & Tsleil-wat-sch

everyone is welcome - we keep us safe *Drop in*
contact info@hivesforhumanity.com visit: wednesdays 1-3pm



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