

starting to grow



Member Information Package
2011 Growing Season

We're Organic!

Following organic practices, like several similar projects, we collectively promote healthy eating, ultimately leaving a lighter footprint on the planet. Gardeners and the growing BGGs community will have much opportunity to learn and adopt organic gardening practices.

To keep the balance in this fragile environment, it is very important to have quality control over the plants in the greenhouse. For a solution, we rely on local suppliers to provide all the seeds and bedding plants, reducing the risk of imported diseases and pests in the greenhouse.

What Will We Grow?

The first season in the greenhouse will be a year of growing and learning for BGGs society members; learning what plants are best suited; learning how to create the best growing environment; learning the length of the growing season, and growing as a community through the season.

It will definitely be an exciting and groundbreaking year!

We're Building a Community Greenhouse!

With our short summers, hungry elk and limited number of back yards, most Banffites are unable to enjoy the benefits of vegetable gardening. The solution – build a community greenhouse.

The ground has yet to be broken, it will happen when we are able to pour the foundation. The aim is for the greenhouse to be in operation by late spring.

Located at the Banff Recreation Grounds, gardeners can easily access the many amenities there, including unobstructed sunlight, access to water, public washrooms and parking.

The greenhouse is an attractive prefabricated structure; the building measuring 20' x 40', with clear polycarbonate panes and metal framing; able to accommodate 22 beds in total with 2 of the plots reserved for inter-generational programming and learning purposes. The gardening plot available are 2' x 8' raised beds.

Gardening plots are available to individuals and groups. The Banff Greenhouse Gardening Society manages the greenhouse, with support from the Town of Banff.

How to Apply for a Gardening Plot:

Banff residents may apply for a Gardening Plot, as individuals or in a group or family of three or more people.

The 2011 fee is \$40, this includes a \$5 annual membership with the Banff Greenhouse Gardening Society. Membership ensures you'll be the first to know about upcoming events, information and news.

Applicants are chosen through a selection process and lottery.

Applications are available at the Banff Public Library, closing date is April 22, 2011.

Gardening Plots Include:

- ✓ Access to greenhouse
- ✓ 2' X 8' garden bed with soil
- ✓ Access to water
- ✓ Some hand tools
- ✓ Gardening resources & advice

We Need Your Help!

Thanks to a successful fundraiser and the generosity of our funders, we raised over \$55,000! It's enough to build the greenhouse structure and dig a foundation, but we still require further funding to officially open the greenhouse.

Ways to Donate:

- ✓ Purchase an annual membership
- ✓ Become a sponsor*
- ✓ Support us by our 'Wish List'

Our Wish List:

- ✓ soil & seeds
- ✓ garden boxes
- ✓ rakes & tools
- ✓ watering cans
- ✓ tables
- ✓ hanging baskets
- ✓ signs
- ✓ lock boxes

For general information email: communitygreenhouse@gmail.ca

* To become a sponsor, contact Nancy Lewis: nancy.lewis@banff.ca / 403.762.1254