

08

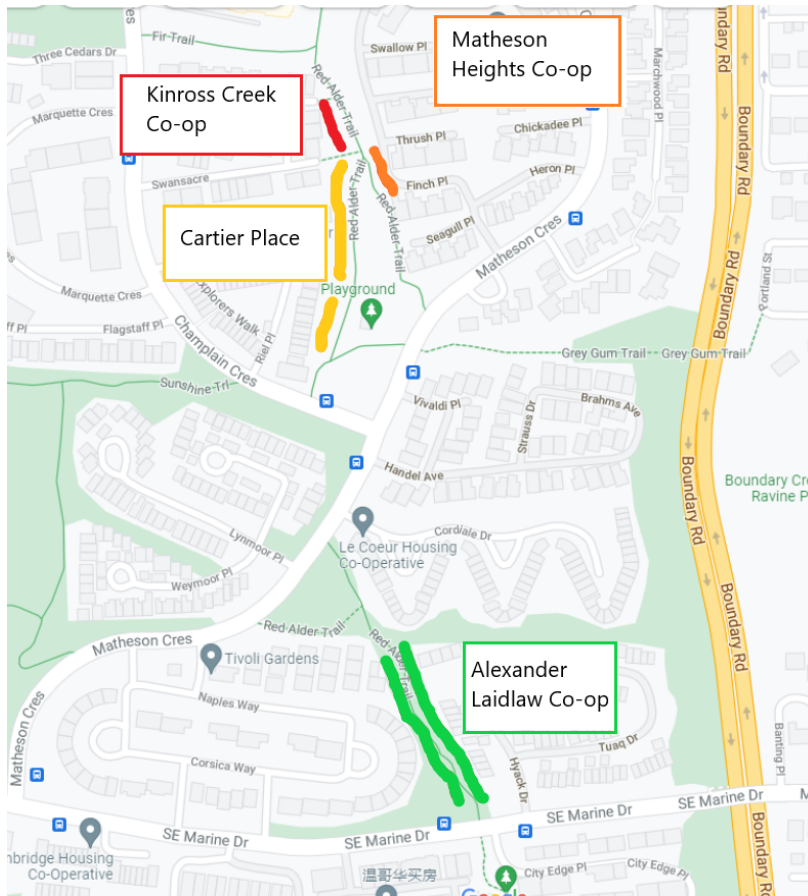
December 2021 Issue

FREE THE FERN

Community connection through environmental stewardship

Stewardship Updates

by Grace Nombrado



Kinross Creek Co-op



Volunteer filmmaker, Daniel Akinshola, has created a film featuring Free the Fern volunteer stewards. It includes footage captured at our recent Fall Planting Event, adjacent to Kinross Creek Co-op, in October. Please check out his amazing film here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dWk-FvmUUyk>

On November 21, 2021 Kinross Creek Co-op Landscape Committee hosted their annual Fall Cleanup. Many co-op members helped sweep, clean-up leaves, and dispose of garbage throughout the co-op. Seven co-op members also helped with removing Himalayan blackberry and raking leaves in the area known as Doug's Garden, adjacent to the Red Alder Trail. Volunteers succeeded in removing 720 L or two green bins worth of invasives, as well as a lot of garbage waste.

Grace continues to steward the area adjacent to Kinross Creek several mornings a week, raking leaves from the trail area and removing invasive Italian Arum. The area is the site of the future Douglas Fir Teaching Garden, which will serve as an education area to the public on native plants (ferns, berries, and flowers) of the forest.

Cartier Place



Cartier Place resident, Ann, and her husband, Doug, have been very busy with removing invasive Ivy and Himalayan blackberry from the area adjacent to Cartier Place Co-op. In just a two month period, between October 1, 2021 and November 30, 2021, they have removed an astonishing 6,300 L or 22 city green bins worth of invasives! Thanks to our [Art for Plant Fundraiser](#), we were able to support their stewardship efforts with the donation of 17 sword fern plants. In an area that was once a bed of ivy, you can now see sword ferns, red huckleberry, and red flowering currant thriving.

On **December 4, 2021, from 10-12pm**, Free the Fern member, Susan Atkey, will be hosting the **Free the Fern monthly Invasive Weed Pull**, adjacent to Cartier Place. Volunteers will be continuing the removal effort of invasive ivy and Himalayan blackberry. Those who are interested to volunteer can RSVP to Susan at sbatkey@shaw.ca

Matheson Heights Co-op



Matheson Heights resident and Free the Fern member, Catherine Munn, has offered to host our monthly **Invasive Weed Pull on January 8, 10am-12pm**, adjacent to Matheson Heights Co-op. She will be focusing on an area (as pictured above) just east of the basketball court on the Red Alder Trail. Volunteers will be working to remove invasive Himalayan blackberry and English ivy from the area. Removing the invasive weeds will help to free the native snowberry that is growing just beside the Red Alder Trail. Volunteers interested to sign up to join the event, can contact Catherine at cmunn6@gmail.com

Alexander Laidlaw Co-op



Long-time community steward, Martin Collins, hosted the Free the Fern Monthly Invasive Weed Pull on November 6, adjacent to the Alexander Laidlaw Co-op. Six volunteers came out to help. They succeeded in removing 480 L of invasive lamium and planted many native plants, including sword fern, Oregon grape, Douglas fir, and vine maple. The plants were funded through a combination of a [Neighbourhood Small Grant](#) and our [Art for Plants Fundraiser](#). Following the event, Martin guided volunteers on a tour of his area, which he has been stewarding for over the past five years.

THIS MONTH'S
OTHER STORIES

Tugboat Landing Artisan Market

**Tugboat Landing
Artisan Market**
Saturday, December 4, 2021
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
FREE ADMISSION

2010 East Kent Avenue S.
(Victoria & East Kent Avenue S.)
Vancouver, BC

www.tlartisanmarket.com

PHO Safety Protocols
Vaccine Cards
Masking Ages 5+

Free the Fern member, Kiki Nombrado, has been busy painting native birds (pileated woodpeckers, black-capped chickadees, mountain chickadees, and crows) and Douglas squirrels on 50 canvases, as part of our [Art for Plants Fundraiser](#). On Saturday, December 4, between 11am-4pm, we will be selling the art at the [Tugboat Landing Artisan Market](#). 5x7 canvases will be \$15 each or 3 for \$40. Please come out to support Free the Fern. 100% of the funds raised will go to purchase native plants for our stewards along the Red Alder Trail.

Red Alder Trail Survey



Over the winter holidays, Free the Fern member and UBC Forestry student, Damian Assadi, will be leading a volunteer survey of the Red Alder Trail. He is gathering a team of volunteers from the [BCIT Ecological Restoration Masters Program](#), as well as other interested members of the community, to help with survey work. The goal is to assess what current invasives are in the trail area and map them. This will support further planning for invasive removal and native planting as well as future grant applications. If you are interested to volunteer during the winter break (December 18, 2021-January 2nd, 2022) to support this survey work, please reach out to Damian at dnassadi@gmail.com

Free the Fern Lending Library



Thanks to generous donations from Silvia Hagen and others, we now have 44 titles in our Free the Fern Lending Library. All Free the Fern members are welcome to borrow books from our library. Whether you like to read for pleasure or education, these books are a great resource. Our catalogue can be viewed as a [goodreads list here](#). To borrow a title please email us at freethefern@gmail.com

Winter Solstice Lantern Procession



Thanks to a Neighbourhood Small Grant (the 7th Neighbourhood Small Grant awarded to a member of Free the Fern in 2021), Free the Fern members Grace & Kiki Nombrado are organizing a [Winter Solstice Lantern Procession](#) on **Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 6:30-7:30pm**. Residents will meet at the centre of Kinross Creek Co-op (8001 Curate Wynd) and then proceed North, up the Red Alder Trail, before returning to have hot chocolate together. If you would like to join the procession, please RSVP at freethefern@gmail.com

To prepare for the Lantern Procession, Free the Fern is also offering two **Lantern Making Workshops** on **December 12, 2021** at **10am-12pm** and **1-3pm**. Up to 30 residents will be given instruction on how to make a globe lantern (as pictured above). Three spaces are still available in the workshop, so we encourage those who have not signed up yet, to please contact us at freethefern@gmail.com to reserve a spot.

Next Meeting



Due to the winter holidays, we will not be having a members meeting in December. So, our next members meeting will be held on:

Wednesday, January 26 2021 at 7-8pm.

A reminder and link will be sent out to members closer to the date.

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)



Free the Fern.
www.freethefern.ca
freethefern@gmail.com
Insta: free_the_fern

