

Doug Hollick

A remarkable man and his garden



Doug's History

- * Doug was a kind soul who had a calm, positive outlook on life, despite his physical challenges.
- * He had many friends in the Kinross Creek Housing Co-op and in the wider community
- * He loved hockey, basking in the sun, music, chess, travel, scrabble and gardening
- * He lived in Kinross from 1984 until his passing in 2006
- * He left behind his fiancé, his beloved assistance dog Tandy and hundreds of devastated friends and family.



Doug's Intelligence

- Doug had a keen intellect, with varied interests\ in the arts, sports, music and his spirituality.
- We would spend many days playing chess, appearing relaxed while waging long mental struggles to best each other.
- Sometimes a single game would last over 4 hours as we carefully considered each other's moves and tried desperately to avoid a deadly mistake that would cost the game.
- We would exchange stories, jokes and enjoy each other's company, all while keenly focused on the important thing – winning!



Love of life

**Doug loved to
enjoy life with
friends and family
and had a keen
sense of humour**



Doug's development of his garden



- * Doug began developing his garden soon after moving into Kinross in 1984.
- * Doug saw the potential of the large space behind his unit.
- * He and his assistant Jules spent years bringing in soil, plants and rocks
- * Co-op Members also assisted in the development of the accessible trails and garden areas.

Doug's Vision

- * Doug wanted an area for people to relax and contemplate, and perhaps find relief from their daily struggles
- * While very protective of his garden (he didn't want kids playing among the plants) he welcomed all to enjoy the fruits of his labours.
- * Doug was an artist and his garden was his canvas
- * His garden, at it's peak, was a sublime masterpiece of intentionality, but one had to take the time to see his designs unfold before one's eyes.

Doug's Dream

- Doug was living his dream – he was engaged to be married and was being consulted as a landscape architect for other townhouse complexes
- Unfortunately tragedy struck and his life ended suddenly
- Over the years his garden deteriorated as plants were removed or neglected, leaving behind a shadow of what was.

Free the Fern and a New Vision

- Seeing the redevelopment of Doug's Garden has brought mixed emotions to his remaining friends at Kinross.
- While we appreciate the revitalization we feel some loss as very little of the original plants remain
- However, I remember the last time I saw him, just a few hours before his tragic death: he was directing a then young Kyle Wain to help him weed one of the gardens. Doug was not just directing Kyle to remove weeds, he was also instructing him about the different kinds of plants in the garden and how to care for them. In other words, he was a teacher.

What would Doug Think about Free the Fern?

- I think Doug would be very supportive of the development of a teaching garden
- This would be a continuation of his vision, albeit in a different form
- He would be thrilled at the revitalization that has taken place, the improvement to the community and the increase in community spirit and cooperativeness.



The continuation of Doug's Garden – Thank you Grace and Free the Fern!

