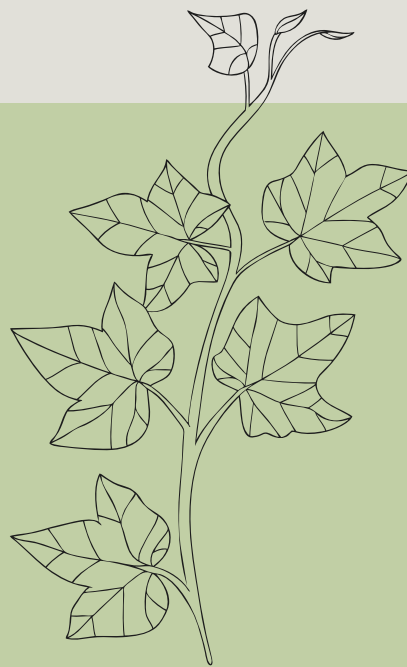




# FREE THE FERN STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY ANNUAL REPORT 2022 - 2023



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www.freethefern.ca

# ABOUT US

Free the Fern Stewardship Society is a non-profit formed in 2021 and incorporated in 2022. Free the Fern's purpose is to:

- restore the ecology of the Champlain Heights Trail System by removing invasive plants and replanting native plants
- promote environmental stewardship through community engagement and education.



Invasive Pull Event, April 2023

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## Partnerships

16

Partners

5

\*Funding Partners

- Champlain Heights Community Association
- City of Vancouver (Neighbourhood Matching Fund)\*
- Everett Crowley Park Committee
- Environmental Youth Alliance
- Green Streets Program
- Independent Grocer\*
- Invasive Species Council of Metro Vancouver (ISCMV)
- Joshua Ralph (eco-artist)
- Kinross Creek Housing Co-op
- Marge Wylie (bannock & jam)
- Matthew Williams (Squamish educator)
- Neighbourhood Small Grants\*
- North Vancouver School District
- Park People Canada\*
- South Vancouver Neighbourhood House
- Starbucks\*

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Free the Fern



Volunteers at Invasive Pull Event, Nov 2022

6

Stewardship areas

261

# of volunteers

1,121

Volunteer hours

# OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

549

Native plants planted

26,916

Invasives removed (L)

Free the Fern





Bird Nesting Cage Workshop, April 2023

9

Invasive pull events

25

Total public events

11

Art workshops

## OUTREACH & EDUCATION

3,896

Views on Google profile

313

Instagram posts

106

Workshop participants

Free the Fern







Ivy Lanterns by Artist, Joe Boyd

## Artist Partnerships

We were honoured to continue our partnership with eco-artist, Joshua Ralph. Joshua helped run several eco-art workshops with Free the Fern, including: paper making and a bird nesting cage workshops.

In the leadup to our Light up the Night in Champlain Heights lantern festival in December 2022, we were grateful to have artist, Kiki Nombrado, lead local artists in collaboration sessions. Together, local artists built 100 lanterns for display at the festival.



## HIGHLIGHTS

In 2022-2023 Free the Fern launched a Native Food Forest Project with a series of events, including: public invasive pulls, outreach sessions, a native plant walk and an upcoming fall planting. We are grateful to the City of Vancouver, Tree Canada, and Park People for offer funding support for this project.



Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh nation educator, Matthew Williams, leading a Native Plant Walk, June 2023

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Free the Fern



Dedicated volunteers at Invasive Pull Event, Feb 2023

## OUR TEAM

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In 2022-2023 Free the Fern relied on a dedicated team of volunteers, board directors, and partners.

## PARTNERS



Matthew Williams  
Educator



Kiki Nombrado  
Artist



Tasha Murray  
Executive Director  
ISCMV



Joshua Ralph  
Eco-Artist

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Anne Banner
- Catherine Munn (Secretary)
- Damian Assadi
- Erin Knock
- Grace Nombrado (President)
- Jeannine Kenmuir
- Joe Boyd (Treasurer)
- Martin Collins (Vice President)
- Mya Lopez (Secretary)
- Robin Poirier

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