

PROJECT PROPOSAL

GATE AVENUE COMMUNITY GARDEN



Submitted to:

Pastor John Luth
Christian Reformed Church
12 Gate Ave,
St. Albert, AB T8N 5W1

PROJECT SUMMARY

MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to support and facilitate the development of a community garden for residents of St. Albert. We will encourage youth and seniors from a variety of backgrounds to work together and learn new techniques to achieve a healthy sustainable community garden. In addition the garden will promote self reliance, physical activity, social interaction and contribute to the health and well being of the community.

PROJECT SUMMARY

The goal of this project is to assemble a team of dedicated, enthusiastic individuals who will in turn create a successful community garden that is fun and rewarding for everyone. A Garden Coordinator should oversee the project and answer to the Garden Committee which will be comprised of volunteers. It is envisaged this garden will serve youths, seniors and special populations and a combination of vegetables and flowers will be grown. Local businesses will be approached for contributions of tools, seeds and fencing. Other provisions will be provided through fees charged to members. A portion of the produce grown will be donated to the Food Bank in St. Albert.

Each individual plot will be 5' x 20' which is a good size for “new- to- gardening” folks or for gardeners with limited time. Paths will be well defined and there will be a minimum of 30' between gardener's plots to allow for wheelbarrows. A composter will be kept onsite to reduce waste and improve soil quality in the garden. Signs will inform neighbours and the community about what the project is about, who the garden is for and will acknowledge sponsors.

Early stages of development are important to engage the community, to ensure people to get to know each other and to develop a sense of belonging. Gardening is a socially empowering experience and it is important to include all individuals from the community regardless of ability and background.

OBJECTIVES

1. Teach the youth how to grow and tend to their plots
2. Encourage inter generational mentoring
3. Encourage self reliance by growing fresh fruit and vegetables
4. Promote vibrant communities
5. Provide food for the food bank
6. Be an inspiration for a healthier community

MAINTENANCE PLAN

Scheduling

January

- Garden Leaders planning meeting
- Community presentations

February

- Committees meet formally
- Plan education component for the year
- Order seeds
- Follow-up on sponsorship letters
- Financial review and proposal writing

March

- Garden Coordinator 'on board'
- Educational workshops begin
- Site plan finalized

April

- Soil test
- Spring cleanup
- Stake out garden site
- Meet the gardeners meeting
- Contract
- By-laws
- Set meeting dates

May

- Planting in full swing
- Monthly newsletter
- Thank the sponsors
- Group planting social event

June

- Maintenance
- Mulching and staking
- Education continues
- Warm season planting

July-August

- Maintenance
- Harvest
- Garden summer party – tour

September

- Fall planting
- Harvest
- Harvest party and wind-up

October

- Clean up
- Repairs

October – December

Season ending and for next year:

- Final reports
- Community presentations
- Next year's committee appointed and possible first meeting

Items:	Req'd	Done	\$Budget	\$Actual
First Aid Kit				
Compost:				
Well rotted manure				
Leaves				
Grass clippings				
Farmers spoiled hay and straw				
Kitchen vegetable scraps				
Pathways:				
Woodchips				
Newsprint				
Compost Bin Materials:				
Scrap wood – old pallets				
Stucco wire				
Flat Boxes:				
Scrap wood 1" x 3"				
Potting soil				
Trellis Material:				
Scrap metal pipes for posts				
PVC pipe or old snow fence				
Chicken wire				
Tomato cages				
Bean poles (10')				
Water:				
5 gallon buckets				
Garden hose				
Water barrels				
Stakes to label planted plots				
Black permanent indelible pen				
Wheelbarrow				
Tool Shed				
Floating Row Covers				
Tools – High Quality:				
Spades (flat squared blade) D handle				
Garden fork D handle				
Garden rake				
Hand trowel & hand cultivator				
Manure fork				
Seeds & Plants:				

Sample Contract

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone no: _____

The (organization/garden manager) is the highest governing authority at the Gate Avenue Community Garden.

Breaking any rules, terms, and conditions is cause for exclusion from the garden and loss of your plot.

- 1. You will receive one verbal warning from the garden manager.*
- 2. If no response or correction has been made, you will receive written notice two weeks later.*
- 3. In another two weeks, if no response or correction has been made, you will receive written final notification that you have forfeited your gardening privileges and plot.*
- 4. You will be allowed to reapply for another garden plot only after one year, and only at the discretion of the garden coordinator.*

Rules, Terms, and Conditions for Participation

If accepted as a gardener, I will abide by the following rules, terms, and conditions:

1. I use this garden at the sole discretion of Gate Avenue Community Garden. I agree to abide by its policies and practices.
2. The fee for the use of the garden is (\$) per plot, per year (January 1 – December 31), due on or before (January 1). Fee for half a year after (beginning July 1 or later) is (\$). There are no refunds.
3. Once I have been assigned a plot, I will cultivate and plant it within two weeks. I will garden year round. My plot cannot be left fallow or unused for any period of three weeks or longer, more than one time a year.
4. My plot is (10 x 10) feet. I will not expand my plot beyond this measurement or into paths or other plots. I will keep all my plants within the limits of my garden plot and will not allow any plants to grow more than six feet high. I must keep my plot free of weeds, pests and diseases.
5. I will keep my plot, paths, and surrounding areas clean and neat. I will completely separate my trash into three groups: 1) dead plants, leaves, and other green waste plant parts; 2) rocks, stones, and asphalt; and 3) paper, plastic, cardboard, wood, metal, etc. I will put each type of trash only in the areas designated specifically for each. Anything I bring from my home I will take back home. I will not bring household trash and leave it at the Gate Avenue Community Garden.
6. If I now have more than one plot, I will give up my additional plots by the end of this gardening year (December 31).
7. I will not plant any illegal plant. I will not smoke, drink alcoholic beverages, use illegal drugs, or gamble in the garden. I will not come to the garden while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. I will not bring weapons or pets or other animals to the garden.
8. Guests and visitors, including children, may enter the garden only if I accompany them. They must follow all rules, terms, and conditions stated here. I will supervise my children at all times when they are in the garden. I am solely responsible for the behaviour of my guests.
9. The garden manager will assign me general garden maintenance tasks each month, and I must complete them by the end of the month that I am assigned them.
10. I will water my plot according to water-wise guidelines.

11. I will attend the regular (monthly) garden club meetings. If workshops are offered, I will attend at least one on each of the following topics: soil preparation and maintenance, watering the vegetable garden, and pest and disease control.
12. I will not apply any pesticides in the garden without the approval of the garden coordinator.
13. I will not make duplicate keys of any locks at the garden or give my key or lock combination to another person.
14. I will not take food or plants from other gardeners' plots. I will not take anything from the garden that is not rightfully mine.
15. I will respect other gardeners, and I will not use abusive or profane language or discriminate against others.
16. I will work to keep the garden a happy, secure, and enjoyable place where all participants can garden and socialize peacefully in a neighbourly manner.
17. I forfeit my right to sue the owner of the property.

I have read and understand the application and accept these rules, terms, and conditions stated above for the participation in the Gate Avenue Community Garden.

Signed: _____ *Date:* _____
Gardener

Approved: _____ *Date:* _____
Garden Manager