



Le Jardin botanique de **Fredericton** Botanic Garden

FREDERICTON BOTANIC GARDEN ASSOCIATION, INC.

ANNUAL REPORT

January 1 - December 31, 2022

March 25, 2023

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Annual General Meeting Report 2022

Presented at the Annual Meeting on March 25, 2023

Bailey Hall, UNB and via Zoom

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FREDERICTON BOTANIC GARDEN ASSOCIATION, INC.

2023 Executive Committee

President – Stephen Heard

Vice-President – Bronwen Cunningham

Secretary – Louis-Philippe Albert

Treasurer – Cynthia Stacey

Past President – Jim Goltz

Board of Trustees

Louis-Philippe Albert

Stephen Chase

Bronwen Cunningham

Stephen Heard

Marion Hiltz

Joanna Mills

Amy Parachnowitsh

Marg Routledge

Cynthia Stacey

Michael Stastny



AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Moment of silence for deceased members
3. Minutes of 2022 (March 26, 2022) Annual General Meeting
4. Business Arising from the Minutes
5. 2021 Photo Montage
6. President's Report
7. Auditor's Report
8. Treasurer's Report
9. Committee Reports:
 - a. Board Development
 - b. Communications and Programs
 - c. Membership and Volunteers
 - d. Fundraising
 - e. Plant Sale
 - f. Site Development
 - g. NB Plants
 - h. Resource Centre
10. Adjournment



L'Association du Jardin botanique de Fredericton Botanic Garden Association

Annual General Meeting, Saturday February 26, 2022 (Held via ZOOM)

MINUTES

- **Welcome and Introductions:** The chair welcomed all 16 participants and introduced Board members and our Garden manager.

1. **Agenda:** Motion to approve the agenda as presented..... Carried

2. **Deceased members:** A moment of silence was call by the Chair for the passing of members and friends of the Garden.

3. **Minutes of March 20, 2021 Annual General Meeting:** Motion by Joanna M. and Jane L. to approve the minutes as distributed Carried

4. **Business Arising** from the Minutes: None

5. **Photo Montage:** An excellent slide show prepared by Jay Chapman featuring images of the gardens and events throughout the year was presented.

6. **President's Report:** Steve H. summarized his report as contained in the Annual Report. He emphasized the value of the Garden especially during the COVID restrictions, and pointed to the expanding role of the Garden as a cultural, educational, and social space. He also highlighted some of the work that has been done to new and existing sites such as the Wabanaki Healing Garden, the Food Forest, and the Pollinator Garden as well as work on the development of a Garden wide signage plan and the purchase of a 4X4 vehicle through a grant from the City. Further, he thanked the City, the volunteers, the donors and the many visitors for their continued support in helping the Garden Grow.

7. **Financial and Auditor's Report:** Cynthia S. presented the financial report for 2021 noting a surplus of just over \$27,000 for the year. She also presented the annual review of the finances for the FBGA for 2021 as conducted by Robert Bishop. This revealed all was order with the financial management of the Association and Robert was thanked for his services.

Motion by Cynthia S. and John W. to accept the Financial Report and Review for 2021. Carried

Motion by Cynthia S. and Marg R. to appoint Robert Bishop as the FBGA Auditor for the year 2022 Carried

8. **Treasurer's Report:** Cynthia S. presented the budget for 2022.

Motion by Cynthia S. and Jane L. to accept the budget as presented for the year 2022 Carried



9. **Committee Reports:** (Please see the Annual Report for details)

a. **Board Development:** Steve H. reported that Jim G. and Tess M. had both completed their terms on the Board and he thanked them for their many and valued contributions. Steve then introduced Bronwen Cunningham and nominated her as a potential new member to the Board.

Motion by Cynthia S. and Marg R. to approve the nomination. Carried

As there are vacancies on the Board, Steve H. called for nominations from the membership and none were received. The committee will continue to work on filling the vacancies.

b. **Membership:** Marg R. gave the highlights of her report and explained that after 30 years at the same level the cost of memberships in all categories would be increased by \$10 effective May 1, 2022.

c. **Communications and Programming:** Cynthia S. gave highlights of the past year's activities under COVID restrictions and outlined some of the tours and talks proposed for 2022.

d. **Fundraising:** Tess M. stressed that the continued contribution of all donors is greatly appreciated. She also indicated that efforts will be made to develop a fundraising strategy over the coming year and work will continue to raise capital to increase the FBGA Endowment Fund, including Planned giving and Memorials.

e. **Site Development:** Steve H. gave the highlights of the report on behalf of Jim G. and pointed out some of the work done over the past year as well as plans to continue to improve on the current features of the entire site. Jim was thanked for his dedication and hard work in the Garden and on the committee.

f. **Plant Sale:** John W. reported that the Garden had a very successful sale in 2021 despite the COVID circumstances. Plans are to apply a similar approach in 2022 and more trees and shrubs will be added to the options available at the sale.

Motion by Jane L. and John W. to accept the Committee Reports as presented.....Carried

10. Questions/comments from participants: -None were received

11. **Adjournment:** Motion by Tess M. to adjourn at 8:10 pm

Prepared by Cynthia Stacey for Louis-Philippe Albert, Secretary



President's Report 2023

Steve Heard, President

With the Garden covered in snow, it's both a bit harder, but also more exciting, to think about what we've done there and what's in the works. The last year saw a lot of progress – some of it obvious to a visitor, but a lot of it behind the scenes. I'll mention here just a few highlights. One big change that you'll notice in 2023 is installation of new signage throughout the Garden. Financial support from ACOA allowed us to design and manufacture new welcome, information, and interpretive signs, to guide visitors through the Garden. Once the ground dries, they will be installed and celebrated.

In 2022, we made an important change to the way we maintain our Garden landscape: we hired a part-time Horticulturalist to work in the Garden and to supervise our summer students. John Welling took on the role, and I suspect you've all seen the results: because of his horticultural expertise and hard work, the Garden has never looked so good! Our goal now is to expand this role, as funding permits. Of course, this doesn't make our volunteers any less important. It's a big Garden, and eager volunteers make an enormous difference, at Weeding Wednesdays and other activities.

Perhaps the most fun thing we do, in the Garden, is design and install new beds and other attractions. Because we've been so active in building the Garden over the last half-dozen years, we're now at the point where we're having to balance our enthusiasm for new beds with our capacity to maintain the ones we have. In 2022, we put a lot of planning into the ponds, where we've begun landscaping and planting a Pond Garden. Don't worry, though – the natural beauty of the ponds (and their frog population) won't be disrupted!

Finally, any Garden needs a regularly updated long-term vision. We've embarked on two pieces of planning: a Strategic Plan for the FBGA, and a Garden Plan for site development over the next 10 years. We welcome input from you, our members.

It was a busy year, and everything we do needs your support, be it volunteering, donating (cash or in-kind), or recruiting friends and family, as members. Thank you to everyone who has played a part so far. See you in the Garden!



Financial Review Report 2023

Financial Review Report 2023

January 26, 2023

Dear FBGA Board Members:

A financial review was done on the FBGA financial records for the year 2022. During this review the following items were checked:

- Donations were matched to their receipts, ledger entries and bank deposits
- Memberships were matched to their receipts, ledger entries and bank deposits
- Salaries for the students and administration were matched to their cheques, ledger entries, bank entries and Revenue Canada submissions
- Payments were matched to their invoices, ledger entries and bank entries
- A reconciliation of the computerized ledger was done to the bank account with matching balances. No discrepancies existed.

The above information is authorized to be true and accurate.

Sincerely,



Dan Cyr



Treasurer's Report

Cynthia Stacey, Treasurer

The annual review of the financial statements for the Fredericton Botanic Garden Association (FBGA), conducted by Daniel Cyr, revealed nothing that caused him concern that they did not present fairly and correctly the financial position of the Garden. Full details are given in the following financial report.

It was a year of financial unpredictability for the FBGA, as we were unsure of many grants during the budgeting process. Thanks to the excellent work of the Garden Manager and volunteers who prepared successful project grant applications, close to 45% of the revenue was received from agencies and groups such as ACOA, the City and the Rotary. Projects included design and fabrications of signs, plants for the Food Forest, and the purchase of two accessible picnic tables and a service vehicle. The FBGA was also successful in securing four summer positions with Provincial (SEED) and Federal (Canada Summer Jobs) funding.

Memberships, donations and fundraising accounted for 27% of revenue. Membership revenue remained steady, but donations decreased approximately 50%. The majority of income was from plant sales and the sale of the large tent the garden owned. These were important sources of income and all who contributed in any way are thanked, but more work needs to be done in this area.

In keeping with our mission to develop and maintain the Garden for the public, approximately 50% of all revenue went directly to site development with the remaining funds going to garden operations.

The financial statement shows a deficit of \$3,231, due to a timing issue with receipt of \$3204 in income from our Endowment Fund, at the Fredericton Community Foundation. Had the funds (since received) arrived in December, it would have been essentially a break-even year.

The year end statement also shows considerable growth in financial activity when 2022 is compared to 2021. Revenue more than doubled from \$120,816 to \$245,637, with expenses growing from \$75,535 to \$248,868. This is primarily due to increases in project specific grants and the related project spending.

Full details of 2023 budget are found in the Financial Report. Note that there have been changes to the names and order of some of the account categories, to facilitate better organization and tracking. Also note that 'cash on hand' has been included as a line item to give a true picture of financial standing. The 2023 budget takes an optimistic position with goals of increasing revenues, and building the Endowment Fund, which will allow the Association to rebuild its financial reserves, undertake new projects and support staff. Yellow highlights indicate 2022 items that came in at, or below budget.



Financial and Budget Report 2023

Financial and Budget Report 2023

INCOME	Actual 2021	Budget 2022	Actual 2022	Budget 2023
Donations - receiptable				
Gift Received	8344.80	8000.00	4533.13	8000.00
Memorials	21191.16	20500.00	23335.00	25000.00
TOTAL Donations receiptable	29535.96	28500.00	27868.13	33000.00
Donations - non receiptable				
Membership	4187.00	5000.00	4163.29	5000.00
Gift Received: Gift in Kind	2526.56	2000.00	613.00	0.00
Endowment Income	2888.27	3000.00	0.00	6000.00
Miscellaneous				
TOTAL Donations - non receiptable	9601.83	10000.00	4776.29	11000.00
Fund raising				
Campaigns				0.00
Plant Sale ¹	14741.30	21000.00	23205.86	25000.00
Raffle Income	0.00	0.00		
Sale Items	495.21	1250.00	9880.00	2000.00
Total Fund Raising	15236.51	22250.00	33085.86	27000.00
Grants				
Federal (CSJ)	4991.00	10000.00	7441.00	8300.00
Provincial (SEED)	10970.40	13000.00	11928.00	13000.00
ETF			18863.72	27000.00
Other	23501.68	42500.00	110198.25	52000.00
City Maintenance (in kind)	25000.00	25000.00	25000.00	35000.00
TOTAL Grants	64463.08	90500.00	173430.97	135300.00
Programs				
Programs & Events	140.00	100.00	89.70	2000.00
TOTAL Program Committee	140.00	100.00	89.70	2000.00
1600				
Building Rental	1600.00	1600.00	1600.00	2000.00
HST Rebate		3000.00	4589.06	5000.00
Interest Inc	239.33	300.00	197.28	200.00
Cash on Hand				54995.40
TOTAL INCOME	120816.71	156250.00	245637.29	270495.40
EXPENSES				
Membership and Programs				
American Horticultural Society		200.00	179.26	180.00
AGM	57.42	60.00	34.92	60.00
Tours, Workshops & Misc.	0.00	700.00	238.56	500.00



TOTAL Membership & Programs	57.42	960.00	452.74	740.00
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Administration

Bank & Payment Service Charges	350.16	500.00	616.91	600.00
Computer, Printer, Software	374.34	1000.00	753.69	500.00
HST	3069.92	6000.00	12790.28	10000.00
Insurance	475.75	540.00	1847.20	717.98
Misc	0.00	0.00		0.00
Postage / Mailing	496.78	500.00	300.74	300.00
Subscriptions				0.00
Supplies	402.58	500.00	293.09	500.00
Telephone/Internet	896.26	1000.00	973.06	1000.00
TOTAL Administration	6065.79	10040.00	17574.97	13617.98

Fund Raising

Plant Sale	3218.93	8500.00	9521.03	9500.00
Sale Items (Garden Shop)		600.00	1351.17	100.00
Memorials & Appreciation	6535.10	11700.00	17768.13	18000.00
TOTAL Fund Raising Expenses	9754.03	20800.00	28640.33	27600.00

Public Relations

Advertising	0.00	500.00	25.00	250.00
Printing		500.00	221.94	225.00
Web Site	168.22	175.00	160.65	175.00
TOTAL Public Relations	168.22	1175.00	407.59	650.00

Site Development

New Bed Construction	0.00	0.00		
Fern Corridor	0.00	1800.00	0.00	200.00
Pond	0.00	3000.00	0.00	10000.00
Pollinator Garden	934.84	300.00		100.00
Rock Garden	473.55	500.00	17.00	200.00
Urban Orchard	411.85	4531.17	5979.72	1900.00
Wabanaki Healing Garden	2884.79	3115.21	574.50	200.00
Plant Collecting Acquisition	601.48	1000.00	213.00	250.00
Signage and Plant Labels	1439.22	4000.00	70378.52	46000.00
Site Development:Other	810.38	8500.00	2130.06	3000.00
Capital Grant: Vehicle	0.00	29800.00	18480.52	12000.00
Vehicle Maintenance & Gas		500.00	33.86	200.00
City Maintenance In kind	25000.00	25000.00	25000.00	35000.00
TOTAL Site Development	32556.11	82046.38	122807.18	109050.00

Employee Expense

Subcontractors	9270.62	9828.00	22284.95	31400.00
Wages	14424.94	22700.00	17639.22	20300.00
CPP	1496.84	1120.00	1893.40	2000.00
EI	488.58	334.00	767.34	800.00



Income Tax Withheld	893.64		1054.86	1000.00
WorksafeNB	163.05	425.00	129.20	150.00
Appreciation	92.48	300.00	75.00	100.00
Staff Travel	104.15	100.00	119.56	200.00
TOTAL Employee Expense	26934.30	34807.00	43963.53	55950.00
ETF Grant	18546.91	12700.00	35022.00	19000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	75535.87	149828.38	248868.34	226607.98
REMAINING BALANCE	45280.84	6421.62	-3231.05	43887.42



Board Development Report 2023

Steve Heard, Chair

Serving to the end of 2023

1. Louis-Philippe Albert (2nd term)
2. Stephen Heard (3rd term)
3. Marg Routledge (2nd term)
4. Michael Stastny (2nd term)

Serving to the end of 2024

1. Amy Parachnowitsch (1st term)
2. Cynthia Stacey (2nd term)

Serving to the end of 2025 (if confirmed at this AGM)

1. Stephen Chase (1st term)
2. Marion Hiltz (1st term)

The Botanic Garden makes progress due to a dedicated volunteer Board, which meets monthly. Typically, each Board member takes on a role matched to their skills and interests (chairing a committee, handling outreach, leading fundraising, developing policy, recruiting members, etc.).

Since the last AGM, John Welling and Tess Madigan have left the Board. We thank them for their service and are pleased that both have remained heavily involved with the Garden. We have recruited two new Board members, whose candidacies will be up for a vote at this AGM. Stephen Chase is a former Fredericton City Councillor who has extensive experience with both municipal and non-profit governance. Marion Hiltz is a high-school teacher with considerable expertise in business and entrepreneurship, and an extensive network of local connections. We are excited by the strengths each brings to the FBGA Board.

Our Board has an executive (elected internally by the Board). This year, Louis-Philippe Albert continues as Secretary; Cynthia Stacey as Treasurer; Steve Heard as President, and Bronwen Cunningham has agreed to fill the role of Vice President. Importantly, Steve Heard's 3rd term, and his role as President, ends in December 2023. Finding a new President is a critical priority for us.

There are several open seats on the Board, and our Board Development Committee has been working to identify candidates. If you, or someone you know is interested, a short expression of interest should be sent to FBGA President Steve Heard (sheard@unb.ca), indicating skills and experience.



Communications and Program Committee

Cynthia Stacey, Chair

Programs

Although some of the constraints associated with the COVID-19 pandemic continued through 2022, the Garden Association was able to provide several different program opportunities to members and visitors. The majority of programming took place throughout the Garden during the summer and early fall.

New this year was children's programming including Garden Explorer sessions and Story Time with garden and environmental themes. Also new were Guided Walks along the trails. Attendance at these new initiatives varied with the weather, but responses were favourable and the programs will continue..

Talks in the Garden featuring different sites were held on Sunday afternoons. Highlighted were Hal Hinds Memorial Garden, Rhododendron Grove, Rock and Crevice Garden, Daylily Garden, New Brunswick Literature Garden, Pollinator Garden and the Food Forest. Many thanks to the volunteer tour leaders who gave of their time and expertise to make the sessions a success. Andrea Flemming and Katherine Neilly also hosted several groups such as the Multicultural Association and school groups for more general tours of the Garden. John Welling, our Horticulturist, and summer staff provided another layer of information about the Garden as they engaged with the public while doing their regular work.

Program offerings were also possible due to partnerships with other organizations. Science East held Pop Up Science activities for children weekly in July and August and monthly during the spring and fall. In addition, the City of Fredericton's very popular Artists in Residence program sponsored four artists in the Garden over the summer, the NB Invasive Species Council held sessions and Word Fest co-sponsored a NB Literature Garden Tour. In partnership with Frostival, a Winter Bird Walk was led by Jim Goltz.

Communications

Keeping members, volunteers, and visitors to the Garden informed is important to the current and future operations of the Garden Association and the Garden itself. Through the work of the Garden Manager, members of the Board and volunteers, a digital presence is maintained on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter (4.1K likes/followers, 886 and 236 followers respectively). The period surrounding the Spring Plant Sale is when we have the most engagement, but there is interest year round. Posts about the Artists in Residence were particularly popular on Instagram.

Engaging content about the Garden and related topics is shared through the quarterly newsletter. The majority of newsletters and other updates are distributed electronically, saving on printing and postage.

A final initiative that will help in communicating the Garden message to users is signage. We were fortunate to receive a grant from ACOA, enabling us to develop a signage master plan, and have the signs designed and fabricated. The soon to be installed orientation, interpretation, directional and information signs will greatly enhance the visitor experience throughout the Garden.



None of these accomplishments would have been possible without the generous participation of the knowledgeable members, volunteers and staff, the support of community organizations and the interested public. Thank you all for being part of sharing the Garden story.

Fundraising

By Cynthia Stacey, Chair

A variety of initiatives have contributed to raising funds for the operation of the site and the Association. Most prominent among these is the Annual Spring Plant Sale. This combined with the Christmas Plant Sale and the new Fall Bulb Sale showed revenue approximately double that of 2021.

Another avenue for funding that proved successful for 2022 was the pursuit of available grants. A substantial grant from ACOA, was secured for signage and a grant from the City, for the purchase of a vehicle and fence for the soil bins.

In addition, a generous gift from the Fredericton North Rotary Club was made to the Food Forest, an Accessibility Grant funded the purchase and installation of two accessible picnic tables, and an Environmental Trust Fund grant allowed continuation with the NB Plant project. Grants from the Canada Summer Jobs program and SEED supported four student positions, contributing greatly to site maintenance and program offerings.

Additional funds came from memberships, donations, and memorial tree and bench purchases. While membership and memorial purchases remained relatively consistent with 2021, charitable donations dropped 50%. This indicates a need for greater effort in this area for the future. Options to revive the “Help the Garden Grow” campaign, to increase contributions to the Endowment fund, to make better use of the Canada Helps platform and to hold more special events are being explored.

All members, volunteers, funding agencies, donors and grant writers are thanked for their support and generosity. Every contribution helps and together they are making a positive difference to the Garden Experience.



Membership & Volunteers

Marg Routledge, Chair

At the end of 2022, there were 221 active memberships (54 Family, 108 Individual, and 59 Senior/Student), for a total of \$4,163. Memberships were promoted at the Plant Sale, Seedy Saturday, Weeding Wednesdays, tours and talks, the opening of the Wabanaki Healing Garden, and on social media.

There were many opportunities throughout the year for members, friends and groups to donate their time and talents, such as Weedy Wednesdays, the Spring Plant Sale, helping in the Resource Centre (especially this year preparing for the renovations); Seedy Saturday, Spring pruning, Food Forest work days, new labels, Garden cleanup and the Christmas plant sale. Many people volunteered occasionally, but we would like to recognize those, in addition to Board members, who dedicated many hours to projects throughout the year: Jay Chapman, Robert Charman, Mary Cherrington, Heather Connors-Dunphy, Steve Stehouwer, Evans Estabrooks, Emily Estabrooks, Margaret Forster, Jim Goltz, Liz Heighington, Jane Loughborough, Tess Madigan, Kyle McCloskey, Merrill Whitney, and Sima Usvyatsov.

In addition to individuals, partnerships with community groups aided a variety of projects, the Nature Trust of NB, The NB Invasive Species Council, North Fredericton Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Fredericton Sunrise, UNB Forestry School, and 5th Fredericton Pathfinders participated in specific projects. A special shout out to the 4 Engineer Support Regiment, Canadian Armed Forces, 5th Canadian Division, Base Gagetown that installed drainage and berms, and dug tree-planting holes at the Food Forest site.



Plant Sale

Amy Parachnowitcsh, Chair & John Welling, Horticulturist

Following 10 years as Chair of the Plant Sale Committee, John Welling stepped down, and Amy Parachnowitcsh assumed the role. As John became the Garden's horticulturist, his vast experience was still available, and 2022 was a very successful year.

The Plant Sale fundraisers continued to be a success for the Gardens. The Plant Sale in the spring was a combination of online sales and a two day in person sale. The hybrid format was supported by major volunteer efforts from those potting plants up for sale, picking orders for pick up and running the in-person sale. We are looking toward an even bigger year, with more volunteers, in 2023.

The Fall Bulb Sale, and the Christmas Sale were also successful. In September a mix of Alliums, Camassia, Crocus, Fritillaria, Iris, and Tulips were sold from the Resource Centre. Cynthia, Dan and John also sold bulbs at the Boyce Farmers market. The remaining 115 rainbow mix tulips were planted in the entrance berm at the top of the Botanic Garden for everyone to enjoy in the spring. The Christmas Poinsettia and Cyclamen Sale was done through online pre-orders in November, with pick-up from the Resource Centre in December.

The total cost of the three sales combined was \$9,521.03, resulting in gross revenues of \$ 23,205.86, and a net profit of \$13,684.83. Many thanks to all the dedicated volunteers and staff who made these events the successes that they were. A special thank you to Tess and Andrea, for whom 2022 marked their last year of Plant Sale involvement. Their shoes will be hard to fill, but we're looking!



FBGA Site Development Committee

Michael Stastny, Chair

The momentum of creative efforts that had started during the pandemic continued into another year of improvements for the Fredericton Botanic Garden, with a number of ongoing projects and upgrades, with many contributions by staff, volunteers and donors. We have also greatly benefited from the expertise and energy of our new Horticulturist, John Welling, who kept busy with endless garden tasks until November snowfall.

All of the flower beds established or expanded in the recent years flourished and were admired for their colour and texture throughout the seasons – and we are grateful to the many volunteers who helped with countless hours of weeding and other work needed for their upkeep.

The Food Forest grew substantially with additional plantings, mulching and trailwork – preceded first by trenching to improve drainage and control erosion, expertly executed by CFB Gagetown. While we did not start any new flower beds in 2022, many individual plantings appeared throughout the Garden, but especially in the Fern Walkway, the Wabanaki Healing Garden, and the Rock and Crevice Garden.

Several new memorial benches have been added, and the Garden also started a memorial tree programme, with its first three plantings in autumn (yellow birch, Himalayan birch, and white pine). We have also built a dedicated overwintering bed to start actively building our tree stock, both for memorial trees and for understory plantings to prepare for the eventual loss of ash canopy due to the invasive emerald ash borer beetle.

New picnic platforms and tables will greet the visitor once the warm weather arrives. Due to a very wet autumn, we had to delay the installation of new signs in the Garden until spring 2023. The Garden continued to showcase public art, with an installation of “Ferns and Fiddleheads,” uphill from the Daylily Bed. A sculpture loan from the Beaverbrook Art Gallery is in the works.

Impressive stonework by two tireless builders (Jim and Kyle) is now a prominent feature at the lower end of the Fern Walkway, including a beautiful drainage channel to help reduce erosion. Thanks to their efforts, a crushed stone trail now provides easy access from the NB Literature Garden to the Hal Hinds Memorial Garden – with a picturesque view of the Ponds, along the banks of which some of the recent improvements have also been taking place.

We continue to battle a number of widespread invasive herbs and shrubs in the Garden, and many uprooted Angelica plants ended up in the solarizer provided by Nature Trust – again thanks to many volunteers who donated their time and muscles.

Finally, the Garden has greatly benefited from added horsepower – in the form of a side-by-side vehicle (affectionately called “The Mule”), parked in a storage container next to our maintenance yard, upgraded by the City. We foresee this new team member to be indispensable as we haul more efficiently all the stuff needed for future improvements and projects in the Garden.



New Brunswick Plants Website

Andrea Flemming, Coordinator

The Fredericton Botanic Garden has received a grant from the Environmental Trust Fund for the past two years to develop an Online Photo Identification Guide to the Vascular Plants of New Brunswick. This guide is visual and based on digital photographs taken by Botanic Garden members, scientists and naturalists. The project will be completed in phases over 5-7 years, but significant progress has been made in the first two years of the project, with over 300 plants added to the site and photographs collected for many more.

Jim Goltz's expertise and vast photographic record of the plants of New Brunswick has been key to developing this resource. In addition to many individuals in the New Brunswick botany community, The Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre has contributed their photographs and mapping data. Staff from the New Brunswick Nature Trust and Future Ready Wabanaki have contributed hours towards the project, in addition to those funded by ETF.

Users can make multiple selections to narrow the search for the plant they are attempting to identify. As more characteristics are selected, the array of possible matches narrows, making it easier for the user to reach an identification. Non-scientific terms have been used where possible and the identification process can begin with any of the available selectors rather than dichotomous keys that require more botanical knowledge.

On the Plant Detail pages, the resource depicts the characteristics of each species that are important for identification and supplies ecological information about each plant species. Images for each species are in the left sidebar. Larger versions of these images can be viewed in the Gallery view. The Unique Characteristics section highlights distinguishing features of each plant.

Please contact Jim Goltz or Andrea Flemming if you would like to learn more about this project.

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Marsh Blue Violet (*Viola cucullata*). At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for Home, Species, About, Contact Us, and a search icon. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main text area. The sidebar contains several photographs of the plant, a list of unique characteristics, and a distribution map of New Brunswick. The main text area provides the scientific name, alternate names, plant family, and detailed descriptions of the plant's morphology and ecology. It also includes a table of characteristics such as flower color, bloom time, and flower arrangement.

Marsh Blue Violet *Viola cucullata*
Alternate Names: Marsh Violet, Meadow Violet, *Viola obliqua*

Plant Family: Viola (Violaceae)

Flowers and leaves are separate and rise directly from roots or stems. The flowers usually sit upright well above the leaves.
Flowers are darker violet towards the centre. Side petals have a band of white-veined hairs. The bottom petal is smooth and shorter than the side petals. Short spur.
Heart-shaped leaves 2.5-8cm long and wide; edges are finely toothed. Stems, leaves and sepals are smooth.

New Brunswick's provincial flower

Plant Type: Non-woody Type: Native

Characteristics

Conservation Rank: S3, Secure
Habitat: Terrestrial: Wetlands, Swamps, Wet meadows, streambanks and meadows.
Height: 10-25 cm

Flowers	
Bloom Time: Spring	Flower Colour: Blue to purple, Yellow, Yellow
Flower Arrangement: Solitary flower	Petal Symmetry: Bilateral



Resource Centre

Linda Stephenson, Garden Manager

The Resource Centre is well on its way to a major makeover, which will provide a more professional, welcoming and comfortable environment for volunteers, staff, and other building users. Flooring in the main areas has been replaced with easy to maintain laminate, and the walls have been painted out in warm, earthy tones, reflective of the beautiful views outside our windows.

The washroom was also aesthetically upgraded, and as a result is much easier to keep fresh and clean.

Moving everything out of the main areas to allow for these renovations was a rather herculean effort, as many items had to be stored in the basement and then returned to the main level. Many thanks to the volunteers who did the “lugging and toting.”

We are also grateful to the City of Fredericton for making these renovations possible, and for more exciting improvements to come in 2023.

Good use is being made of the Resource Centre, by various groups such as Under One Sky. It’s great to see the space utilized, while providing us with a bit of revenue, and increasing general awareness of the Fredericton Botanic Garden.