



Backgrounder - The HUB Children's Garden

The HUB Children's Garden project was created in order to help build healthy eating habits with the children of Prince Edward County. Starting at a young age is key for building lifelong skills, along with hands on opportunities. Learning the whole process **from Seed to Table** will provide a fun and engaging environment for the children. The various program components of the project will be built to be as inclusive as possible with the children, parents and community volunteers.

Objectives

- ❖ Establish a children's edible garden, including planning, development and implementation;
- ❖ Provide an environment for outdoor learning and exploration of growing and utilizing fresh, healthy produce;
- ❖ Utilize grown produce in the HUB's child care programs supporting the best possible nutrition for the children;
- ❖ Develop lifelong skills in support of healthy eating and active lifestyle;
- ❖ Engage the community in the development of skills and knowledge associated with the ongoing production of fresh fruits and vegetables; and
- ❖ Encourage the transfer of skills and knowledge from this project to home.

While all the children and families that utilize the HUB programs will be involved with the project, a special focus will be with families of lower income who struggle on a regular basis with food security.

Community Partners

During the planning stage and on an ongoing basis the HUB will be working closely with community minded individuals and organizations that identify food security and education as a local priority. To date the project has garnered positive response for the proposed programming from Slow Food The County, Prince Edward Lennox and Addington Social Services, The Children and Youth Services Network.

Project Steering Committee

The HUB Garden Steering Committee consists of a group of individuals who will utilize a diverse skill set in the development and implementation of the project. Our Committee Members have expertise in fundraising, project management, an experienced Landscape Architect, 3 members who have been involved in community garden projects, early learning, food security and volunteer management.



Steering Committee Members

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| 1. Tamara Kleinschmidt | Executive Director The HUB Child & Family Centre |
| 2. Cynthia Peters | From The Farm Cooking School/Slow Food Vice Chair |
| 3. Victoria Taylor | Landscape Architect |
| 4. Stephanie McLaren | Executive Director Prince Edward Family Health Team |
| 5. Joanne Munroe-Cape | PELA Social Services |
| 6. Kim Hicks | The HUB Child & Family Centre Staff Representative |
| 7. Jennifer Hewitt | Early Childhood Educator The HUB Child & Family Centre |
| 8. Julianne Snepsts | Board Member The Hub Child & Family Centre |
| 9. Michelle Savic, | Board Member The Hub Child & Family Centre |

Project Dates and Design

The ***Draft Master Plan*** will highlight all the components of the project.

Project implementation is expected to be in 3 phases:

Phase 1 – Project Planning and public launch of capital campaign (2013)

Phase 2 - First wave of construction and programs begin (Spring 2014)

Phase 3 – Final stage of construction (2015)

Landscape Architect, Victoria Taylor is the lead architect on the project. Victoria completed her Masters in Environmental Studies and worked as a professional gardener and designer for over a decade before achieving her Master's of Landscape Architecture at the University of Toronto. She has worked on a number of children gardens including the West End YMCA and the gardens at Brickworks Evergreen in Toronto.

Donations & Project Updates

A dedicated section on the HUB website will be launched at the end of November for on-line donations and project updates.

Budget

The estimated total budget for the project is projected at \$100,000. Gift-in-kind donations for building supplies will also be encouraged.

For more information:

Tamara Kleinschmidt
Executive Director
The HUB Child & Family Centre