

LIZ STUBBS CUTTING GARDEN AGM REPORT FOR 2022

Submitted by Garden Co-ordinators Sharon Rouleau and Anne Marie Bowen

The pretty Cutting Garden on the seaside, lower lawn of Filberg Park is a favourite place for visitors to linger, take photos and chat to the volunteers. Sharing information and flowers always makes for a special exchange!

The Cutting Garden celebrated Gardens Canada 100th anniversary with a special banner for 'Year of the Garden' and an onsite event held June 18th, which involved, master gardeners from the Comox Valley Horticultural Association, pollinator plants and information from our Head Gardener and Pollinator Steward, Tryna McLean and the Cutting Garden volunteers hosting tours and selling fresh bouquets made on site.

Twenty active volunteers take part in all aspects of planting, maintaining and harvesting from the Cutting Garden throughout the growing season, collectively spending over 1000 hours at this task.

Flower bouquets were offered for sale from the red flower cart three days per week (Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday). Bouquet sales began in late May and were available until late September.

A contract to provide table flowers and a large entrance bouquet was secured with the Summer Kitchen. These flowers were assembled and delivered to the Summer Kitchen every Thursday from mid May to the end of September.

Fresh flower arrangements to enhance the Filberg Gift Shop displays in the main rooms were made up and delivered to the Lodge every Thursday from early June to late September.

Small arrangements were made up weekly to spruce up the washrooms closest to the Cutting Garden

In mid-November, the Cutting Garden set up an online pre-order system for handmade Christmas swags and table arrangements. All materials to make up the swags and arrangements are foraged throughout the Comox Valley by the Cutting Garden volunteers. The public response to this annual sale was very positive and we were quickly SOLD OUT.

Highlights of 2022:

*over 1,100 annual flower seedlings along with 50 dahlia tubers were planted in the Cutting Garden in 2022.

*total donations from the Cutting Garden to Filberg Heritage Park and Lodge Association was \$2,333

We gratefully acknowledge the support of our dedicated volunteers, the Board, Linda Thomas, Head Gardener Tryna McLean and our visitors.